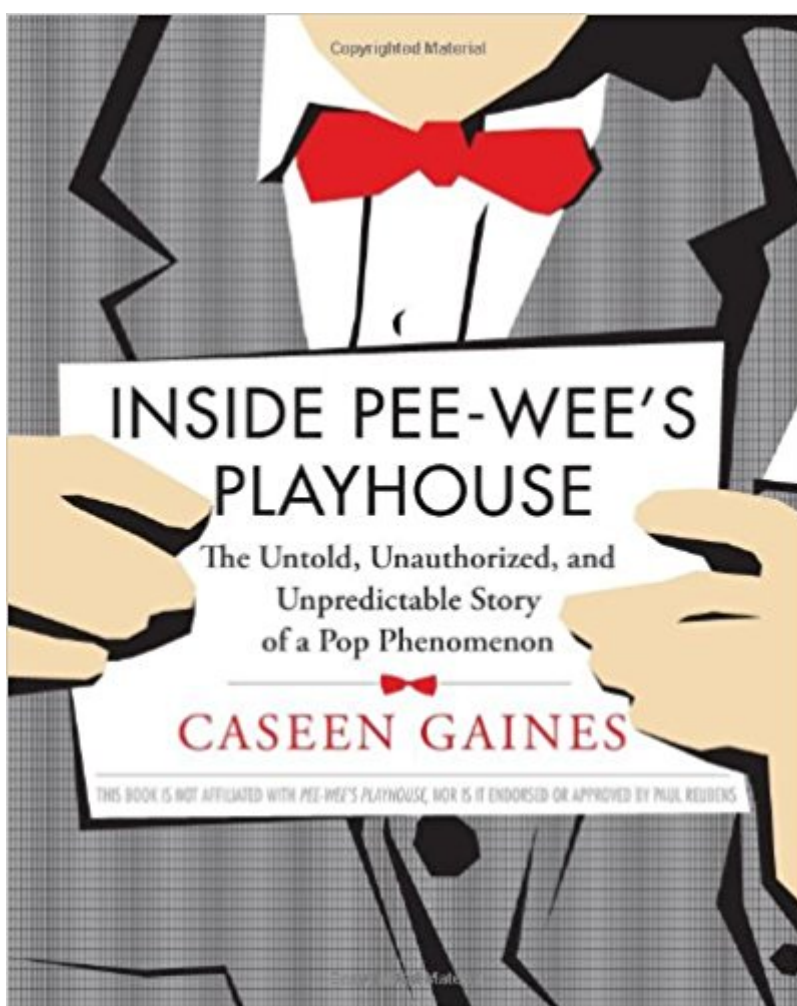


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# Inside Pee-Wee's Playhouse: The Untold, Unauthorized, And Unpredictable Story Of A Pop Phenomenon



## Synopsis

Between 1986 and 1991, nearly ten million people a week watched Peewee's Playhouse, the critically acclaimed and widely successful children's program broadcast on CBS. Now, on the 25th anniversary of the show, the complete behind-the-scenes story is being told for the first time by those who experienced it. Complete with an episode guide, biographical information about the cast and key members of the show's creative team, never-before-told anecdotes, and previously unpublished photos, Inside Pee-wee's Playhouse takes the first in-depth look behind the program TV Guide recently cited as one of the top ten cult classics of all time. Paul Reubens (as Pee-wee Herman) has been making a comeback since August 2010, appearing on Saturday Night Live, The View, The Jimmy Kimmel Show, Conan, and The Tonight Show with Jay Leno. He starred in a successful stage revival of his live show in January and February of 2010, and it hit Broadway later that year. It's been turned into a special on HBO. His public Twitter and Facebook accounts boast over one million fans and followers. Inside Pee-wee's Playhouse is the first comprehensive look at this amazingly successful (and still revered) children's program. Pee-wee Herman fans have been energized recently by the character's reemerging presence. From casual fans to devout followers, everyone will be interested in taking a look Inside Pee-wee's Playhouse.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"This book is a must have for pop-culture enthusiasts as well as anyone who has enjoyed the prodigious Pee-wee Herman phenomena." &#151;PeeWeesPlayhouse.tumblr.com"Stills from the

Playhouse and a fantastic Episode Guide enable the reader to relive memorable moments and learn obscure trivia. . . . Gaines demonstrates the enchantment and broad appeal of the Playhouse, as well as the spontaneity of a show where 'anything could happen.'" &#151;Publishers Weekly (August 8, 2011)"For all its attraction for the superfan, from the exhaustive episode guide to the previously unpublished photographs and behind-the-scenes tech-talk, the human portrait of Paul Reubens stands as Gaines' signal achievement." &#151;KirkusReviews.com (December 2011)"Inside Pee-wee's Playhouse's release couldn't have come at a better time. It's the perfect fix for die hard fans, and a great introduction for those just budding." &#151;TheNonReview.com"Utilizing interviews with key cast and crew members, Gaines follows the development and run of Pee-wee's Playhouse and liberally adds anecdotal material and behind-the-scenes gossip from numerous insiders. . . . all Pee-wee fans will enjoy this informative and fun text." &#151;Library Journal (July 1, 2011)"This book is a great nostalgic trip and will be wonderful for any fan, old or new." &#151;San Francisco Book Review (December 1, 2011)"If you are a fan of Pee-wee's Playhouse, Inside Pee-wee's Playhouse: The Untold, Unauthorized, and Unpredictable Story of a Pop Phenomenon (also available for the kindle) is a must read or would make the perfect gift for the Pee-wee fan in your life, so pick up a copy today." &#151;Retroist.com (November 2011)"You can tell when an author is doing something for the paycheck, and when it's out of love, and here, it's definitely out of love. If you loved Pee-Wee, this is definitely a book to check out. If you're unfamiliar, it's still a great read. I really enjoyed it." &#151;KSiteTV.com (November 2011)

Caseen Gaines is a pop culture enthusiast and an author who has won awards for essays on The Flip Wilson Show and the Planet of the Apes film series. He is a high school English teacher and the cofounder of Hackensack Theatre Company. He lives in Hackensack, New Jersey.

