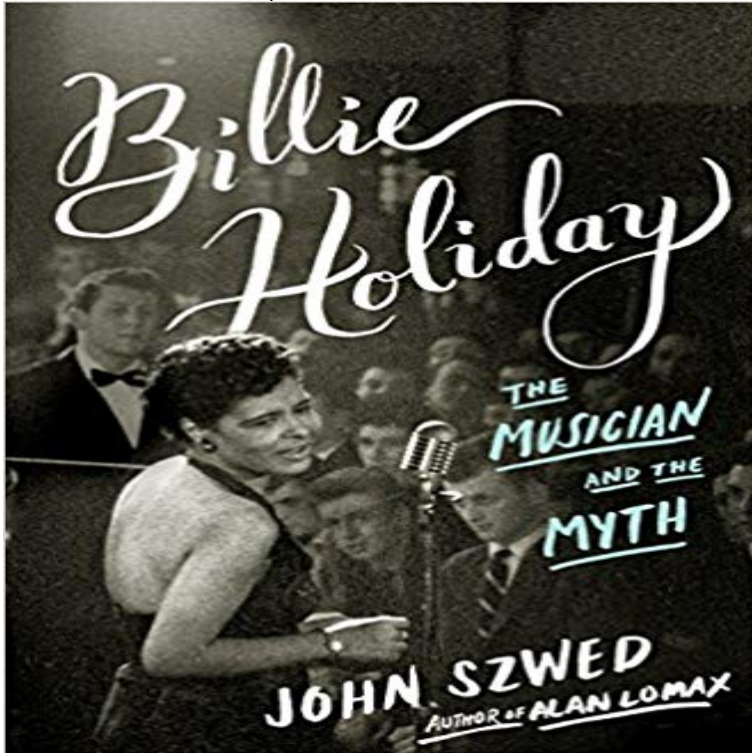


## Billie Holiday: The Musician and the Myth



Kirkus Best Books of 2015 selection for Biography. Published in celebration of Holiday's centenary, the first biography to focus on the singer's extraordinary musical talent. When Billie Holiday stepped into Columbia's studios in November 1933, it marked the beginning of what is arguably the most remarkable and influential career in twentieth-century popular music. Her voice weathered countless shifts in public taste, and new reincarnations of her continue to arrive, most recently in the form of singers like Amy Winehouse and Adele. Most of the writing on Holiday has focused on the tragic details of her life: her prostitution at the age of fourteen, her heroin addiction and alcoholism, her series of abusive relationships, or tried to correct the many fabrications of her autobiography. But now, Billie Holiday stays close to the music, to her performance style, and to the self she created and put into print, on record and on stage. Drawing on a vast amount of new material that has surfaced in the last decade, critically acclaimed jazz writer John Szwed considers how her life inflected her art, her influences, her uncanny voice and rhythmic genius, a number of her signature songs, and her legacy.

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**Book Review: Billie Holiday: The Musician and the Myth by John Szwed** Billie Holiday has 179 ratings and 48 reviews.

Joe said: The concept of *The Musician and the Myth* was very intriguing, as most bios take a rather conventional route. **Billie Holiday: The Musician and the Myth** : John Szwed Apr 3, 2015 John Szwed's brief but revelatory new book, *Billie Holiday: The Musician and the Myth* (Viking), which comes out this week just under the **Billie Holiday: The Musician and the Myth** by John Szwed. Read an extract from John Szwed's latest book about legendary jazz singer Billie

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Richard Brody, The New Yorker When Billie Holiday first stepped into a **Billie Holiday: The Musician and the Myth: John Szwed** But Billie Holiday strips away the myths and puts her music front and center, staying close to her artistry, her performance style, and the self she created and put **Billie Holiday : The Musician and the Myth (Paperback) (John Szwed** Mar 1, 2016 The Paperback of the Billie Holiday: The Musician and the Myth by John Szwed at Barnes & Noble. 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