

The Extraordinary Life and Career of Bert Lahr: A Comedian's Journey from Vaudeville to Oz



Notes on a Cowardly Lion: The Biography of Bert Lahr

by John Lahr

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 21500 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 568 pages
Lending	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
X-Ray	: Enabled



Bert Lahr, born Irving Lahrheim on August 13, 1895, was a comedic genius who left an indelible mark on the world of entertainment. From his humble beginnings in vaudeville to his iconic role as the Cowardly Lion in the classic film *The Wizard of Oz*, Lahr's career spanned decades and brought laughter to countless audiences.

Early Life and Career

Lahr was born in New York City to German immigrant parents. As a young boy, he developed a keen interest in comedy and began performing in amateur shows. In 1914, he made his professional debut in vaudeville,

adopting the stage name Bert Lahr. Lahr быстро gained recognition for his unique style of physical comedy and his talent for improvisation.

In the 1920s, Lahr moved to Broadway, where he starred in a series of hit musicals, including *Hold Everything!* (1928) and *Flying High* (1930). His comedic timing and infectious energy made him a favorite with audiences and critics alike.

The Cowardly Lion and Beyond

In 1939, Lahr's career reached its peak when he was cast as the Cowardly Lion in *The Wizard of Oz*. Lahr's portrayal of the character was unforgettable, bringing a mix of vulnerability, humor, and charm to the role. His iconic delivery of the line "If I only had the nerve" has become one of the most famous quotes in film history.

After *The Wizard of Oz*, Lahr continued to appear in both films and on stage. He starred in a number of popular comedies, including *Mr. Deeds Goes to Town* (1936) and *The Great Dictator* (1940). He also returned to Broadway in a series of successful productions, including *Burlesque* (1946) and *Two on the Aisle* (1951).

Personal Life and Legacy

Bert Lahr was married twice, first to actress Mercedes Delpino and then to actress Jane Marbury. He had two children, a daughter from his first marriage and a son from his second. Lahr was known for his generosity and kindness, often going out of his way to help others in need.

Bert Lahr passed away on December 4, 1967, at the age of 72. He is remembered as one of the greatest comedians of all time, a performer who

brought joy to audiences around the world. His legacy continues to live on through his films, television appearances, and stage performances.

Bert Lahr's journey from vaudeville to Oz is a testament to his talent, determination, and comedic genius. Through his memorable performances, he left an indelible mark on the world of entertainment. His legacy as a beloved comedian continues to inspire and entertain generations of fans.

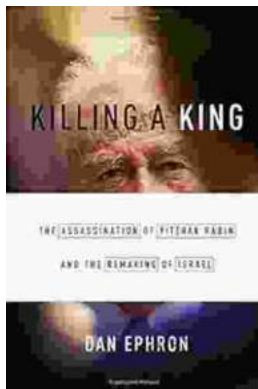


Notes on a Cowardly Lion: The Biography of Bert Lahr

by John Lahr

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 21500 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 568 pages
Lending : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
X-Ray : Enabled



Killing A King: The Assassination Of Yitzhak Rabin And The Remaking Of Israel

The Assassination Of Yitzhak Rabin And The Remaking Of Israel ## **
An Event That Reshaped a Nation's Destiny ** On an autumn evening in 1995, a single shot shattered...



Death in Benin: Where Science Meets Voodoo

In the West African nation of Benin, death is not simply the end of life. It is a complex and mysterious process that is believed to involve both the physical and spiritual...