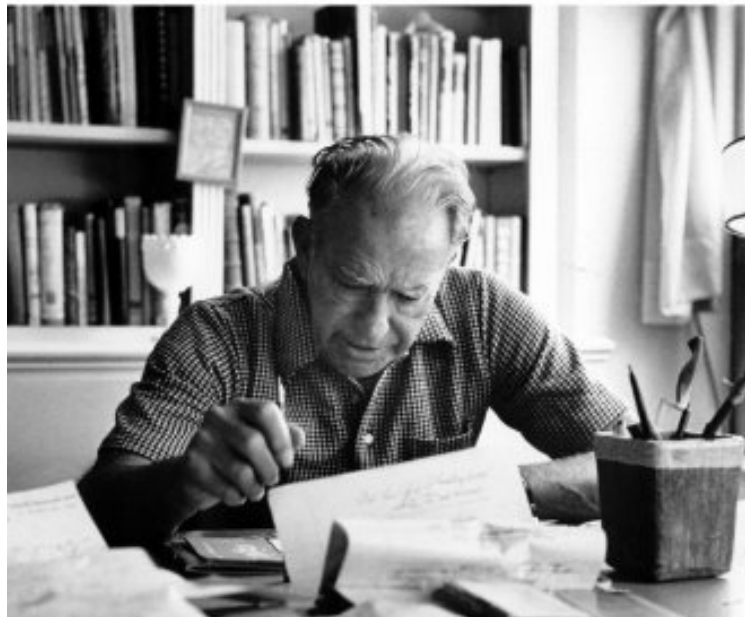
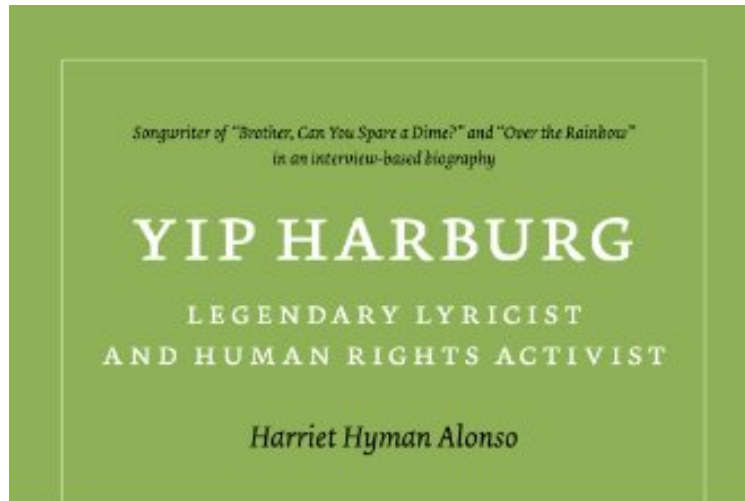


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## Yip Harburg: Legendary Lyricist and Human Rights Activist (Music/Interview)

*Harriet Hyman Alonso*  
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**Harriet Hyman Alonso : Yip Harburg: Legendary Lyricist and Human Rights Activist (Music/Interview)**  
before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Yip Harburg:  
Legendary Lyricist and Human Rights Activist (Music/Interview):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A book.. and a man.. to be remembered By Davis Gloff Yip Harburg was a lyricist, poet and social activist, who always found a way to inject his feeling for the common person into his work. Born in 1896, he had a successful electrical supply business, but it was destroyed by the depression, and that

was when he called an old school chum of his and told him that he was going to turn his hobby of writing light verse into a profession of writing lyrics for songs. The friend's response was "About time." The friend was Ira Gershwin, and they remained friends all life long. This book speaks of the life of Harburg and his work in a personal and appealing way. The reader gets to feel present as the songs were conceived and written. A good example is the song that made Harburg famous, "Brother Can You spare A Dime" We read how the song's title was inspired by an actual hobo, and how it was almost thrown out of the show by the Schubert brothers who had not actually spoken to each other in years..I recommend this book highly.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. I great concept makes a great bookBy Ken B.Ms. Alonso's concept was to let Harburg's words speak for themselves. My only caveat is that Harburg often changed his stories on whim and that might have been nice. But overall it's an excellent book, a fun read, and an important addition to musical theatre literature. Oh, one other complaint -- what a terrible title. It makes the book sound much dryer than it actually is.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A Grandish BookBy Lee GelberI have been a Yip Harburg fan for many years. The wit, intelligence and emotional appeal of his lyrics have haunted me in a most positive way. Professor Alonso wrote a splendid biography incorporating interviews with the late Mr. Harburg and included some of his finest and most memorable lyrics. I immediately sent Professor Alonso a letter of appreciation

A new interview-based biography of The Wizard of Oz lyricist

ldquo;In this detailed, entertaining account, Alonso gives life to a courageous man and artist who risked it all for some simple human truth.rdqquo; mdash;Publishers Weekly