



## **Broadway Musicals: The 101 Greatest Shows of All Time**

*Frank Vlastnik*

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## **Broadway Musicals: The 101 Greatest Shows of All Time** Frank Vlastnik

Finally, a book as glorious as its subject: this lush showcase for everyone who loves musicals covers the 101 most influential, popular, and enduring Broadway shows--all of which have toured the country and been performed in theatres large and small everywhere. Each listing includes expert commentary that sets the play in historical and cultural context, plus features on the creators and performers, plot synopses, cast and song lists, production details, backstage anecdotes, and more. Four or five beautifully reproduced photographs from each show--the majority never before published--accompany the text and make the shows leap off the page. Appendices and special features include cast albums, poster artists, revivals, guilty pleasures, Off-Broadway musicals, notable flops, and much more.

## **Broadway Musicals: The 101 Greatest Shows of All Time Details**

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Author : Frank Vlastnik

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## **From Reader Review Broadway Musicals: The 101 Greatest Shows of All Time for online ebook**

### **Johanna says**

What a treasure! I don't agree with all of the authors' choices and am perplexed by the omission of "Les Miserables," but this volume is packed with enough essential info about the shows to be a true resource. It also contains enough "inside scoop" and photographs to feel like a guilty pleasure. My only complaint: it's too big and heavy! I have the hardcover version and struggled mightily to hold it. I'll classify the effort as physical therapy and rate it as more than worthwhile!

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### **C says**

Like a lot of other reviewers have said I don't agree with a lot of the musicals listed in this book, but it's an informative book nonetheless filled with nice pictures and plenty of information about each musical picked.

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### **Melissa says**

Positively brilliant! I felt like i was in production for each show, privy to anecdotes and inside jokes.

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### **Emily says**

i've been reading this one for a while. it sits by my bed. eventually i will know everything about all shows! boo-wa-ha-ha!!!

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### **Heather McC says**

A must own for any Broadway theatre fan. This coffee table book is filled with illustrations, anecdotes and memories.

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### **Aya Newman says**

This is one of my favorite books about musicals, and I have many. Lots of information complimented by gorgeous pictures and fun anecdotes about everyone's favorite shows. My one tiny gripe is that some of my favorite shows aren't included (Sunday in the Park with George, for example), but this book taught me so much about musicals I already knew and musicals I should know. A must for any theatre geek.

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### **Ilyse says**

Excellent reference book.

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### **Rachel says**

This is one time that book design matters enormously: The book was set in tiny print, which might have been okay with a sturdy typeface, but instead it was set in a "Modern" or Didone-style typeface. That is to say, a typeface with a large contrast between the thick and thin parts of the letters, such as Bodoni. (It might even be Bodoni, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bodoni>.) In the tiny print used, the thin strokes break up, making the book all but illegible--I couldn't even read much of it, which was so disappointing.

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### **Julie says**

This was my bathroom book for, I think 6 to 8 months. It takes a long time to read a book, when you are reading only 1/4 to 1 page a day. I learned a lot. A number of stars I've known only for their movies or TV shows have done Broadway musicals. Some of my favorite Broadway stars were in shows a lot sooner than I had thought. Besides showcasing the musicals, the book also showcases individual stars, directors, producers, designers, some off-Broadway and even some flops. Among the flops were some shows I adore the music of though I've never seen the show: Applause, Dear World, Here's Love, (actually I've seen Here's Love and Stop the World I Want to Get Off--only two musicals I've ever seen on Broadway) among others. Though newer books will, I am sure, be more complete, this particular edition ended with Wicked and did not include Rent or Alexander Hamilton. Oh, well. What I get for being old and having old books.

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### **Glenn says**

A fun coffee table book. Great pictures. I disagree with some of the choices included but overall a fun read for the Broadway Musical enthusiast.

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### **Hazey says**

A 'must-have' for any fan of Broadway... be a part of it New York New York!

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### **Noahmay says**

A great and informative look at Broadway. Very interesting!

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### **Andreas says**

I couldn't believe my eyes when I spotted this book. The old MGM and Broadway musicals belong to my more, well, unconventional hobbies. This book brings them to life in a fascinating way. It contains a huge amount of pictures and many interesting background information from the involved persons. For each of the 101 selected musicals a short summary is provided together with a list of songs.

The admiration and love is recognizable on every page and I am grateful to hold such a book in my hands.

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### **E.H. Nolan says**

I'll be honest: if you aren't a theater buff, you won't like this book. But then again, you probably wouldn't be reading this review in the first place.

Calling all theater buffs! This fantastic, glossy-paged hardcover is a must-read. Usually I'm wary of lists that rank the "100 Greatest..." because everyone's opinion is different, but this book is incredible. All the shows are in alphabetical order, so if you think *The Pajama Game* is the greatest Broadway musical of all time, you can go right on thinking that with no argument from the authors!

This 330-page book is humongous, perfect for your coffee table, and a guaranteed conversation starter when you have like-minded friends over. Each musical is showcased equally, featuring the basic facts (composer et al credits, number of runs, theater name and date of opening), synopsis, list of songs, and original cast. Glossy pages include a combination of backstage trivia, onstage photographs, and an occasional highlight to honor a famous Broadway star.

I absolutely loved reading this book, and even though I consider myself to be quite the musical aficionado, I learned new stories, and even new musicals. This is a perfect gift for your theater friend, or for yourself. You'll be so happy to add it to your collection.

<http://hottoastyrag.weebly.com/broadw...>

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### **Chambers Stevens says**

I got this book when it first came out.  
Coffee table size. The pictures are beautiful.  
And the history is theatrical without being snarky.

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