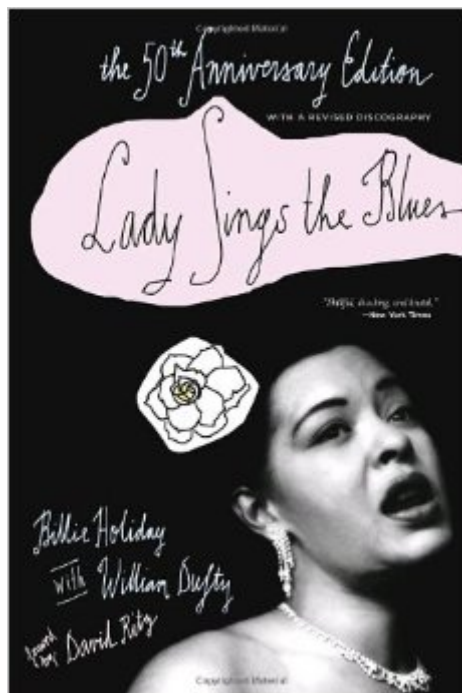


The book was found

# Lady Sings The Blues: The 50th-Anniversary Edition With A Revised Discography (Harlem Moon Classics)



## Synopsis

Lady Sings the Blues is the fiercely honest, no-holds-barred autobiography of Billie Holiday, the legendary jazz, swing, and standards singing sensation. Taking the reader on a fast-moving journey from Holiday's rough-and-tumble Baltimore childhood (where she ran errands at a whorehouse in exchange for the chance to listen to Louis Armstrong and Bessie Smith albums), to her emergence on Harlem's club scene, to sold-out performances with the Count Basie Orchestra and with Artie Shaw and his band, this revelatory memoir is notable for its trenchant observations on the racism that darkened Billie's life and the heroin addiction that ended it too soon. We are with her during the mesmerizing debut of "Strange Fruit"; with her as she rubs shoulders with the biggest movie stars and musicians of the day (Bob Hope, Lana Turner, Clark Gable, Benny Goodman, Lester Young, Coleman Hawkins, and more); and with her through the scrapes with Jim Crow, spats with Sarah Vaughan, ignominious jailings, and tragic decline. All of this is told in Holiday's tart, streetwise style and hip patois that makes it read as if it were written yesterday.

## Book Information

Series: Harlem Moon Classics

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Three Rivers Press; 50 Anv edition (July 25, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0767923863

ISBN-13: 978-0767923866

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.7 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars See all reviews (139 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #75,625 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Biographies > Jazz #53 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Jazz #645 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Ethnic & National

## Customer Reviews

I have a deep love and respect for some of the most influential female jazz and soul singers of our time, like Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughn, Dinah Washington, Carmen McRae, Lena Horne, and last but not least, Billie Holiday. In LADY SINGS THE BLUES, Holiday recalls some of the most resonant memories of her turbulent past--the good, the [mostly] bad and the [frequently] ugly. From the very start, Billie Holiday (birth name Eleanora Fagan) born to thirteen year old Sadie Fagan and

sixteen year old Clarence Holiday, had a very difficult life. The young girl saw much in the rough streets of Baltimore, Maryland, as a call girl, a jailbird and a spitfire with a very hot temper. Billie didn't even consider a career in singing, and her introduction as a vocalist was (perhaps) accidental, but definitely fate. Her descent into drug addiction, jailtime, turbulent relationships (with both men and women) and the great antipathy she faced in the storm of racism, jealousy and gossip made for a very adverse life, on and off of the stage. Some of the greatest moments of her career are documented here, as told to writer William Dufty. We learn the stories behind songs like "Strange Fruit," that are songs she created and truly lived and experienced, before setting them to lyric and melody. Though, I never heard Billie Holiday's speaking voice, I heard it throughout this piece, and I can see why it was brought to the screen, as a film. I haven't seen it, so I honestly have no idea how well it translated as a movie, with Diana Ross. Though, I have heard it was fantastic. There is also a companion CD, that goes with the memoir, to mark the 50th anniversary of its original release (1956-2006). Perhaps that's why I had to take one star away from the package, as a whole.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Lady Sings the Blues: The 50th-Anniversary Edition with a Revised Discography (Harlem Moon Classics) Lady Sings the Blues the 50th Anniversary Edition (Harlem Moon Classics) Harlem Stomp! A Cultural History of the Harlem Renaissance 48 Razor-Sharp 12-Bar Blues Riffs for Swing Bands and Blues Bands: B Flat Instruments Edition (Red Dog Music Books Razor-Sharp Blues Series) Moon Journal (Moon Notebook, Moon Diary) The Caged System and 100 Licks for Blues Guitar: Complete With 1 hour of Audio Examples: Master Blues Guitar (Play Blues Guitar Book 5) The Banjo on Record: A Bio-Discography (Discographies: Association for Recorded Sound Collections Discographic Reference) The Square Dance and Contra Dance Handbook: Calls, Dance Movements, Music, Glossary, Bibliography, Discography, and Directories Bob Marley and the Wailers: The Definitive Discography I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings (text only) Reissue edition by M. Angelou Bill Evans: How My Heart Sings Then Sings My Soul, Book 2: 150 of the World's Greatest Hymn Stories (BK 2) I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings When the Black Girl Sings A Lover Sings: Selected Lyrics Where the Bird Sings Best America Sings -- Community Songbook: Piano/Vocal/Chords Then Sings My Soul : 250 of the World's Greatest Hymn Stories Then Sings My Soul (The Langston Family Saga Book 2) Lady and the Tramp (Disney Lady and the Tramp) (Little Golden Book)

[Dmca](#)