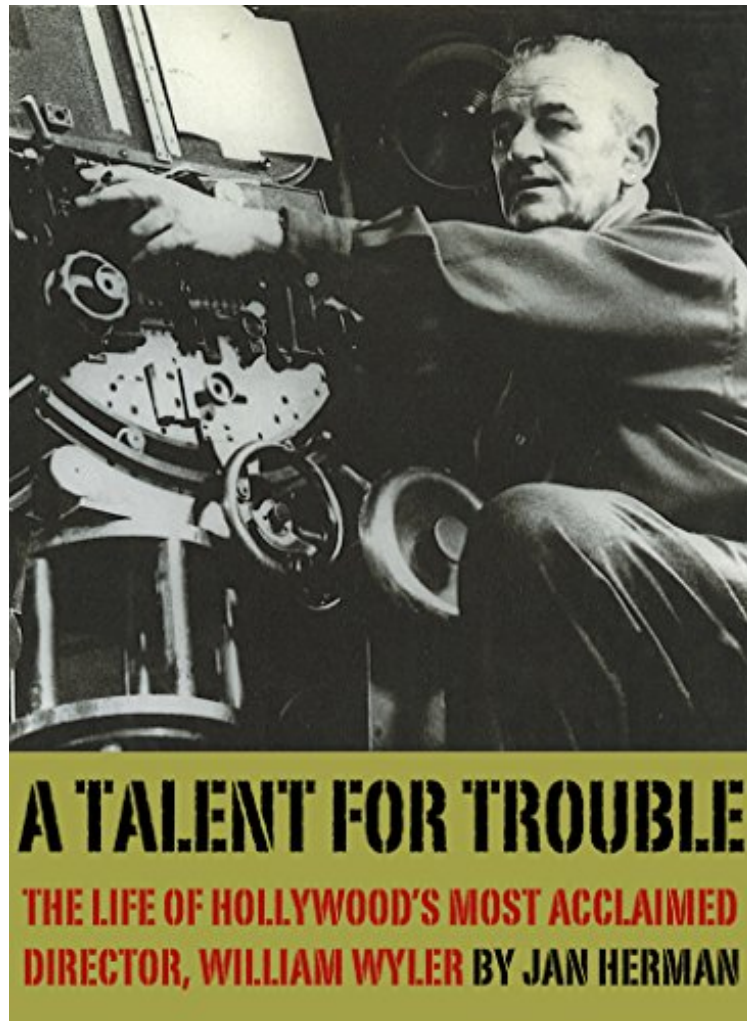


[PDF] A Talent for Trouble: The Life of Hollywood's Most Acclaimed Director, William Wyler (English Edition)

## A Talent for Trouble: The Life of Hollywood's Most Acclaimed Director, William Wyler (English Edition)

Von Jan Herman

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**Von Jan Herman : A Talent for Trouble: The Life of Hollywood's Most Acclaimed Director, William Wyler (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Talent for Trouble: The Life of Hollywood's Most Acclaimed Director, William Wyler (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A wonderful insight into a fascinating film makerVon Ein KundeUntil I read this book, I had no idea that so many of my favourite classic films were directed by William Wyler.The book tracks through Wyler's early childhood in pre-WWI Europe, his move to the United States and how he made his start making 3 movies a week for his uncle.The book

examines the process behind Wyler's great films - Roman Holiday, The Heiress and so on. Having read a biography of Audrey Hepburn and read about how she coped with the filming of Roman Holiday, it was really interesting to read the director's version of what happened during filming. The quality of the final product was important to Wyler. He was a meticulous film maker who cared about his films. He was also a man of principle as shown by his efforts to make realistic films during WWII, often putting his own life at risk as he shot footage of bombing raids over Europe. The book also shows a little bit of Wyler's personal life. He was married for most of his life to the same wonderful woman and had a family that he clearly loved. All in all, the book was a fascinating insight into pre-sound Hollywood and into a very interesting man and great director. It was extremely well written and an "easy read". It was tough to put down!

0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Beethoven composed being deaf ... Wyler made a musical!

