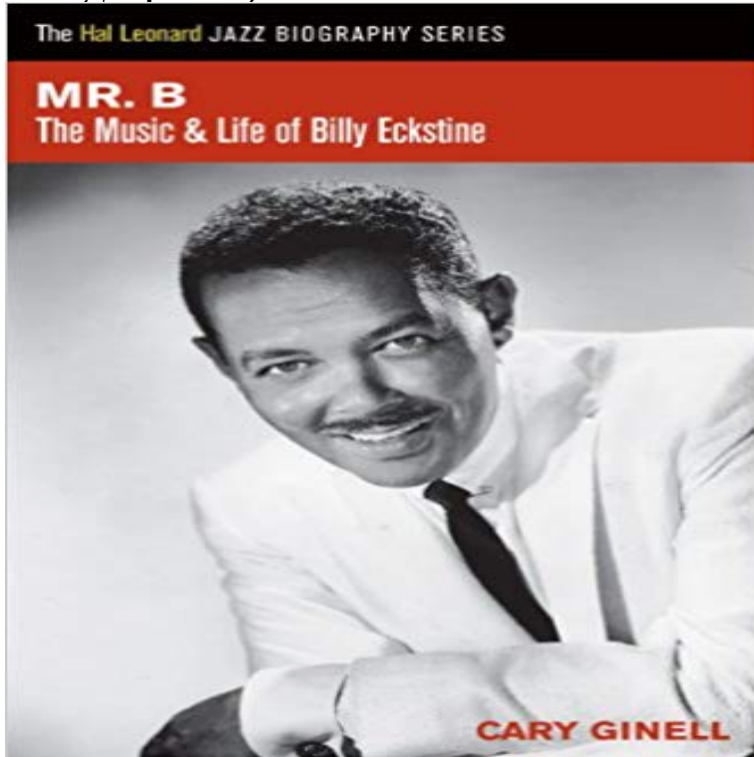


Mr. B: The Music and Life of Billy Eckstine (Hal Leonard Jazz Biographies)



(Book). In 1950, Billy Eckstine was the most popular singer in America. Movie-star handsome with an elegant pencil-thin mustache and a wide vibrato, Eckstine possessed one of the most magnificent voices in popular music history. Born in Pittsburgh, Eckstine won a talent contest by imitating Cab Calloway and started leading jazz orchestras under the name Baron Billy. In 1939, he joined Earl Hines orchestra, composing and performing the hits Jelly, Jelly and Stormy Monday Blues. In 1944, he formed what is now considered the first bebop orchestra that included, during its brief three-year run, legendary figures such as Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie, Miles Davis, and Sarah Vaughan. Signing with MGM, he rose to superstar status, sold millions of records, marketed his own line of Mr. B. shirt collars, and inspired an army of female admirers, known as Billy-soxers. Eckstine fought all his life for recognition and respect in his quest to become Americas first black romantic singing idol, but he faced hardships in the segregated music world of the 40s and 50s. Despite this, he went on to influence many singers who followed, including Arthur Prysock, Johnny Hartman, Johnny Mathis, Kevin Mahogany, Barry White, and even Elvis Presley. In this book, Cary Ginell traces, for the first time, the life of one of the twentieth centurys most amazing success stories, the man known simply as Mr. B.

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Grammy Hall of Fame Award One photograph taken by Holmes and published in LIFE showed Eckstine **Mr. B.: The Music and Life of Billy Eckstine (Hal Leonard Jazz** Mr. B: The Music and Life of Billy Eckstine: Cary Ginell: 0884088626235: Books - . by imitating Cab Calloway and started leading jazz orchestras under the name Baron Billy. Paperback: 228 pages Publisher: Hal Leonard 1 edition (Aug. Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Arts & Literature > Composers & - **Mr. B: The Life and Music of Billy Eckstine - Cary Ginell** - 16 secDownload Mr. B.: The Music and Life of Billy Eckstine (Hal Leonard Jazz Biographies) PDF