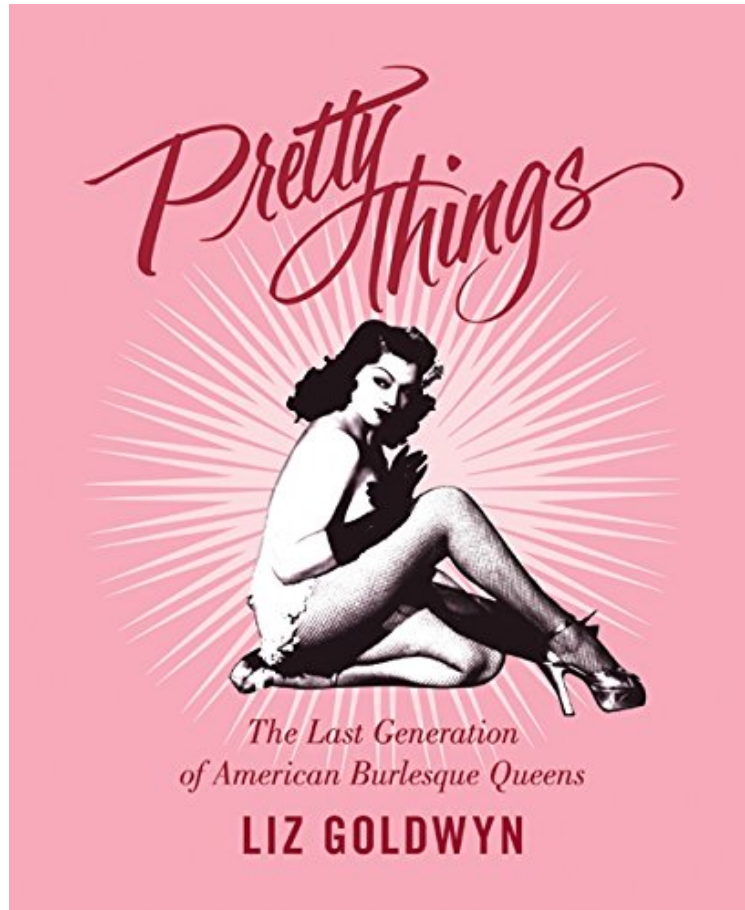


(Free pdf) Pretty Things: The Last Generation of American Burlesque Queens

Pretty Things: The Last Generation of American Burlesque Queens

Liz Goldwyn

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Liz Goldwyn : Pretty Things: The Last Generation of American Burlesque Queens before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Pretty Things: The Last Generation of American Burlesque Queens:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. How they did it before velcroBy Julie RatcliffeThis book is a fantastic resource for anyone interested in the history of burlesque, theater history or costume design. I actually found this book while searching for information on Gypsy Rose Lee. I have never seen the documentary, but the book stands on its own merits.Not only are the stories of the performers interesting - and sometimes heartbreaking - but the photos are amazing. There are candid shots of costume fittings, fabric swatches, original sketches and, in one case, photos of the inside construction of the costume. I work with costumes and it was interesting to see the rigging used in the "pre-velcro" days. I have done plenty of quick change rigging over the years and enjoyed seeing the skill and imagination used in the construction of these costumes.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good Reference.By William R. ToddmancillasInteresting. Not my cup of tea, but interesting. I thought burlesque was more racy. Something of disappointment for me. Very good historical reference.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

An enjoyable, clean book of the art of strip tease By Georgia Mountain This is a beautiful iconic scrap book of striptease artists. It gives information about the lives of the girls, their costumes, their admirers. It is a feast for people interested in this art, not just for the eyes but for the mind and heart. I understand the author did a documentary, as well, and I would love to see it. Please someone release it on DVD.

The most comprehensive study on the era of burlesque. V Magazine Training her journalists eye on the glitter and glamour of American burlesques Greatest Generation, Liz Goldwyn takes readers on an enthralling tour of the original queens of the striptease. Goldwyns incisive expose is a retrospective of the sights and spectacles of burlesques golden age and an intimate look at the women whose sexuality, ambition, and verve brought the cabaret stage to life. Today, as burlesque enters a heady resurgence worldwide with festivals around the globe, popular books like Burlesque Fetish and The Burlesque Handbook, and even a School of Burlesque in New York City Pretty Things offers a unique and exciting look at its formative past and its earliest heroines.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . A search for second-hand garments-"pretty things"-first prompted filmmaker Liz Goldwyn's lifelong fascination with the burlesque queens of the 1930s, '40s and '50s. After amassing a museum-worthy collection of their wardrobes and dancing paraphernalia, the enthusiastic young woman grew "convinced that every garment holds undiscovered revelations about its past lives." To learn more, she began contacting long-retired dancers and "through ten years of letters, visits, interviews and striptease lessons" documented their colorful-and sometimes tragic-stories. Tracing the evolution of this form of dancing from the Belle poque to burlesque's mid-century heyday (which boasted such luminaries as Gypsy Rose Lee, Lily St. Cyr and Zorita), Goldwyn makes a convincing case for recognizing both the choreography and costume-making of this bygone era as a true art form. Fully illustrated with design notes, media clippings and hundreds of photos, this coffee table treasure serves as a companion book to the documentary film of the same name, which Goldwyn premiered on HBO in 2005. Ultimately, Goldwyn's contagious enthusiasm for her subject makes a fitting paean to this once-forgotten generation of women who led lives on the periphery of artistry and respectability. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist The spectacularly illustrated book complementing Goldwyn's HBO documentary of the same name focuses on the early--twentieth-century heyday of burlesque in America, especially its stars. The granddaughter of Hollywood producer Samuel Goldwyn rationalizes that although "raised in the wake of women's lib, schooled to be independent and to downplay sexuality[,] . . . many women [feel] a strong attraction to the burlesque queen persona of self-aware sexuality," and photos of her in vintage stripper costumes bespeak her own attraction. But she sees "burlesque queens as artists and their costumes as examples of great craftsmanship." Book and documentary call attention to the era and the performers "so that their role in entertainment history can be reexamined and "legitimized." Including details on such vital matters as costume construction for the sake of quick, easy divestment; a wealth of pertinent illustrations; great stories of such stars as Betty Rowland, Zorita, and June St. Clair; and snippets on the likes of Gypsy Rose Lee and Mai Ling, this package gives said reexamination a jump start. Mike Tribby Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved This coffee table treasure serves as . . . a fitting paean to this once-forgotten generation of women. (Publishers Weekly (starred review)) Liz Goldwyn illustrates an era in classic American entertainment with hundreds of archival photographs, costume sketches and newspaper clips. (Time) Pretty Things is now the most comprehensive study on the era of burlesque. (V Magazine) In Liz Goldwyns Pretty Things, stripteasers bump and grind into the often dark reality of modern burlesque queens. (Vanity Fair) The art of burlesque is lovingly documented through long-lost photographs as well as designer sketches and interviews. (W magazine) [Pretty Things] celebrates the performers once dismissed as second-class citizens. (Tatler)