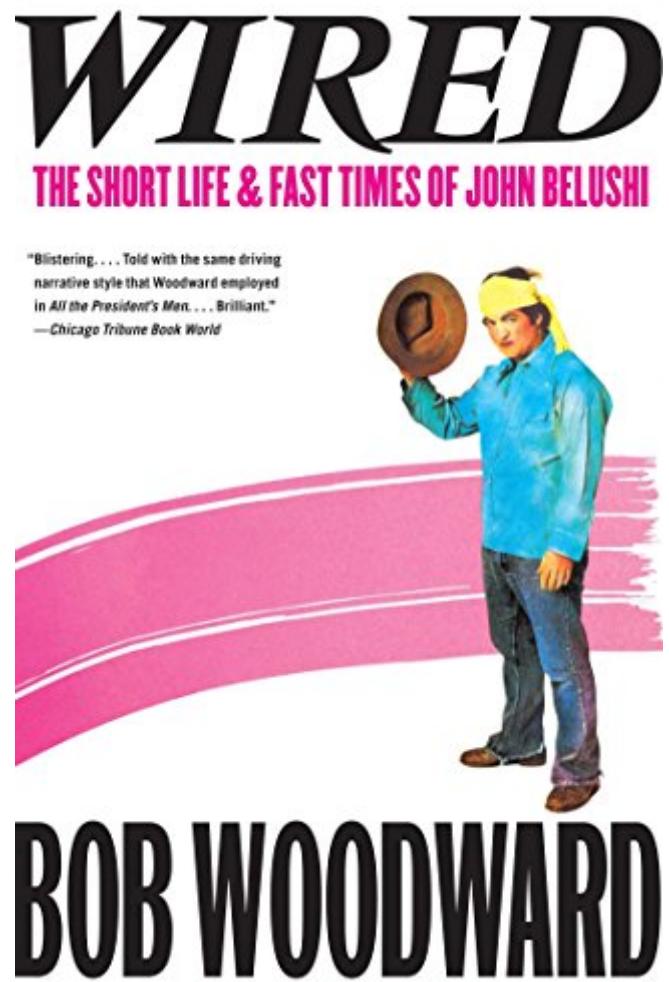


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Wired: The Short Life & Fast Times Of John Belushi



Synopsis

This reissue of Bob Woodward's classic book about John Belushi—one of the most interesting performers and personalities in show business history—is told with the same narrative style that Woodward employed so effectively in *All the President's Men* and *The Final Days* (Chicago Tribune). John Belushi was found dead of a drug overdose March 5, 1982, in a seedy hotel bungalow off Sunset Boulevard in Hollywood. Belushi's death was the beginning of a trail that led Washington Post reporter Bob Woodward on an investigation that examines the dark side of American show business—TV, rock and roll, and the movie industry. From on-the-record interviews with 217 people, including Belushi's widow, his former partner Dan Aykroyd, Belushi's movie directors including Jack Nicholson and Steven Spielberg, actors Chevy Chase, Robin Williams, and Carrie Fisher, the movie executives, the agents, Belushi's drug dealers, and those who live in the show business underground, the author has written a close portrait of a great American comic talent, and of his struggle to succeed and to survive that ended in tragedy. Using diaries, accountants' records, phone bills, travel records, medical records, and interviews with firsthand witnesses, Woodward has followed Belushi's life from childhood in a small town outside Chicago to his meteoric rise to fame. Bob Woodward has written a spellbinding account of rise and fall, a cautionary tale for our times, and a poignant and gentle portrait of a young man who had so much, gave so much, and lost so much.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Although this book has been heavily criticized for showing only the "bad" side of Belushi, I thought it was interesting to read a book other than those his wife wrote. The portrayal of his binges may accurately describe how some people viewed him, if their only interaction with him was on one of those days when he was at the point of going over the edge. The books I read by his wife were very good, very loving yet not in denial of his problems, but this book provided a view from an outsider. Not everyone knew even a glimpse of the nice, normal John Belushi his wife saw, and some people may have only ever remembered him as a drunk or high jerk--because that's all they saw. I didn't judge and still don't--but I think this is an account from the other side that bears consideration.

As a Belushi/Blues Brothers fan, I've been avoiding reading this book for decades. But it is really well written and reveals insights into John's life that I wasn't aware of. It is full of first hand accounts from people who knew John best. It's a sad but intense window into the life and death of one of America's greatest entertainers.

I am an old John Belushi fan so I found this a very interesting read. So much talent gone forever. Such a sad waste.

Good book, waste of a life...

this is a classic look at life in the Hollywood fast lane. Bob Woodward is, as always, a thorough reporter. Focuses heavily on Belushi's drug use, somewhat less on his impact as a comedy legend. Regardless, one can hardly turn the pages fast enough. a really absorbing read.

Say what you will about the response from loved ones, the book is thorough and thoughtful. And Belushi fans do not come any bigger than me. Great book, great buy.

This is a great biography of John Belushi. It fills us in on what went on behind the scenes of his public life. The days leading up to his death are very thorough. A fast read, since it is so readable and so hard to put down.

Great read!

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