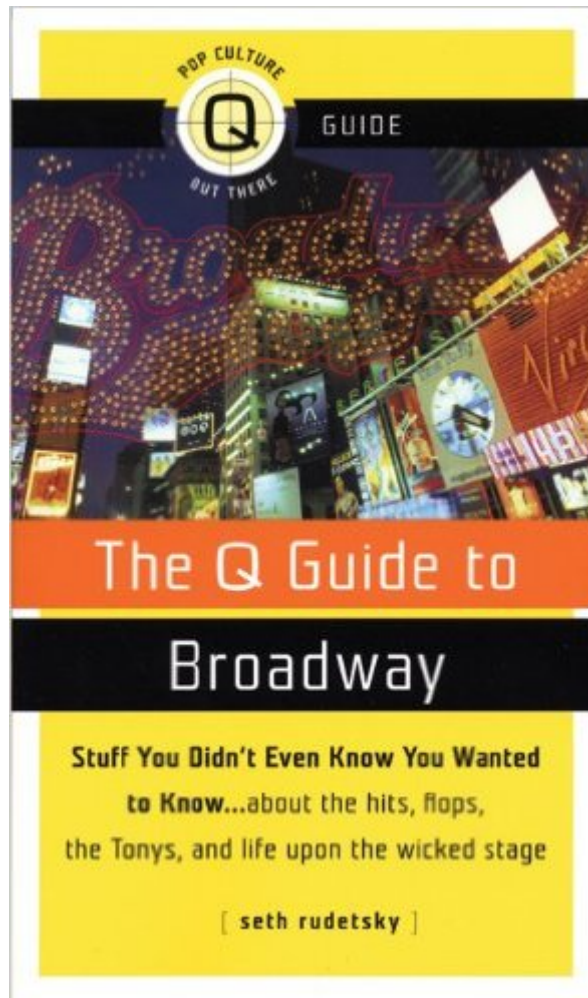


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The Q Guide To Broadway



Synopsis

The Great White Way has paved the way for some of the most legendary performers in history. But Broadway is more than a street, it's a community. In this Q Guide, a true Broadway expert takes theater fans on the ultimate insider's tour.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Seth Rusetsky, the ultimate Broadway insider, is the perfect gay guide to Broadway. He's a serious and highly gifted musician and simultaneously a manic, chatty, wildly driven writer and entertainer. He knows what he's talking but this is no dry "how to" guide. It is the first real guide on how to become a New York Theatre insider: what CDs to buy, what restaurants, cabarets and theatres to attend, what charities to support, what websites to go to for theatre news and gossip, how to get cheap tickets, and how to speak the language of Broadway. For better and worse it is a highly subjective guide, reflecting Seth's likes and dislikes, passions and prejudices, on every page. For example, some important theatre websites are overlooked and some musical stars are mentioned a few too many times. In his defense I am grateful that Seth uses stars' first and last names throughout his book. We hear about "Chita Rivera," not that endlessly tiresome fake Broadway insiders lingo of "Chita." It's a hilarious book, un-put-downable and addictive. Seth reminds us over and over what it is to remain a giddy fan of Broadway when many insiders lose that aspect after being exposed to the challenging day-to-day workings of a theatre professional.

Seth Rudetsky is fiercely talented, an encyclopedia of Broadway facts and lore, and (most importantly) hysterically funny. He also knows everyone in the business and is the King (Queen?) of Broadway benefits and concerts. This great little guide gives you all the basics you need to feel like a Broadway insider. Just getting started as a fan? This guide will give you the basics plus some great tips for getting Broadway info and gossip, scoring cheap tickets and how to get wired to Broadway on the Internet. Already hooked on Broadway? You'll still enjoy this quick little read. It was fun seeing whether or not I agreed with Seth's choices of 'essential' cast recordings, and I still picked up a few backstage stories I hadn't heard before. Seth is a-MAH-zing (as he would say) and so is this little Q Guide. Now we just need Seth to write a comic novel that takes place in the backstage Broadway world that he knows and loves so much!

Seth Rudetsky, a very talented Broadway conductor, sub, fundraiser, impresario, radio host, and all-around insider is obsessed with all things Broadway. Seth's writing style is easy, conversational, and informative with lots of spice. The Q-Guide tells the ordinary Broadway fan how to find cheap tickets, what the lingo is all about, some whys and wherefores about the industry, lots of great recommendations to build the "must have" Broadway Cast CD Library, and oodles of stories about the personalities. The book is not a history of Broadway, it's here and now. For fun, there are five quizzes about Broadway lore and facts to test your pre-existing knowledge and send you googling to learn more. Written with a gay sensibility, Seth's new 174-page book is a one sitting cover-to-cover must read for the Broadway fan and the insider as well.

This could easily be retitled, "Broadway 101" or "Broadway For Novices". There is a wealth of introductory information for those with limited knowledge about all things Broadway-- and it's told with a gay slant-- but not so much so that it limits its benefits for any reader. From history to how to get tickets to recommendations of some of the best shows of all time-- this book is a primer on where to start your exploration. As someone continuing their 30+ year love affair with Broadway, I didn't really find anything here that I didn't already know. As always though, Rudetsky has assembled a book full of insight and passion.

This book was a BLAST from start to finish!!! Mr. Rudetsky, clearly a Broadway expert EXTRAORDINAIRE, has written an extremely informative book that is also very, very FUNNY! I definitely wasn't expecting that!! I was most shocked at how up-to-the-moment this book is. With inside dirt on shows that have just opened, it made me feel like a bona-fide Broadway INSIDER!!

especially enjoyed the list of top ten CD's. I own several of them already, and I really appreciated his in-depth descriptions of what went into the making of particular songs, the artistic process, and the performance details. How does he know about all this stuff?!?! It makes me look forward to listening to these classics again, but through Mr. Rudetsky's expert and appreciative eyes. This guide gave me a new appreciation for Broadway (and the dangers facing it). So here's to Seth, keep up the good fight and keep Broadway alive in all it's colorful GLORY!

Seth Rudetsky is a full-time Broadway citizen, both as performer and performance assistant, and as kind of a professional gossip with his own XM/Sirius radio show. This little non-fiction book, THE Q GUIDE TO BROADWAY, came out in 2006: a fun introduction to Broadway, its nomenclature, its traditions, how to score tickets, where to people-watch, how to glean the latest 4-1-1, and numerous "top" lists of everything from the best CD's to own (also the best virtually-unknown CD's to own) to the best gay-sympathetic shows. Although the book is beginning to age, it still has lots of useful information. I for one enjoyed the five difficult-but-not-impossible quizzes interspersed through the book. How could one possibly object to this, when the first one is all about Stephen Sondheim? Several minor errors stick out in a book this short, especially since they are so easily corrected. THE MOST HAPPY FELLA did not play "for years" in its original Broadway presentation back in 1956; it played fourteen months. Albin was not the character who had a "straight dalliance" in LA CAGE AUX FOLLES; that would be his partner Georges. There was no character named "Dorothy" in FOLLIES played by Barbara Cook. The two leading female roles are Phyllis and Sally. Dorothy Collins played Sally in the original FOLLIES; Barbara Cook played Sally in the 1985 concert performance. Still, this is a fun, if slight, intro to Broadway, with extra emphasis on gay themes. I was really surprised at how cheaply THE Q GUIDE TO BROADWAY can be obtained for such an engaging book that is only eight years old. Thank you, Joe, for this special present!

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