



You Just Fight for Your Life: The Story of Lester Young

Frank Büchmann-Møller

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A Danish musician here presents the most accurate, comprehensive work on a major figure in American jazz: Lester Willis Young (1909-1959), better known as 'Pres' or 'Prez,' from the nickname 'President' given to him by Billie Holiday. Based on interviews with Young's colleagues and friends, and often presenting his own vulgar scatological words, the book faithfully chronicles the ups and downs of his life and career. Despite his alcoholism, drug addiction, syphilis, epilepsy, and emotional disturbances, Young became the outstanding tenor saxophonist of his time and a dominant, profound influence on the development of bop and progressive ('cool') jazz in the 1940s. His solos with the bands of Fletcher Henderson and Count Basie and his collaboration with Holiday are recalled in this outstanding biography. *Publishers Weekly*

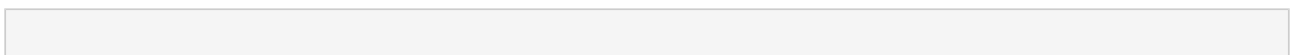
[This is] the big, warm book about Lester Young that swing lovers have been waiting for, written by a Danish jazz musician. This is a rich authentic life of one of the three greatest tenor players who ever lived, much of it told in vivid quotation from eyewitnesses. Kirkus this is the first thoroughgoing biography of one of America's greatest musicians; its fascination for at least jazz aficionados is magnetic....Along with Porter's magisterial work of musical analysis, Lester Young, this is the book to have on the most influential jazzman between Armstrong and Parker. *Booklist*

A fascinating and invaluable compilation of raw material...a straightforward, accurate narrative.

The New York Times

By far the most comprehensive work available on the extraordinary Lester Young, *You Just Fight For Your Life* is the jazz enthusiast's dream come true. Meticulously researched and teeming with previously unpublished information, this book accurately recreates the life and character of one of the world's greatest jazz musicians. Historian Frank Buchmann-Møller crafts a full length biography exclusively for Lester Young fans focusing on Young's philosophy of life, his exceptional ability as a bandleader, and his sharp wit. Through the examination of army psychiatric reports, interviews with fellow musicians, and concert reviews, *You Just Fight For Your Life* tells the story of this gifted yet troubled musician.

Beginning with his childhood, the book accurately chronicles the many bands in which Lester Young played prior to joining Count Basie in 1936. Through countless interviews with Young's peers, the book recounts the Basie years and the spicy stories of life on the road. The author includes new information about Young's own first band and follows this with details of his military experience. The final chapters deal with his years as featured soloist. Two appendices list all of Young's jobs from 1919-59 and his own bands chronologically as well as all musicians with whom he played. Now Lester Young followers have a full length biography valuable not only as a reference but for its recreation of a fascinating life.



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You Just Fight for Your Life: The Story of Lester Young can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. All of us recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary that can increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nevertheless delivering the information. The article writer giving his/her effort to get every word into pleasure arrangement in writing You Just Fight for Your Life: The Story of Lester Young yet doesn't forget the main point, giving the reader the hottest and also based confirm resource data that maybe you can be one among it. This great information can easily drawn you into new stage of crucial considering.

Laura Dumas:

This You Just Fight for Your Life: The Story of Lester Young is great guide for you because the content that is full of information for you who else always deal with world and have to make decision every minute. This kind of book reveal it data accurately using great organize word or we can point out no rambling sentences inside. So if you are read it hurriedly you can have whole facts in it. Doesn't mean it only provides you with straight forward sentences but tricky core information with attractive delivering sentences. Having You Just Fight for Your Life: The Story of Lester Young in your hand like obtaining the world in your arm, info in it is not ridiculous one. We can say that no publication that offer you world within ten or fifteen minute right but this publication already do that. So , this is certainly good reading book. Heya Mr. and Mrs. occupied do you still doubt which?

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