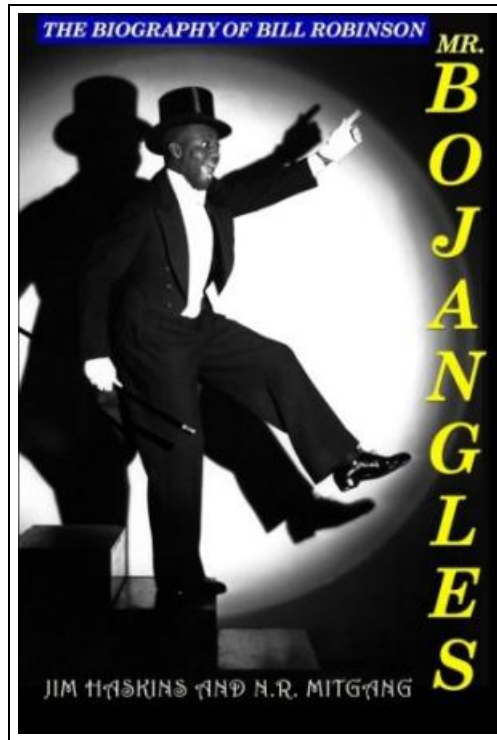


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Linus Multimedia. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 336 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 0.8in. Over sixty years after his death, Bill Bojangles Robinson is still the most famous tap dancer who ever lived. Robinson was the first black single dancer to star in white vaudeville circuits and he was a headliner for nearly thirty years. He got top billing at the Palace in New York, and he played command performances for kings and presidents. This first full-length biography reveals the charmer, gambler, brawler, athlete, and consummate entertainer behind the crusade for actors rights, who pushed past the color barrier in the first half of the twentieth century. Haskins and Mitgang, with access to many of the people who knew Bojangles best, and to his scrapbooks and personal papers, have created a vivid portrait of the man behind the myth, from his birth in Richmond, Virginia, to his death and the star-studded funeral where he was eulogized by Rev. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. , and Ed Sullivan. When people talk about famous American freedom fighters they talk about Rosa Parks, a brave woman who took a seat in the front of a bus and broke it down. They talk about Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. They talk about Jackie Robinson. They talk about many others who sacrificed to achieve equality and justice. The person they dont talk about is the man who helped to break down vaudeville, Broadway, the recording industry, radio, television, and Hollywood. They dont talk about the man who broke down Miami and was responsible for its first integrated audience. They dont talk about the man who was responsible for the hiring of the first African-American on the Dallas police force. They dont talk about the man who went to F. D. R. during World War II...



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