Von Jens Jacobsen Willie Wyler certainly was one of the greatest movie directors of all times. Most of his films are household-names. Jan Herman manages to give a spellbinding account of this genius of moving pictures. But in addition he too pays attention to Wyler being a loving husband and father, a friend and social figure and a man with his own mind and the means to make it heard. It's always an entertaining book with a lot of insight, care for details and wit. Don't expect an in-depth analysis of the movies though. This is about Wyler as a living being and not so much about the theory behind his body of work. Two thumbs way up for "A Talent for Trouble"!

Kurzbeschreibung "A Talent for Trouble" tells the spellbinding tale of William Wyler's rise from obscurity to master filmmaker as Hollywood's quintessential director. It chronicles his stormy love affairs with some of the top stars of film's Golden Age, captures his beguiling personal charm, his physical and moral courage, and probes his private tragedies and political bravery. Wyler was Laurence Olivier's mentor, the love of Bette Davis's life, John Huston's best friend, Audrey Hepburn's discoverer and Barbra Streisand's father figure. His pictures were touchstones for an entire generation, among them "Jezebel," "Dodsworth," "Wuthering Heights," "The Letter," "The Little Foxes," "The Best Years of Our Lives," "Roman Holiday," "The Heiress," "Ben-Hur," and "Funny Girl." This biography has come in for much praise: An excellent biography. Gore Vidal Places Wyler once and for all where he belongs as a major figure in the American cinematic canon. Martin Scorsese The best book I've read about a director. Gregory Peck Jan Herman's biography of William Wyler is a classic of the genre, paying equal attention to Wyler's life and his films, and uncovering the rich interweave between the two. Herman invariably rewards readers with his depth of insight, balance of treatment, and first-class colloquial and elegant prose. This book is a friend. Ann Douglas (author "Terrible Honesty," "The Feminization of American Culture," and Parr Professor Emerita of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University) Richly satisfying . . . Publishers Weekly [A] thorough loving study [imarked by] reliable judgments and comprehensiveness . . . Mr. Herman's exhaustive research has paid off in a volume that will reward not only scholars but fans as well. Diane Jacobs (The New York Times Book ) A model Hollywood biography: Cogent, to the point, candid, briskly written and never dull. Kirkus s Highly recommended. Library Journal The one-stop shop for Wyler. Gary Giddins (author "Visions of Jazz," "Bing Crosby," and Executive Director of the Leon Levy Center for Biography) Captures the man and his work in all their variety and complexity. Roger Ebert Finally gives Wyler the book he deserves. Kenneth Turan (film critic for the Los Angeles Times, director of the LA Times Book Prizes) A fascinating look at the inner workings of an age . . . The tale of an American artist in the vortex of great political and social changes. This is an enduring biography. Andrei Codrescu (NPR commentator) I read 'A Talent for Trouble' almost without pause. That gives you some idea of how fascinating I found it. Kevin Brownlow (author "David Lean," "The Parade's Gone By") An extraordinary closeup. Riveting. David Brown (producer "The Sting," "Driving Miss Daisy") Compelling . . . Herman has done his homework. Steven Bach, Los Angeles Times Book Its sheer drive keeps one stuck to the pages. Conviction comes through strongly in clear writing and honest weighing of Wyler's works. He's no saint-maker. Herman limns crisply throughout and a rounded, great-hearted Wyler steps forth who grips the readers' sympathies with both hands. David Newlove, The Hollywood Reporter A revealing portrait of one of the most creative, infuriatingly demanding movie directors. A journey through some of our best moviegoing years. Studs Terkel Gracefully written, detail-rich. If you care about movies, this book is mandatory. Harry Haun, The [Newark] Star-Ledger Vividly evocative . . . consistently informative and absorbing. Chicago Sun-Times Analyzes each film in an accessible, fluid style that should appeal to both historians and the general reader. The portrait that emerges is as intricate, contradictory and enigmatic as the man himself. Michael Blowen, The Boston Globe Remarkable. David Elliott, KFMB Radio Definitive. TimeOut NY. de William Wyler is not as well known as Alfred Hitchcock, Orson Welles, or John Ford, but he deserves a place among the superstar directors of classic Hollywood. His style was magnificently fluid; while his films are masterpieces of cinematic artistry, they are also filled with beautiful elements that make his characters and situations utterly real. Among other classics, he directed "Dead End," "Wuthering Heights," "The Little Foxes," "Mrs. Miniver," "The Best Years of Our Lives," "The Heiress," "Roman Holiday," "Ben-Hur," and "Funny Girl." Jan Herman's biography is a lively account of Wyler's life and career that pays special attention to the director's early experiences in Europe, his relationship to the Hollywood mogul Carl Laemmle, his

