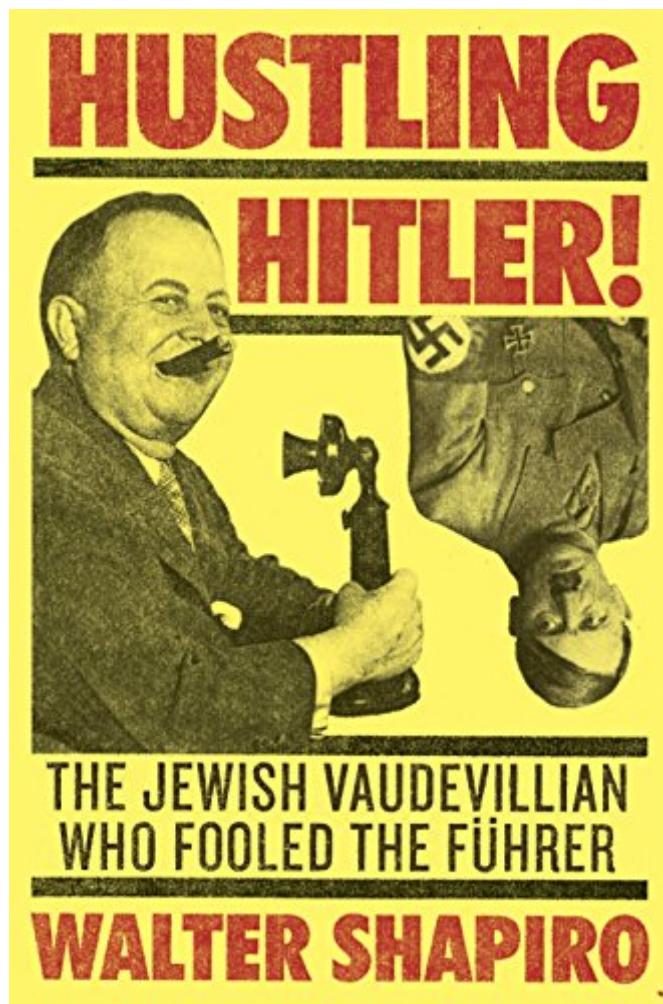


The book was found

Hustling Hitler: The Jewish Vaudevillian Who Fooled The Führer



Synopsis

From acclaimed journalist Walter Shapiro, the true life story of how his great-uncleâ "a Jewish vaudeville impresario and exuberant con manâ "managed to cheat Hitlerâ ™s agents in the run-up to WWII. All his life, journalist Walter Shapiro assumed that the outlandish stories about his great-uncle Freeman were exaggerated family lore; some cockamamie Jewish revenge fantasies dreamt up to entertain the kids and venerate their larger-than-life relative. Only when he started researching Freeman Bernsteinâ ™s life did he realize that his family was actually holding backâ "the man had enough stories, vocations, and IOUs to fill a dozen lifetimes. Freeman was many people: a vaudeville manager, boxing promoter, stock swindler, card shark and self-proclaimed â œJade King of China.â • But his greatest title, perhaps the only man who can claim such infamy, was as The Man Who Hustled Hitler. Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â A cross between The Night They Raided Minskyâ ™s and Guys and Dolls, Freeman Bernsteinâ ™s life was itself an old New York sideshow extravaganza, one that Shapiro expertly stages in Hustling Hitler. From a ragtag childhood in Troy, New York, Shapiro follows his great-uncleâ ™s ever-crooked trajectory through show business, from his early schemes on the burlesque circuit to marrying his star performer, May Ward, and producing silent filmsâ "released only in Philadelphia. Of course, all of Freemanâ ™s cons and schemes were simply a prelude to February 18, 1937, the day he was arrested by the LAPD outside of Mae Westâ ™s apartment in Hollywood. Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Â The charge? Grand larcenyâ "for cheating Adolf Hitler and the Nazi government. In the capstone of his slippery career, Freeman had promised to ship thirty-five tons of embargoed Canadian nickel to the FÃ hrer; when the cargo arrived, the Germans found only huge, useless quantities of scrap metal and tin. It was a blow to their economy and war preparationsâ "and Hitler did not take the bait-and-switch lightly. Â Â Â Â Â Â Â Told with cinematic verve and hilarious perspective, Hustling Hitler is Shapiroâ ™s incredible investigation into the man behind the myth. By reconstructing his great-uncleâ ™s remarkable career, Shapiro has transformed Freeman Bernstein from a barely there footnote in history to the larger-than-life, eternal hustler who forever changed it. From the Hardcover edition.

