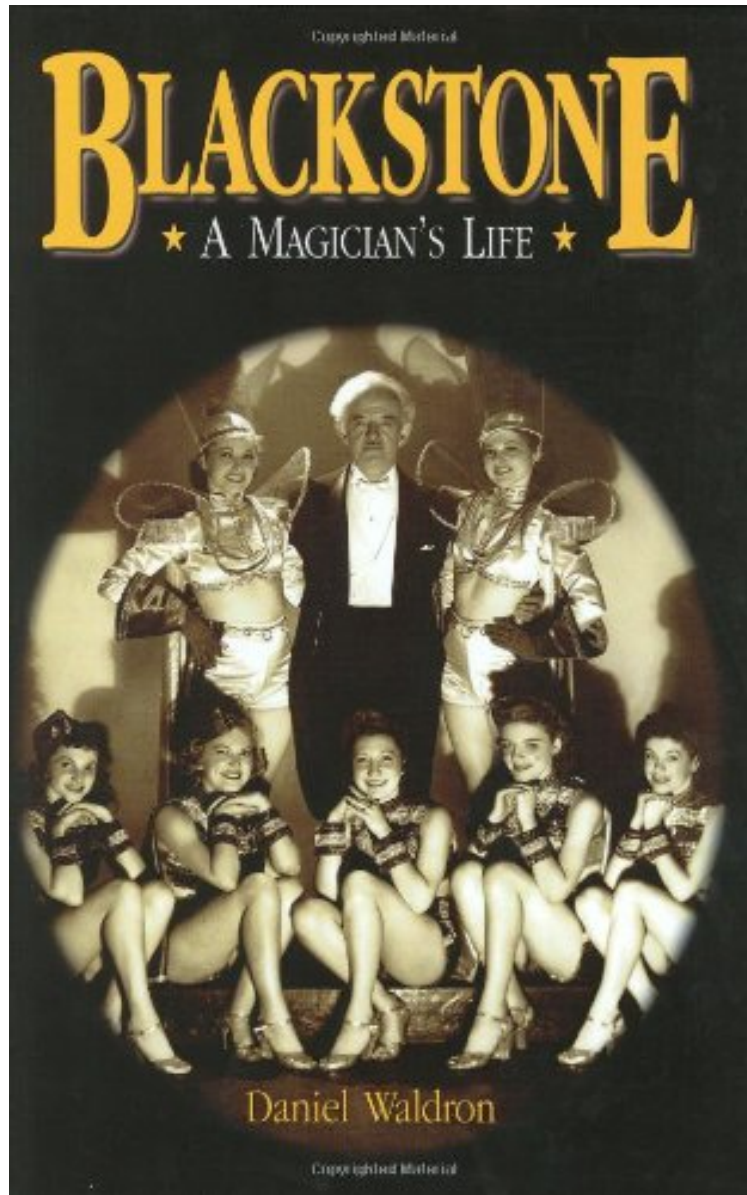


(Download) Blackstone, a Magician's Life: The World and Magic Show of Harry Blackstone, 1885-1965

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Daniel Waldron, George Johnstone, Nick Ruggiero : Blackstone, a Magician's Life: The World and Magic Show of Harry Blackstone, 1885-1965 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Blackstone, a Magician's Life: The World and Magic Show of Harry Blackstone, 1885-1965:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. An intimate experience of touring magic ...By S. M. BrooksI spent 15 years (1965 - 1980) as stage manager with a touring stage illusion magic company. The show was modeled after the Blackstone show, closed years ago and the illusions sold to MGM.The stories told in this well written volume brought back a flood of memories. I found the story of Harry Blackstone fascinating and familiar and since it is told from the point of view of company personnel it really spoke to me.You won't learn secrets of the Blackstone illusions from this book. It is more of an indirect character study of Blackstone himself, through the eyes of his staff, and a very accurate description of the touring experience. This type of life did not completely disappear with the demise of vaudeville, but touring companies are very rare because they are no longer profitable. Big illusion shows are pretty well confined to Las Vegas in the US.If you are a magic buff, or interested in the vaudeville era, I should think you would find this book a great addition to your collection. Harry Blackstone is a very interesting character and this is revealed by his actions through the reminiscences of fellow travelers rather than through analysis. Every magician dreams of performing as Blackstone finally did at the height of his career. If you have ever worked for a touring magic show, and I know we are a small audience, you won't be able to put it down.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent condition. Beautiful book coverBy CustomerIt fully met our hopes. Excellent condition. Beautiful book cover.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy D. BieberIt's what I expected.

This is the story of the world and magic shows of Harry Blackstone (1885-1965), who entertained theatre-goers for over 50 seasons. Gifted with an electric presence, a magnificent voice and a master magician's mentality and skills, he played everything from showboats to vaudeville to television. Blackstone's extravagant productions advertised "1001 wonders" and "an enchanting array of beautiful girls." Waldron's vivid and thoroughly researched narrative, enhanced with first-hand accounts by those who worked on the Blackstone show, presents an unforgettable portrait of a unique showman. Illustrated throughout with photographs.

" Waldron's readable treatment of [Blackstone's show] is a reminder of one of the great 20th-century entertainers." -- Mike Tribby, Booklist, November 15, 1999"...A fine view not only of [Blackstone's] personal life and achievements, but [of] road show acts of the times." -- The Bookwatch, October 1999Daniel Waldron is preeminently qualified to tell this story. His fondness for his subject ... translates into a rich, evocative account." -- Michael Claxton, Theatre Survey, 2000