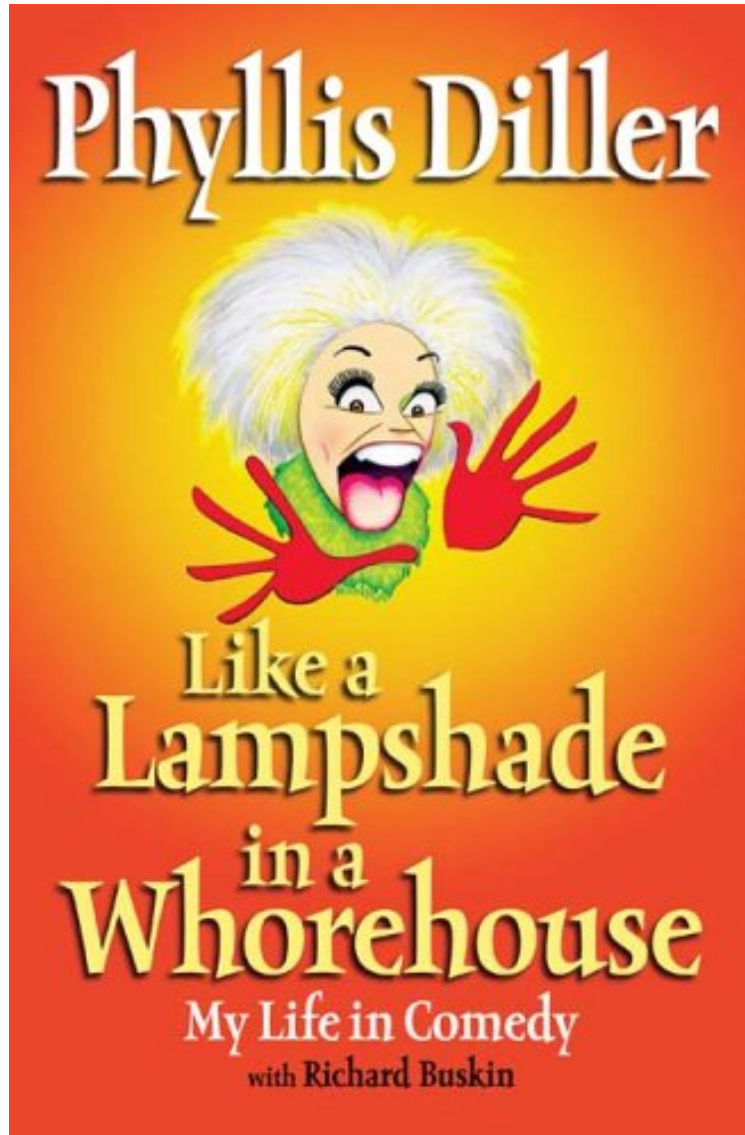


(Read free) Like a Lampshade In a Whorehouse: My Life In Comedy

Like a Lampshade In a Whorehouse: My Life In Comedy

Phyllis Diller

*ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF*



 Download

 Read Online

#634641 in Books 2006-02-16 2006-02-16Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.93 x .82 x 5.98l, .72 #File Name: 1585424765304 pages | File size: 49.Mb

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:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Phyllis Diller With and Without LaughsBy Nick HowesThe brutally honest autobiography of the queen of the female standup comics. Diller recounts her story including her two disastrous marriages before finding the love of her life in her later years. Husband and hustler Sherwood Diller found success finally by talking his wife into taking her "life of the party" demeanor on the road as a stand-up. It worked for Phyllis

who recounts her struggles in her stand-up career, the only notable female stand-up of her time. She stayed with Sherwood for many years while he lived it up as the real-life "Fang" (he wasn't Fang's inspiration she insists), long after she should have ditched him, and her second husband turned out to be a closeted gay. An often-absent parent of five kids, Diller's career hit the heights in the 1960's, she had her own short-run sitcom, became a Bob Hope favorite, played Hello Dolly, and along the way became a spokesperson for plastic surgery. She says plastic surgery was to improve what nature gave her, but interestingly had a realistic view of the process and called it quits after she accomplished what she wanted. Interspersed with jokes from her act, it is a moving story of a remarkable person and you are pulling for her throughout. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Phyllis Diller, her life, her history, her story -- Interesting Bio and includes some pictures of this famous lady. By RunionOh Phyllis Diller, what a life, what a comedian. "I love my job, of course this isn't it!" This book goes to the beginning of her life, talks about home life and moves on to how she got into show business. "Why do I call him FANG? What do you call a man that has one tooth that is 2 inches long!" She talks about the ups and downs, the people she met, who took advantage of her, who helped her and just talks about how it all happened. "I do have this one small problem.....Sometimes I want to just push them together and make one good one!" I had followed Phyllis from the time she was on her first show with Groucho Marx until her death. She talks about EVERYTHING in her own style. "The green cheese -- So I put it in the refrigerator, and forgot about it. Every now and then I'd open the door and throw it some food. And it was getting crosser and meaner!" You may like the book and you may not like the book but you will never forget about the lady that wrote the book, Phyllis Diller. I do recommend this book if you have a spot in your heart for Phyllis 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. What the real Phyllis Diller was like By CustomerA great inside look at the standup comedy and live television aspects of the entertainment business. An even greater inside look at her life's trials that Phyllis Diller had to endure and overcome on her way to success. Lots of her jokes cleverly sprinkled in the narrative. I would have given six stars except that the book contained some very minor timeline errors.

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 spouse's 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. It's quite a story.

From Publishers Weekly Brash comedy and a surprising bitterness fuel this unsparing account of Diller's drive to make it big. Born to elderly parents in Lima, Ohio, in 1917, Phyllis Ada Driver was blessed with neither beauty nor wealth. At 20--and already pregnant--she married Sherwood Diller, a handsome, selfish ne'er-do-well who became the "Fang" in her comic monologues of domestic life; the couple had five children. Nearly 40 when she began her performing career, Diller turned a knack for relentless self-deprecation into a nightclub act. She performed in The Poets' Follies of 1955 with poet/painter/composer Weldon Kees and Beat writer Lawrence Ferlinghetti. But women were a novelty in the bar-based world of stand-up comedy, and plenty of humiliating club engagements ensued. Diller persisted, though, and while her male colleagues (Milton Berle, Don Rickles, Lenny Bruce) were pioneering 1950s "insult comedy," she turned the venom on herself and reaped its rewards. Eventually shedding her dud husband, Diller became a superstar--and the first one to go public about her plastic surgery ("I was a walking billboard for plastic surgery," she observes wryly). Retired from show business since 2002, Diller retains a dedicated fan base and an enormous interest in the world that spawned her. And considering she's the original "He's just not into me" girl, a pioneering desperate housewife, might this be the time to launch a comeback? Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. About the Author Phyllis Diller, the world's first and foremost female standup comic, entertained audiences for over half a century with her pioneering, often self-penned material, zany looks, and trademark laugh in countless stage, film, and television appearances. Richard Buskin is the New York Times bestselling author of more than a dozen books. His articles have appeared in newspapers such as the New York Post,

The Sydney Morning Herald, The Observer, and The Independent. A native of London, he lives in Chicago.