



# Jerome Kern: His Life and Music

*Gerald Bordman*

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## **Jerome Kern: His Life and Music** Gerald Bordman

In what has become *the* biography of the father of American musical theatre, Gerald Bordman demonstrates a keen understanding and sympathy for Kern the man, as well as Kern the musician.

No "rags-to-riches" folk hero, Jerome Kern grew up on the periphery of the American-Jewish elite, achieved early success, and moved throughout his life among the era's leading personalities and performers. Bordman follows Kern's career from its beginnings on Broadway and London's West End before World War I to his death in 1945. He reveals how Kern's 1914 hit "They Didn't Believe Me" established the pattern for the modern popular ballad; how his famous Princess Theatre shows during World War I helped end the dominance of European musicals on Broadway; and how with *Show Boat* he initiated the Americanized operetta style that dominated the American stage for decades. Examining the scores for all of Kern's shows and films (including fascinating discussions of such famous songs as "Look for the Silver Lining," "Ol' Man River," and "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes"), Bordman demonstrates not only how Kern dramatically changed perceptions of what theatre music should or could be, but also how developments around Kern influenced him and his music.

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Jerome Kern: His Life and Music can be one of your basic books that are good idea. Many of us recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary that could increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to get every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing Jerome Kern: His Life and Music however doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest and based confirm resource facts that maybe you can be among it. This great information may drawn you into new stage of crucial pondering.

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