THE THRILLING TRUE STORY OF A REPORTER WHO FOUGHT AGAINST INCREDIBLE ODDS TO ACHIEVE GREAT FAME AND FORTUNE WRITING ABOUT NEW YORK AND HOLLYWOOD IN THE EARLY DECADES OF THE 20TH CENTURY.
“His greatest stock-in-trade was his incarnate rapture at the glories of a New York recognizable to none but himself. To him the towers of Manhattan were studded with minarets and the neon lights of Broadway flickered like jewels.”

*The New York Times*, 1938

A s the highest-paid and most-read columnist of his era, Odd McIntyre achieved great fame and fortune in the early decades of the twentieth century. In his daily column about New York, he recorded what was happening backstage and behind the scenes with popular culture in the city and around the world.

Born and raised in Ohio, eventually he became close friends with many of the leading personalities of the day, including writers Edna Ferber, Ernest Hemingway, and F. Scott Fitzgerald; entertainers Fred Astaire, Florenz Ziegfeld Jr., Billie Burke, and Will Rogers; composers George Gershwin and Meredith Willson; actors Rudolph Valentino and Charlie Chaplin, and many others.

With the help of his wife, Maybelle, Odd triumphed over a debilitating mental illness and years of professional failure to become the nation’s preeminent pop culture columnist. Through his column, “New York Day by Day,” he wrote as the telegraph changed the news business, and then as radio changed everything. He covered live entertainment as it shifted from vaudeville to something new and exciting on Broadway, and had a literal front-row seat as moving pictures evolved from nickelodeons, to silent films, and finally to talkies.

Buried under a century of change and nearly forgotten today, what Odd wrote about entertainment, media, and politics nearly 100 years ago still provides a unique glimpse into one of the most fascinating periods in American popular culture.

---

Author: R. Scott Williams
Title: An Odd Book
Subtitle: How the First Modern Pop Culture Reporter Conquered New York
ISBN: 978-0-9986997-0-7
Retail Price: $18.99
Publish Date: April 1, 2017
Genre and Pages: Biography, 282
Trim and Format: 6” x 9” Paperback
Publisher: R. Scott Williams
Wholesale Orders: Available April 1, 2017 on IngramSpark
Retail Orders: Available April 1, 2017 on Amazon and in select bookstores

R. Scott Williams is chief operating officer and senior vice president of sales and marketing at the Newseum in Washington, D.C.

Williams earned his degree in journalism from the University of Memphis. He then held positions at several advertising agencies and organizations, including Elvis Presley Enterprises, Inc.

He currently serves on the board of the D.C. chapter of the American Advertising Federation and on the board of the Historical Society of Washington, D.C.

His first book was “The Forgotten Adventures of Richard Halliburton: from Tennessee to Timbuktu.”

For more information, visit AnOddBook.com or email RScottWilliams@AnOddBook.com.