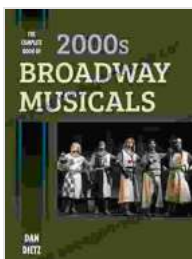


The Complete Guide to 2000s Broadway Musicals: A Decade of Innovation and Excitation

The first decade of the 21st century witnessed a remarkable resurgence of Broadway musicals, with a diverse range of new productions that pushed the boundaries of the genre and captivated audiences worldwide. From the enchanting spectacle of "The Lion King" to the groundbreaking success of "Wicked," the 2000s marked a period of unparalleled creativity and innovation on the Great White Way.

In this comprehensive guide, we will delve into the most significant Broadway musicals of the 2000s, exploring their unique contributions to the art form, the impact they had on popular culture, and the enduring legacy they continue to leave behind.



The Complete Book of 2000s Broadway Musicals

by Pam Grier

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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File size : 3394 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting: Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 514 pages



1. The Lion King (1997)



Based on the beloved Disney animated film, "The Lion King" made its Broadway debut in 1997 and has been captivating audiences ever since. With its stunning visuals, unforgettable music, and heartwarming story, the musical has become one of the most successful Broadway productions of all time.

"The Lion King" introduced a new level of technical innovation to Broadway, with its elaborate puppetry, vibrant costumes, and immersive sets transporting audiences to the African savanna. The musical's score, composed by Elton John and Tim Rice, features some of the most iconic songs in Broadway history, including "Circle of Life" and "Hakuna Matata."

