

## Assassins

*Stephen Sondheim, John Weidman*

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#509687 in Books Theatre Communications Group 1993-01-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 .69 x 5.72 x 8.80l, .74 #File Name: 1559360399160 pages | File size: 67.Mb

**Stephen Sondheim, John Weidman : Assassins** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Assassins:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Quasi-Documentary, in a Dark Musical Comedy By David S The creators of the musical "1776" said succinctly, "God writes LOUSY theater". This is a case where they have been proven wrong. All that was needed was a book by John Weidman that twisted time into the depths of a carnival shooting gallery plus music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim to tie it all together into a neat little package called

"Assassins". An example regarding Guiseppe Zangara, who attempted to assassinate president-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt:from Wikipedia:"Zangara, a poorly educated bricklayer, suffered severe pain in his abdomen, later attributed to adhesions of the gall bladder, possibly originating from an appendectomy performed in 1926. These adhesions were later cited as a cause for his increasing mental delusions. It became increasingly difficult for him to work due to both his physical and mental conditions."from the book of Assassins, Zangara is singing while strapped in the electric chair: "Ever since then, because of them I have the sickness in the stomach Which is the way I make my idea To go out and kill Roosevelt."Weidman and Sondheim definitely did their research homework.I highly recommend this book. The worst that can happen is you might learn something while being entertained.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. InterestingBy The Best Reviewer on !It's not one of Sondheim's better known musicals, but as a government teacher and a Sondheim fan, I bought the book because I was interesting in seeing how things played out.It's a great story, weaving history, imagination and music together. If our high school had a drama program, I would have recommended it.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Favorite SondheimBy SensuousGourmetMy favorite Stephen Sondheim musical. The Ballad of John Wilkes Booth taught me everything I need to know about lyrics, music, story. Powerful, compelling, dark. It is also fun to parody, sharpen your chops. Johnny Football was a handsome fellow.... I love this song and my parodies. Love Victor Garber's voice which I hear on the CD and throughout the libretto.

Evoking a fraternity of political assassins and would-be assassins across a hundred years of our history, Sondheim and Weidman daringly examine success, failure and the questionable drive for power and celebrity in American society. "Dark, demented humor, as horrifying as it is hilarious."--Michael Kuchwara, Associated Press