

The Last Twenty Five Years of the Broadway Musical: The History of Broadway



The Happiest Corpse I've Ever Seen: The Last Twenty-Five Years of the Broadway Musical (The History of the Broadway Musical Book 7) by Ethan Mordden

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

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Broadway is the heart of the American theater industry. It is home to some of the world's most famous and beloved musicals, including The Phantom of the Opera, Wicked, and The Lion King. But Broadway is more than just a collection of theaters. It is a living, breathing organism that has been constantly evolving for over a century.

In the last twenty-five years, Broadway has undergone a number of significant changes. These changes have been both positive and negative, but they have all contributed to the unique and vibrant Broadway that we know today.

One of the most significant changes to Broadway in the last twenty-five years has been the rise of the "mega-musical." These musicals are characterized by their large casts, elaborate sets, and soaring budgets. Mega-musicals have been a major draw for tourists and helped to revitalize the Broadway theater district.

However, the rise of the mega-musical has also led to some criticism. Some critics argue that mega-musicals are too formulaic and that they lack the heart and soul of smaller, more intimate productions. Another significant change to Broadway in the last twenty-five years has been the increasing diversity of its shows. In the past, Broadway was dominated by white, male performers and creatives. However, in recent years, there has been a growing movement to make Broadway more inclusive. This movement has led to the casting of more actors of color, women, and LGBTQ performers.

The increasing diversity of Broadway has been a welcome change, but it has also led to some challenges. For example, there is still a lack of representation of certain groups, such as people with disabilities. Additionally, some critics argue that the focus on diversity has led to a decline in the quality of Broadway shows.

Despite these challenges, the Broadway musical is alive and well. It is a constantly evolving art form that continues to thrill and entertain audiences around the world. The last twenty-five years have been a period of great change for Broadway, but they have also been a time of great creativity and innovation. The future of Broadway is bright, and there is no doubt that it will continue to be a major force in the world of theater for many years to come.

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