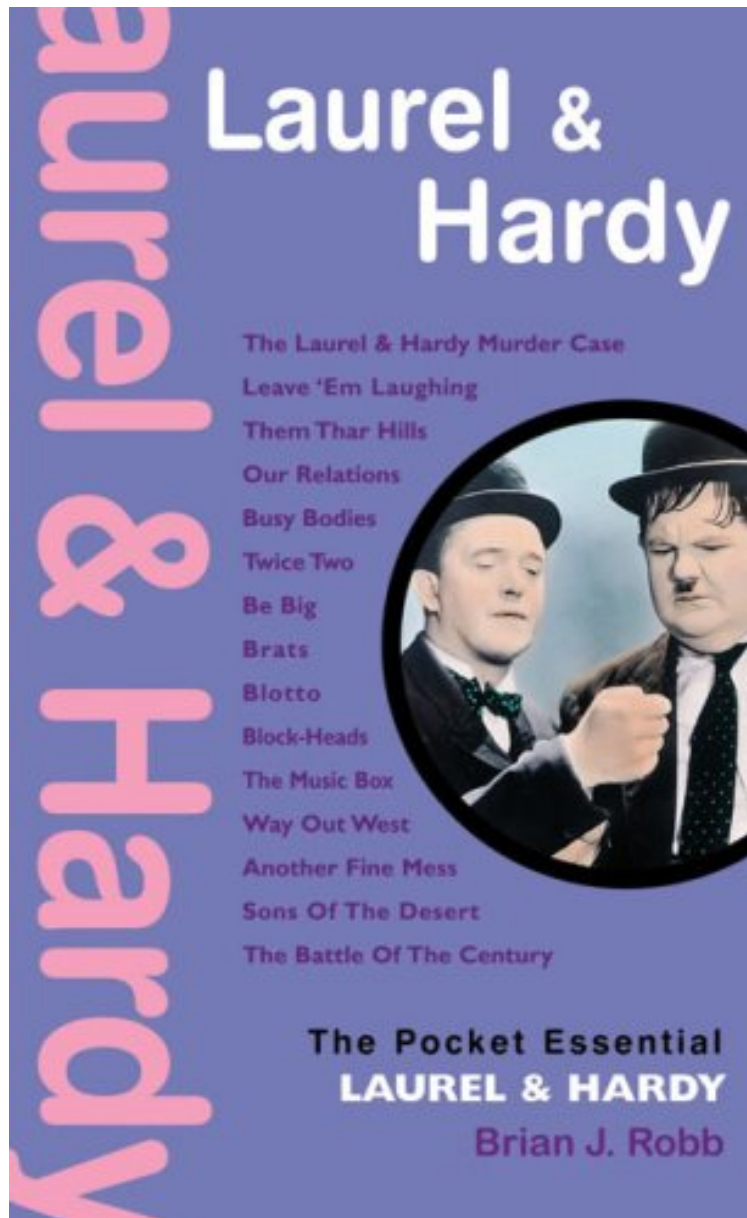


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Laurel Hardy (Pocket Essential series)

Brian J. Robb

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Brian J. Robb : Laurel Hardy (Pocket Essential series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Laurel Hardy (Pocket Essential series):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great for fans!By Phil SilvermanVery engaging small book on the biggest comedy duo in history. Not every film is fully described and critiqued - surely due to format - but the longtime

fan-historian may be disappointed in that regard. I found that I actually enjoyed *disagreeing* with the author on several films, i.e., *The Bullfighters*, *Atoll K/Utopia*, *A Chump At Oxford*, *The Chimp* (what a gem!), *They Go Boom* (what a gem! - I *don't* think!). We all have our favorites. I did dig his 3 of 5 star rating for the post-Hal Roach *The Dancing Masters*, the only real comedy made from 1941 to 1945. Book has some helpful reference sources at the end. Recommended!

British-born Stan Laurel and American Oliver Hardy were teamed up at the struggling Hal Roach studios in the 1920s and embarked on a series of hilarious short silent films. They soon established a classic screen partnership and became instantly recognizable comic icons in their crumpled suits and bowler hats. Laurel and Hardy were the most successful of all the film comics who made the difficult transition from silent shorts to sound and then to feature films, enjoying unparalleled success from the 1920s through the 1950s. Regular and repeated screenings of their work through the 1970s and 1980s on television brought shorts like the Oscar-winning classic *The Music Box* to new generations, while in recent years the entire rarely-seen back catalogue of silent Laurel and Hardy films has become available to film buffs, comedy fans, and collectors on a series of DVD releases. This guide contains a handy reference section listing other books about them, interesting websites, and details on availability of their 106 films. From *Another Fine Mess* to *Way Out West*, this is the one-stop celebration of the films and lives of Stan and Ollie.

About the Author Brian J. Robb's previous books include *Counterfeit Worlds*, *Heath Ledger*, *Johnny Depp*, and *Silent Cinema*. He is managing editor at *Titan Magazines* and editor of the official *Star Wars Insider Magazine*.