combative partnership with Samuel Goldwyn, his friendships with John Huston and Lillian Hellman, his marriage to Margaret Tallichet, his harrowing experiences making propaganda films during World War II, and his long, immensely successful professional career. *Kurzbeschreibung* "A Talent for Trouble" tells the spellbinding tale of William Wyler's rise from obscurity to master filmmaker as Hollywood's quintessential director. It chronicles his stormy love affairs with some of the top stars of film's Golden Age, captures his beguiling personal charm, his physical and moral courage, and probes his private tragedies and political bravery. Wyler was Laurence Olivier's mentor, the love of Bette Davis's life, John Huston's best friend, Audrey Hepburn's discoverer and Barbra Streisand's father figure. His pictures were touchstones for an entire generation, among them "Jezebel," "Dodsworth," "Wuthering Heights," "The Letter," "The Little Foxes," "The Best Years of Our Lives," "Roman Holiday," "The Heiress," "Ben-Hur," and "Funny Girl." This biography has come in for much praise: An excellent biography. Gore Vidal Places Wyler once and for all where he belongs as a major figure in the American cinematic canon. Martin Scorsese The best book I've read about a director. Gregory Peck Jan Herman's biography of William Wyler is a classic of the genre, paying equal attention to Wyler's life and his films, and uncovering the rich interweave between the two. Herman invariably rewards readers with his depth of insight, balance of treatment, and first-class colloquial and elegant prose; this book is a friend. Ann Douglas (author "Terrible Honesty," "The Feminization of American Culture," and Parr Professor Emerita of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University) Richly satisfying . . . Publishers Weekly [A] thorough loving study [marked by] reliable judgments and comprehensiveness . . . Mr. Herman's exhaustive research has paid off in a volume that will reward not only scholars but fans as well. Diane Jacobs (The New York Times Book Review) A model Hollywood biography: Cogent, to the point, candid, briskly written and never dull. Kirkus Highly recommended. Library Journal The one-stop shop for Wyler. Gary Giddins (author "Visions of Jazz," "Bing Crosby," and Executive Director of the Leon Levy Center for Biography) Captures the man and his work in all their variety and complexity. Roger Ebert Finally gives Wyler the book he deserves. Kenneth Turan (film critic for the Los Angeles Times, director of the LA Times Book Prizes) A fascinating look at the inner workings of an age . . . The tale of an American artist in the vortex of great political and social changes. This is an enduring biography. Andrei Codrescu (NPR commentator) I read 'A Talent for Trouble' almost without pause. That gives you some idea of how fascinating I found it. Kevin Brownlow (author "David Lean," "The Parade's Gone By") An extraordinary closeup. Riveting. David Brown (producer "The Sting," "Driving Miss Daisy") Compelling . . . Herman has done his homework. Steven Bach, Los Angeles Times Book Review Its sheer drive keeps one stuck to the pages. Conviction comes through strongly in clear writing and honest weighing of Wyler's works. He's no saint-maker. Herman limns crisply throughout and a rounded, great-hearted Wyler steps forth who grips the reader's sympathies with both hands. David Newlove, The Hollywood Reporter A revealing portrait of one of the most creative, infuriatingly demanding movie directors. A journey through some of our best moviegoing years. Studs Terkel Gracefully written, detail-rich. If you care about movies, this book is mandatory. Harry Haun, The [Newark] Star-Ledger Vividly evocative . . . consistently informative and absorbing. Chicago Sun-Times Analyzes each film in an accessible, fluid style that should appeal to both historians and the general reader. The portrait that emerges is as intricate, contradictory and enigmatic as the man himself. Michael Blowen, The Boston Globe Remarkable. David Elliott, KFMB Radio Definitive. TimeOut NY