2. Wicked (2003)

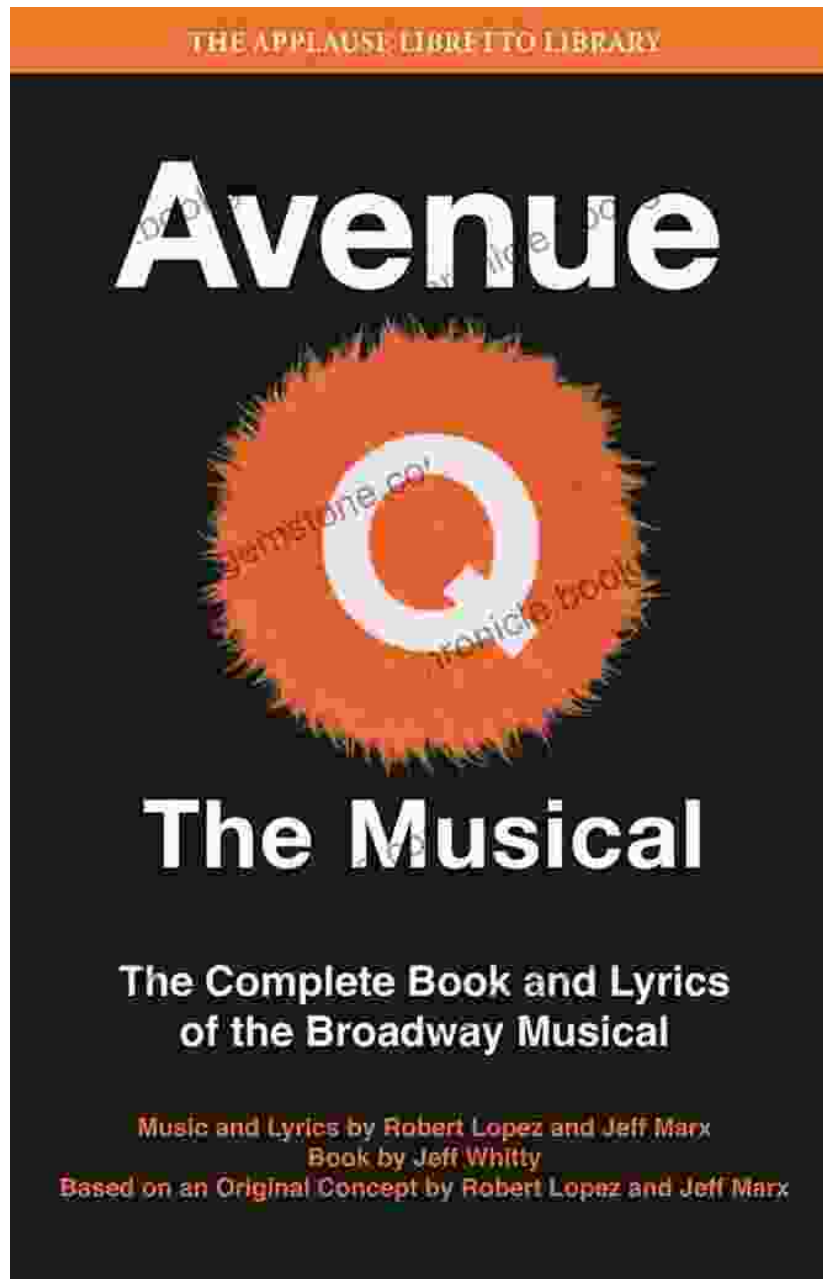


Wicked tells the untold story of the witches of Oz.

Loosely based on the "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" by L. Frank Baum, "Wicked" premiered on Broadway in 2003 and quickly became a global phenomenon. The musical tells the untold story of the witches of Oz, Elphaba and Glinda, exploring the themes of friendship, identity, and the power of good and evil.

"Wicked" features a soaring score by Stephen Schwartz and a witty and engaging book by Winnie Holzman. The musical's memorable characters, stunning special effects, and powerful message have resonated with audiences of all ages, making it one of the most beloved Broadway musicals of all time.

