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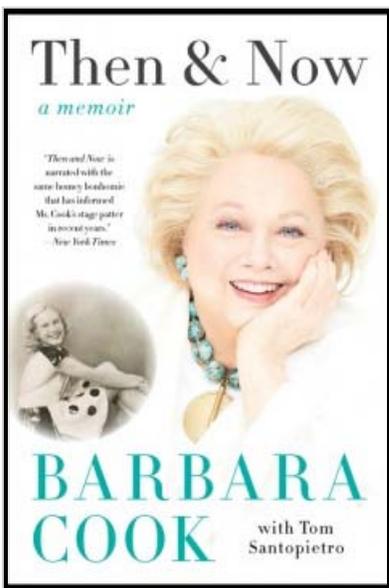


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Then & Now

A Memoir

by Barbara Cook, Tom Santopietro

Price: \$16.99(Paperback)

Published: June 27, 2017



Rating: 0.0/5 (0 votes cast)

From the Publisher: One of the greatest American singers and actresses of her generation looks back on a magical and turbulent life spanning a half century of theatrical history from the golden age of the Broadway musical to the present day. A legend of the American theater, Barbara Cook burst upon the scene to become Broadway's leading ingénue in roles such as Cunégonde in Leonard Bernstein's *Candide*, Amalia Balash in Jerry Bock's *She Loves Me*, and her career-defining, Tony-winning role as the original Marian the librarian in Meredith Willson's *The Music Man*. But in the late 1960s, Barbara's extraordinary talent onstage was threatened by debilitating depression and alcoholism that forced her to step away from the limelight and out of the public life. Emerging from the shadows in the early 1970s, Barbara reinvented herself as the country's leading concert...

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About The Author

Barbara Cook, Tom Santopietro
Barbara Cook, a 2011 Kennedy Center honoree and member of the Theater Hall of Fame, has starred in eighteen Broadway shows. She received a Tony Award nomination in 2010 for Sondheim on Sondheim, fifty-three years after winning a Tony for her performance in *The Music Man*. Now in her...

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What We Say

One of the greats, with the Tony and Kennedy Center Honors to show for it, Barbara Cook is a peerless interpreter of classic tunes from Rodgers and Hammerstein to Stephen Sondheim. Though effortlessly commanding on stage, Cook had a difficult life, from abandonment by her beloved father to the controlling neediness of her probably unstable mother to alcoholism that plagued both Cook and her marvelous accompanist, Wally Harper. She bares all in this memoir. Ardent fans will surely savor the passages about that famously challenging aria from *"Candide"* and her prickly friendship with Elaine Stritch. Cook is forthright, but always hardest on herself. A "natural" singer who has studied and honed her craft to perfection, Cook is

far from a natural raconteur, a la Stritch. Her memoir is baldly descriptive, often flat and honestly a bit of a slog for any but the most devoted of fans, myself among them. It's welcome as a hint to the complicated, challenging life she led. Her honesty is admirable. But Cook's soul remains bared most beautifully on stage, in song. -- Michael Giltz

What Others Say

"*Then and Now* is narrated with the same homey bonhomie that has informed Ms. Cook's stage patter in recent years." - *New York Times*

"Theater rats will savor Ms. Cook's account of her 'Candide' audition in front of the show's composer, Leonard Bernstein . . . It's clear in every word she sings that her wisdom is deep and hard-won." - *Wall Street Journal*

"It's all here in Cook's memoir. Great theater, great people, not so great people, alcoholism, compulsive eating, an affair with actor Arthur Hill when they were both married to other people; the great love of the lady's life. A second career in cabaret that continues into her ninth decade." - *WOSU/NPR News and Classical Music*

"And what a story it is, told in a bright, refreshing and brutally honest voice, in a manner that you would expect from Barbara Cook.... Get yourself a copy of *Then & Now* now and plunge into it, giving yourself breaks here and there to listen to Barbara singing..." - *Huffington Post*

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