Book Information

File Size: 7593 KB

Print Length: 446 pages

Publisher: Blue Rider Press (June 14, 2016)

Publication Date: June 14, 2016

Sold by: Penguin Group (USA) LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00L9B7MMI

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #215,454 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #79

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Europe > Germany #84

in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Asia > China #138 in Books > Arts &

Photography > Performing Arts > Theater > History & Criticism

Customer Reviews

It's hard to understand how anyone could give this book 4, much less 5, stars. While the title suggests that the book is going to be about Freeman Bernstein cheating Hitler out of a shipment of Canadian nickel in 1937, most of the book is about Bernstein's life. It really should have been titled something like "Vaudeville Con Man" with a subtitle like "A Biography of the Man who Hustled Hitler." Of course it wouldn't sell as well that way. It's very disappointing -- to say the least -- that with the exception of a few pages in the first chapter he doesn't get to the "hustle" story until page 336. Making this more ridiculous is Shapiro's criticism of Bernstein because Bernstein's own booklet about the caper doesn't get to the event until page 32. Wish Shapiro had gotten to the main story by page 32, but he didn't. Frankly the book is poorly written. I found myself skimming because I was so bored. For starters, there is an excessive use of metaphors, lousy metaphors; stuff like: a physique more resembling a table than Gable • (page 2) • getting no closer to frostbite than baked Alaska • (page 11) • hit II Duce with all the force of a plateful of Chef Boyardee's canned ravioli • (page 338) And there's more: He worried about having enough shekels to avoid being sent back to New York in shackles. • (page 369). • everyone wanted to nick some Canadian nickel • (page 338). • For all his glib talk about opening up a refined jade shop in Beverly Hills, Freeman's finances were too jaded for such a burst of respectability. • (page 381). I doubt a high school sophomore would get away with kind of stuff. How a distinguished columnist got this past the editor is beyond me.

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

Hustling Hitler: The Jewish Vaudevillian Who Fooled the Führer Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow With Hitler to the End: The Memoirs of Adolf Hitler's Valet Hitler's Last Secretary: A Firsthand Account of Life with Hitler My Father had this Luger... A true story of Hitler's Greece: A true story of Hitler's Greece Hitler's Last Witness: The Memoirs of Hitler's Bodyguard Fooled by Randomness: The Hidden Role of Chance in Life and in the Markets Fooled by Randomness: The Hidden Role of Chance in Life and in the Markets (Incerto) KATE GOSSELIN: HOW SHE FOOLED THE WORLD - THE RISE AND FALL OF A REALITY TV QUEEN Don't Get Fooled!: How to Analyze Claims for Fallacies, Biases, and Other Deceptions Unlikely Warrior: A Jewish Soldier in Hitler's Army The Alchemy of Air: A Jewish Genius, a Doomed Tycoon, and the Scientific Discovery That Fed the World but Fueled the Rise of Hitler The Jewish Calendar 2017: Jewish Year 5777 16-Month Wall Calendar The Jewish Calendar 2016-2017: Jewish Year 5777 16-Month Engagement Calendar Whatever Is Contained Must Be Released: My Jewish Orthodox Girlhood, My Life as a Feminist Artist (Jewish Women Writers) The Complete Jewish Songbook: The Definitive Collection of Jewish Songs A Season of Singing: Creating Feminist Jewish Music in the United States (HBI Series on Jewish Women) The Jewish Study Bible: Featuring The Jewish Publication Society TANAKH Translation Jewish New Testament Commentary: A Companion Volume to the Jewish New Testament Abraham: The World's First (But Certainly Not Last) Jewish Lawyer (Jewish Encounters Series)

[Dmca](#)