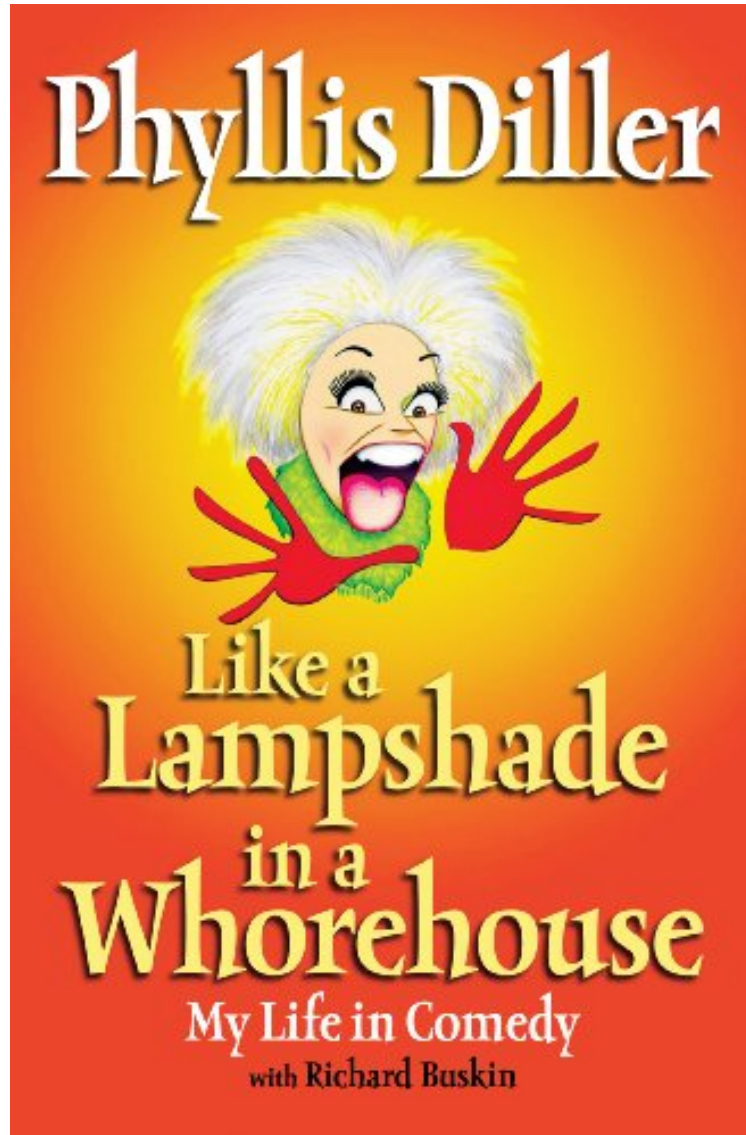


[Read now] Like a Lampshade in a Whorehouse: My Life in Comedy

Like a Lampshade in a Whorehouse: My Life in Comedy

Von Phyllis Diller

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Von Phyllis Diller : Like a Lampshade in a Whorehouse: My Life in Comedy before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Like a Lampshade in a Whorehouse: My Life in Comedy:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Bittersweet ComedyVon Donald MitchellMs. Diller provides plenty of laughs and food for thought in this brash, few-holds-barred autobiography nicely polished by Richard Buskin's prose. From the title to the stories, Ms. Diller grabs

your heart and your funny bone as she recounts her long struggles to make it as a stand-up comedienne and survive the men in her life. The book is also filled with the unexpected tales of Ms. Diller's career as a pianist, nude model for Playboy and heart-breaking moments as a mother. If you ever caught her routine, you probably remember something about "Fang" . . . her reference to the fictional man in her life. While the portrait of Fang was far from appealing, it was close enough to the truth about her first husband that he proudly liked to claim that he was Fang. In the days before working women were the ideal and feminism was a new outlook, Ms. Diller struggled to put herself in charge of her own life and to develop her talent. The story is hardly rags-to-riches . . . but it's certainly homeless-to-earning-a-living. The best parts of the book are where she reveals the art behind her humor . . . especially its psychology, playing off her appearance and our assumptions about her . . . and examples of the humor are suspended like a helium balloon above stories about the pain in her marriage. Most autobiographies and biographies of comics fall flat. This is the best one I remember reading. Pick it up . . . you won't get hurt . . . unless you try to use it as a toothbrush!

Kurzbeschreibung You think I'm overdressed? This is my slip! No, I'm going to tell you the truth about what I'm wearing. I used to work as a lampshade in a whorehouse. I couldn't get one of the good jobs. From housewife to humorist, Phyllis Diller made millions laugh for over five decades with her groundbreaking comedy. Boasting unique material, a raucous laugh, wild hair, the trademark cigarette holder, and garish clothes, this pioneer blazed a trail for comediennes during the fifties and sixties, leading them out of small dives into the kinds of top venues that had previously played host only to their male counterparts. While her routine broke new ground and opened doors to subsequent generations of female standups, it also served as a form of self-therapy amid a life steeped in tragedy and turmoil. Like a Lampshade in a Whorehouse is Phyllis Diller's own story about the struggle and the pain behind the comedy and the success: her Depression-era adolescence; her marriage to the chronically unemployed husband who inspired her most famous comic character, Fang; her desperate attempts to stave off poverty as a professional comic while raising five children; the disastrous club engagements that coincided with homelessness and separation from her young family; and the problems that clouded her stage and screen success when a second marriage unraveled because of her new spouses alcoholism and inner demons. Over fifty years after Diller's professional debut as a standup comic, Like a Lampshade in a Whorehouse describes her separate careers as an artist and as a piano soloist with symphony orchestras; her failed attempts to become a Playboy centerfold; and her outspoken attitude toward her extensive plastic surgery that earned her a special award from the American Academy of Cosmetic Surgery. Its quite a story.

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ber den Autor und weitere Mitwirkende Phyllis Diller, the world's first and foremost successful female stand-up comic, has been at the top of her game for five decades. Richard Buskin has written more than a dozen books, including biographies of Princess Diana, Marilyn Monroe, and Sheryl Crow. He makes his home in Chicago.