3. Avenue Q (2003)

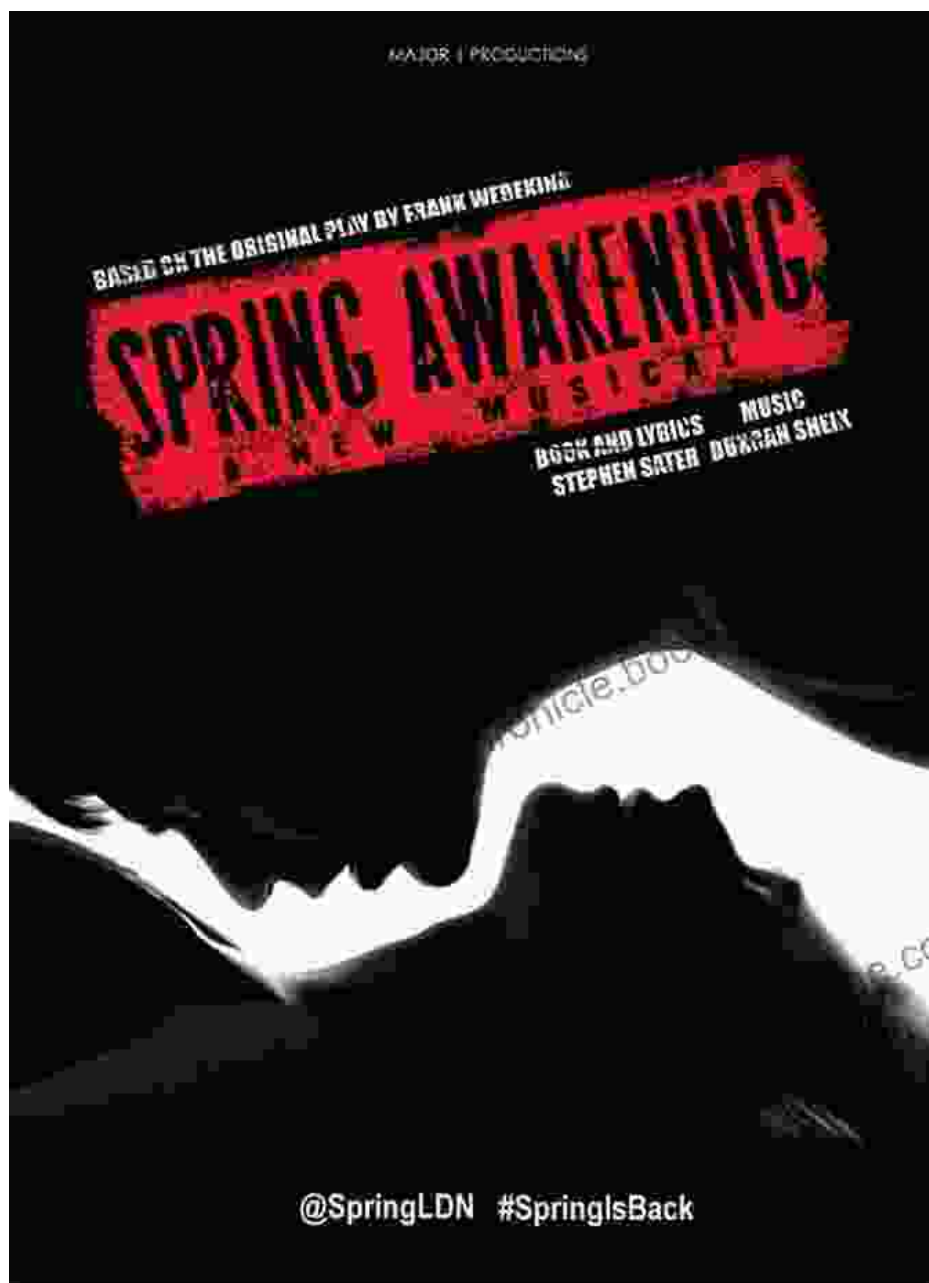


Breaking away from the traditional Broadway mold, "Avenue Q" premiered in 2003 and introduced a new level of edginess to the Great White Way. The musical uses puppets to tell a story about life in New York City, exploring themes of love, friendship, and the challenges of growing up.

"Avenue Q" features a hilarious and heartwarming book by Jeff Marx and Robert Lopez, and a catchy score that blends Broadway melodies with pop

and rock influences. The musical's unique blend of humor, heart, and social commentary earned it the Tony Award for Best Musical in 2004.

4. Spring Awakening (2006)



Spring Awakening is a rock musical that explores the themes of adolescence and sexuality.

Based on the 1891 play by Frank Wedekind, "Spring Awakening" premiered on Broadway in 2006 and became an instant critical and commercial success. The musical explores the themes of adolescence and sexuality, following a group of German teenagers as they navigate the challenges of 青春期.

"Spring Awakening" features a powerful rock score by Duncan Sheik and Steven Sater, and a provocative book that tackles difficult subjects with honesty and sensitivity. The musical's groundbreaking production, which included a cast of young actors and a raw and energetic performance style, earned it eight Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

5. Legally Blonde (2007)



Based on the 2001 film of the same name, "Legally Blonde" premiered on Broadway in 2007 and brought a splash of pink to the Great White Way. The musical follows Elle Woods, a sorority girl who follows her ex-boyfriend to Harvard Law School and proves that she is more than just a pretty face.

"Legally Blonde" features a bubbly score by Laurence O'Keefe and Nell Benjamin, and a witty and empowering book by Heather Hach. The

musical's infectious energy, catchy songs, and positive message have made it a popular choice for audiences of all ages.

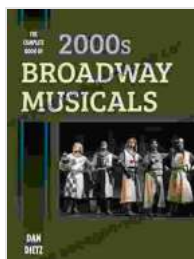
6. Hairspray (2002)



Hairspray is a musical set in 1960s Baltimore and explores themes of race and integration.

Based on the 1988 film of the same name, "Hairspray" premiered on Broadway in 2002 and quickly became a smash hit. The musical is set in 1960s Baltimore and explores themes of race and integration, following the story of Tracy Turnblad, a plump teenager who dreams of dancing on the local TV show "The Corny Collins Show."

"Hairspray" features a catchy score by Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman, and a hilarious and heartwarming book by Mark O'Donnell and Thomas Meehan. The musical's infectious energy, memorable characters, and



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