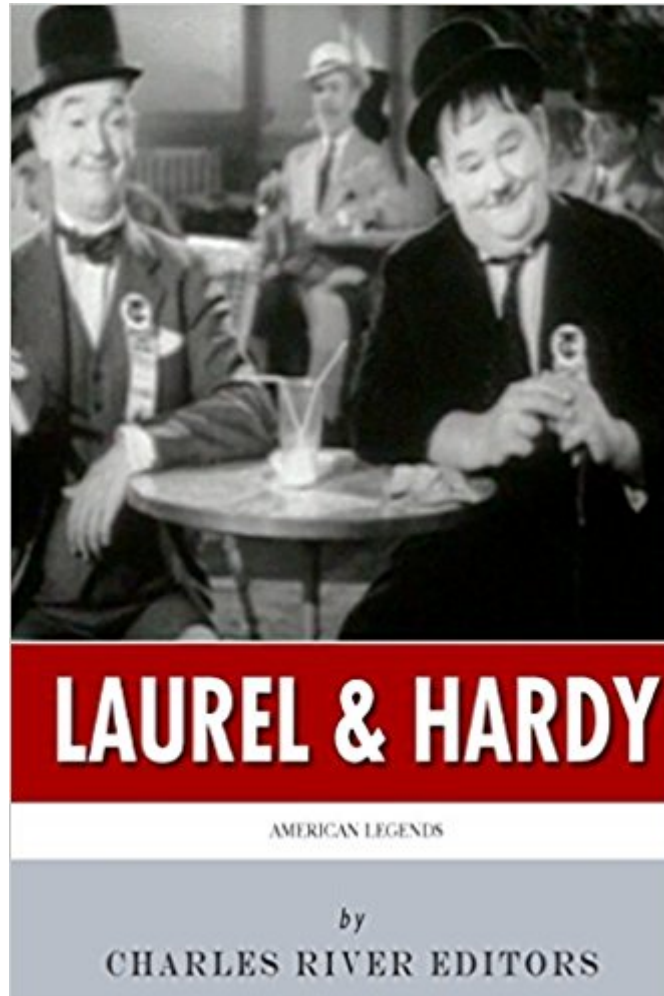




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# American Legends: Laurel & Hardy



## Synopsis

\*Includes pictures. \*Includes Laurel and Hardy's own quotes about their lives and careers. \*Includes a bibliography for further reading.

“Mr. Hardy was beginning to forget things but Mr. Laurel had no fear of losing his memory - As a matter of fact, Mr. Laurel never had a memory to lose.”

• Title card in *Hog Wild* A lot of ink has been spilled covering the lives of history's most influential figures, but how much of the forest is lost for the trees? In Charles River Editors' *American Legends* series, readers can get caught up to speed on the lives of America's most important men and women in the time it takes to finish a commute, while learning interesting facts long forgotten or never known.

By the 1920s, English comic Stan Laurel had been in dozens of films and American Oliver Hardy had appeared in hundreds, but it was not until they formed a duo together in 1926 that they began to be noticed. Once they did, however, Laurel & Hardy became one of the most famous comedy teams in American history, with a career that spanned 4 decades and included over 100 combined shorts and feature films. Even today, nearly 60 years after their last performances together, Laurel & Hardy are still popular, alongside legends like The Three Stooges and Abbott & Costello, and their routines are still watched across the globe. Perhaps most importantly, Laurel & Hardy were forerunners of slapstick comedy and thus influenced those that followed. Their complementary styles of slapstick humor, with the thin, childish Laurel acting as a foil for the overweight and overly pompous Hardy, offered a template for others to follow, and the duo established several famous gags that other acts like the Stooges subsequently mimicked. For example, when Laurel occasionally came up with a smart idea, something completely out of character, the surprised Hardy would ask him to repeat what he just said, and Laurel would be unable to replicate it. That theme would recur with Curly and the Stooges, and Laurel & Hardy's use of “Doh!” has been made even more famous by Homer Simpson in *The Simpsons*. Of course, the physical aspects of their slapstick, which often included destruction and mayhem, proved popular for them and several groups as well.

*American Legends: Laurel & Hardy* examines the lives and careers of one of America's most famous comedy teams. Along with pictures of important people, places, and events, you will learn about Laurel & Hardy like never before, in no time at all.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Many factual errors. Appears to be internet material done in a cut and past style, with no knowledge of the team beforehand.

Very interesting look into the men behind the legend. Most of us grew up enjoying their very special brand of comedy. It was fun learning of the story behind their success and having the ability to peak into their personal lives. They will always have my respect as true gentlemen and magnificent entertainers. A very enjoyable walk down memory lane.

I enjoyed watching Laurel and Hardy with my Grandpa when I was a kid (I am 36 now). Reading this book about their lives was also fun, bringing back many memories.

This book gave me a whole new outlook into those two men. Their lives were obviously full of success, laughter and tragedy. Great read.

Good Book! Learned some about those Two!

Good information I disagree with some facts in the book..

the comedy of early 1900's is timeless. laurel and hardy. Abbott and Costello buster Heaton.  
3stories will be enjoyed forever

Another book about L&H. It is included in the other book, in its entire form.

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