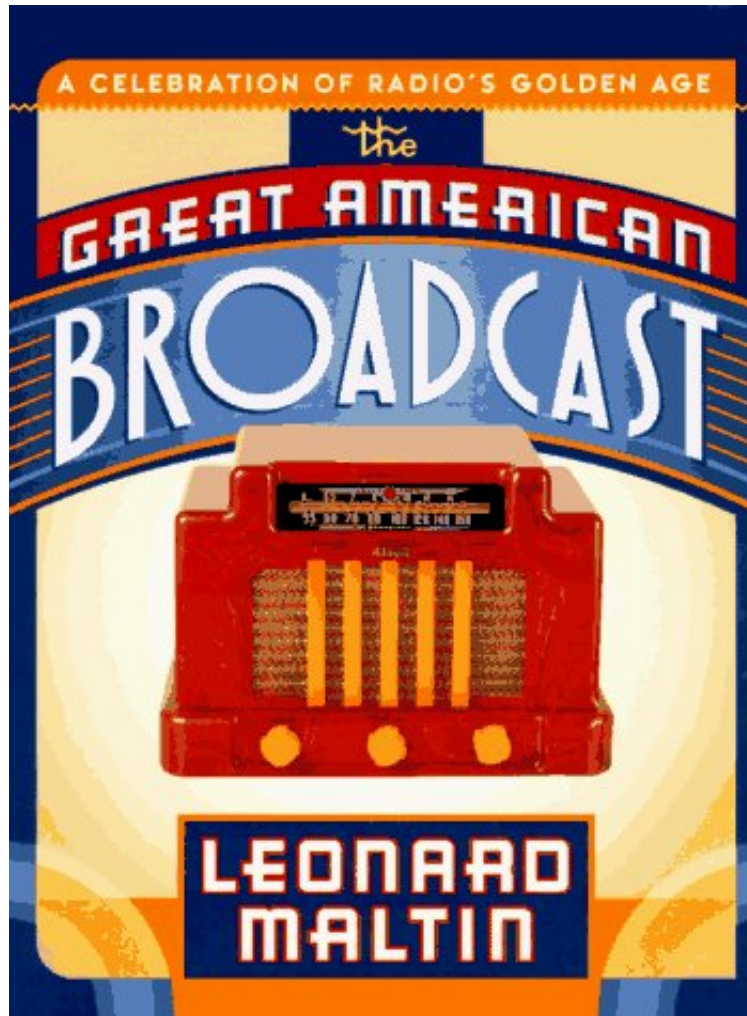


(Download) The Great American Broadcast: A Celebration of Radio's Golden Age

The Great American Broadcast: A Celebration of Radio's Golden Age

Leonard Maltin

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Leonard Maltin : The Great American Broadcast: A Celebration of Radio's Golden Age before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Great American Broadcast: A Celebration of Radio's Golden Age:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Written with Love.....As UsualBy B. O'KaneThe Great American Broadcast is Leonard Maltin's insightful and affectionate look at the zenith of American radio. Maltin's love of the medium is as great and possibly greater than his love of movies, if that's possible, and this is transmitted in every line of this well-researched tome. Interviews with the radio stars, producers, writers and technicians of the time bring to life the magic of this era and apart from a cracking good read it will also serve as an excellent reference tool. I found the

book engrossing and regretted having to finish it at all. Thanks to the internet Old Time Radio is flourishing and listeners will have their listening pleasure enriched for having read this book. Unlike most modern media commentators Maltin has never lost his little boy at the Saturday matinee enthusiasm for movies and, it seems, for radio as well. All radio lovers should have this title on their shelves. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Nightbeat9A+0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Kyle J Myers An excellent slice of American social history..Both informative and entertaining.

Behind-the-mike voices tell the inside story of the wonderful years when radio brought new meaning to the term "home entertainment. "From Orson Welles to Amos 'n Andy, Burns and Allen and Superman, here is a virtual oral history crammed with fascinating detail and exclusive first-person anecdotes. Illustrated with rare photos, this is a perfect gift for all radio, Americana, and nostalgia buffs. 130 bw photos.

From Library Journal Maltin, best known for his movie reviews on Entertainment Tonight, turns a critical ear to radio's finest days: from the 1920s through the 1950s. Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Kirkus sA broad and glossy, but thoroughly entertaining tour of old-time radio. Though radio is becoming an increasingly segmented stopgap to fill the silences television cannot reach, there was a time when it was a unifying agent, as powerful a mass-cultural force as perhaps America has ever seen. This period, from the early 1920s to the mid-1950s, truly was the "golden age" of radio. Film authority Maltin, a regular on Entertainment Tonight, has a sharp eye for telling details, revealing anecdotes--and is never in such a hurry he can't stop for an amusing digression or aside. While his subject is enormous, he provides enough range and breadth of information to make any reader sound knowledgeable at a cocktail party (although he doesn't discuss the advent of FM radio). Actors, directors, sponsors, musicians, sound effects, and more all get their own tidbit-filled chapters. Radio began as a substitute for telegraphy, a way, most notably, for ships at sea to communicate with shore. But others began tuning in, the price of sets came down, and soon the idea of creating regular programming took hold. Maltin ably captures the excitement and seat-of-the-pants style of early radio, when almost everything was live, leaving little room for mistakes. Though there was enormous room for creativity and innovation, sponsors quickly came to exert substantial influence over the shows aired under their aegis (no mention allowed, for example, of the word "lucky" on shows sponsored by a tobacco brand other than Lucky Strikes). After WW II, as television--and its unremitting literalism--became an increasingly serious challenge, live shows were replaced by tape, more stars were trotted out, and audience segmentation increased, but nothing could stem radio's slide from the popular consciousness into background noise. A warm, engaging valentine to a bygone art form and era. (130 bw photos) -- Copyright 1997, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. Fans of radio's golden age will find this softhearted valentine right up their alley. It's not a comprehensive history, just a stroll through every anecdote Maltin could find, from the hilarious to the mundane. -- Entertainment Weekly Leonard Maltin brings the same seemingly boundless enthusiasm and encyclopedic recall previously devoted to film to the so-called Golden Age of broadcasting.... The citations for the sources of this material is skimpy; thus, the book is great to read, but limited as an historical reference. -- The New York Times Book , Ruth Bayard Smith