I come from a family who LOVES Mr. Herman. My mom grew up on it, as did I, and now my two year old is hooked. So in my curious nature, I picked this up to learn some history about my favorite childhood program. This was a delightful insight to the creation of the beloved Herman, along with Chairy, Ms. Yvonne, and The Cowtess. Gaines definitely is a fan of the show, and I feel like there was no nook or cranny left untold. As other reviewers have said, some of the stories about Mr. Reubens may seem negative, but there's always a positive story to follow, and to be honest- he sounds like a perfectionist, which isn't a terrible thing. This show was his creation, and he worked hard and relentlessly to keep it his own. There was so much I had no idea about, such as the time

and effort that went into the opening credits, the creation of the "Dinosaur Family" and what really happened to Mrs. Steve. Wonderful, insightful book to go with a show of the same degree. Pick it up for your favorite Pee Wee pal :)

Being 25 years old and having been a fan of Pee-wee Herman since I watched Pee-wee's Playhouse and Pee-wee's Big Adventure from my playpen, I can't believe I've went this long without all of this information. Never before have I been able to find so many facts about the birth and resurrection of Pee-wee Herman all in one place than this book. It really shows how many people went into making the Playhouse be the success it was, and without each and every one of these individuals it just wouldn't have been everything it was. A lot of times with many names and titles it's hard to keep track of who's who, but Caseen Gaines writes in such a way that's easy to follow and never makes you look back in the book to see exactly who the person is that he's referring to. Many times a book full of facts can be boring or even make it feel like you're reading a list, but Caseen makes this a very interesting read and really sucks you in. More than a few times I found myself stopping in the middle to say to my girlfriend "oh wow I never knew that....." in reference to something he wrote about the Playhouse (and I had thought myself something of a Pee-wee expert already!). Especially when referring to the latest run of The Pee-wee Herman Show on Broadway, it brought me right back to those seats and the curtain waiting to be opened that I sat in front of myself, I love that I now have that experience documented in this book. The episode guide also has so many interesting fun facts that I never would've been able to find without the help of Caseen. I recommend this book to anyone who is a fan of Pee-wee, or been curious of the character at all, it will not disappoint...and I guarantee no matter what level of a Pee-wee fan you are, you will be learning a lot of facts about the process of this show that you never knew before!

I bought this book for Kindle after reading some of the reviews, and I have to say it did not disappoint. I loved hearing all of the back stories about Pee-Wee's various shows and the actors/writers/animators involved. Of course, I am a fan of his movies and the kids' show, so I may be more interested than the average person. The author, Caseen Gaines, really did his homework - I'm sure it was a ton of work combing through the vast amounts of interviews and articles, but the payoff is great. The information is detailed and all inclusive. Questions I've always had were answered, and some captivating insider knowledge was divulged, which always makes for a fun read. He also made the wise choice of limiting the pages that focus on Pee-Wee's unfortunate mistakes. He didn't capitalize on his misfortune as so many others in the media have over the years.

Fans aren't interested in that, yet it had to be mentioned for it to be an authentic story. I'm really happy I got this. It reinvigorated my interest in Pee-wee Herman and I'm about to go buy the Playhouse DVD set so I can show it to my kids!

Caseen Gaines has done a great job with "Inside Pee-wee's Playhouse." He gives all the detailed information on just about every aspect of anything to do with anything what we love about Pee-wee. There are so many photos in the book of the cast and crew, plus of Paul Reubens himself. So many things I never knew, but because of this book, I know it now. It is well written, easy to understand and worth the time to read. My daughter won't let it go, so I have to read it when she's not home. I love the little descriptions of each of the "Playhouse" shows also. I purchased this book from , so it was an Verified Purchase. Mr. Gaines, you definitely have a hit!

This collection is a must have for even the most casual Herman fan. I was delighted to find trivia, behind the scenes pictures and quotes from those involved in the creation of the Pee-wee legacy. It covers the incarnation of the character at the Groundlings all the way through to present day, where he took his stage show to Broadway. I was fortunate to see the LA show live, was raised on the TV show and have even been to the house (from Big Adventure) and can say that this wonderful book adds insight to the world that is Pee-wee. What are you waiting for? "Take a picture, it'll last longer." He he.

Mr. Gaines has done a wonderful job at tracking the early development of Pee-wee Herman through his critically and commercially successful comeback! I couldn't put the book down. If you grew up with Pee-wee, like myself, this book is sure to be an interesting read for you. Never before have we been able to look inside the playhouse. Gaines conducted interviews with many of the cast and crew from Pee-wee's different ventures. Not to mention, the hundreds of unreleased behind-the-scenes photos that the book offers. I'm glad that someone took Pee-wee up on his famous advice "What don't you take a picture, it'll last longer!"

A must have for any fan. Incredibly well done and the rare behind-the-scenes pictures are fascinating! Whenever you go through a fit of personal Pee-wee mania, this book totally satisfies. Good work, Caseen Gaines!

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