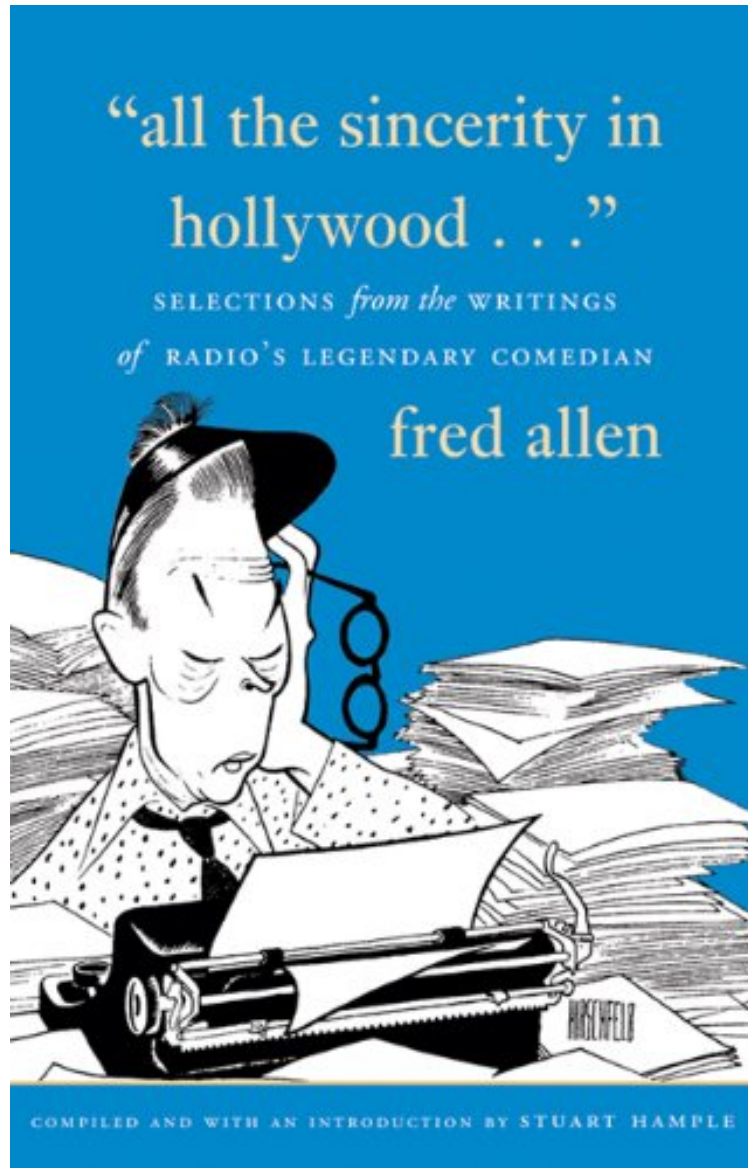


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All the Sincerity In Hollywood: Selections from the Writings of Fred Allen

Stuart Hample

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Stuart Hample : All the Sincerity In Hollywood: Selections from the Writings of Fred Allen before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised All the Sincerity In Hollywood: Selections from the Writings of Fred Allen:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A great one-volume retrospective of a great man's workBy Jeff B. SultanofFred Allen is one of the forgotten voices of the twentieth century. A very popular radio comedian, his programs are not as well known as his close friend Jack Benny's are, perhaps because his humor was topical and reflected the news items of the times. It is sometimes required to dig a little to find the current events he lampoons, but he was a brilliant humorist who directly influenced Steve Allen, Jon Stewart and other commentators of daily life, politics and the human condition. When this book was published, Allen's two autobiographies were long out of print. They are now available and worth reading, but the author wisely reprints some excerpts. Letters, miscellaneous articles and other sources make this a perfect introduction to a great and very funny man.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Allen's writing is wonderful, most of it as fresh today as when ...By Mary LawrenceAllen's writing is wonderful, most of it as fresh today as when it was written. If you want an overview of Fred Allen's life and sample of his work, this is a good place to start.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. My Mother Loved ItBy Johnny SalamiMy mother, who grew up on Fred Allen, loved it. And as a retired schoolteacher with 50 years of classroom experience who has no problem correcting my brothers' and my grammar when she says a book is great it must be well written.

Fred Allen was the only satirist among the comedians of radio's Golden Age. As a satirist and wordsmith, his telling phrases and takes on the foibles of daily life, as well as the events of his time, were as quotable then as they are now. Allen transformed popular comedy by lampooning news events, commercials, and big business. He set a direction followed by a number of entertainers, including Bob Ray, David Frost, Johnny Carson, David Letterman, Garrison Keillor, Chevy Chase, Dennis Miller, and even Saturday Night Live. In place of situation comedies, slapstick, stock characters, or standard joke forms, Allen offered a thinking person's humor, delivered every week to 30 million Americans in his 17-year-long radio show (1932–1949). "all the sincerity in hollywood..." showcases many of Fred Allen's previously published and unpublished letters, essays, radio scripts, and quips to create the best refresher course in laughs that survive the test of time.

From the PublisherA tart and wise collection of writings from radio's greatest wit.About the AuthorAs a young man, compiler Stuart Hample rushed up to Fred Allen at NBC and handed him a page of jokes. "Son," Allen rasped, "bringing a joke to me is like bringing a fender to Henry Ford." In this book, Hample returns Fred Allen to his rightful place in our National Collective Memory.