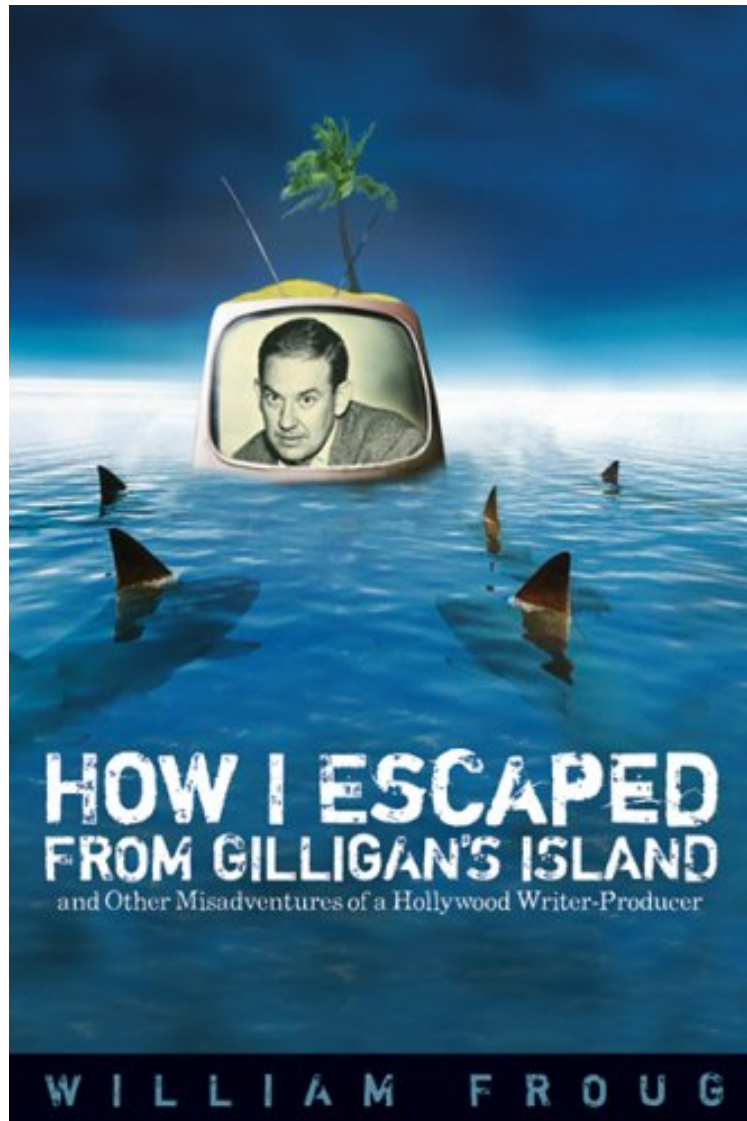


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## How I Escaped from Gilligan's Island: And Other Misadventures of a Hollywood Writer-Producer (A Ray and Pat Browne Book)

*William Froug*

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**William Froug : How I Escaped from Gilligan's Island: And Other Misadventures of a Hollywood Writer-Producer (A Ray and Pat Browne Book)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised How I Escaped from Gilligan's Island: And Other Misadventures of a Hollywood Writer-Producer (A Ray and Pat Browne Book):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy William L. AbbottExcellent book in great condition. Thanks

In the early 1950s writers were leaving radio en masse to try their hand at another promising mediumtelevision. William Froug was in the thick of that exodus, a young man full of ideas in a Hollywood bursting with opportunities. In his forty-year career Froug would write and/or produce many of the shows that America has grown up with. From the drama of Playhouse 90 and the mind-bending premises of The Twilight Zone to the escapist scenarios of Adventures in Paradise, Gilligans Island, Bewitched, and Charlies Angels, Froug played a role in shaping his trade. He crossed paths with some of the memorable personalities in the industry, including Jack Benny, Lucille Ball, Agnes Moorehead, Elizabeth Montgomery, Robert Blake, Rod Serling, Gene Roddenberry, Aaron Spelling, and Sherwood Schwartz.Froug reveals a post-WWII America giddy with the success of its newest mediumyet sobered at moments by strikes and union politics, McCarthyism and anti-Semitism. It was a world of hastily written scripts, sudden firings, thwarted creativity, and fickle tastes. And yet, while clearly exasperated with many aspects of Hollywood, Froug was a man utterly in his element, his frustration with the industry ultimately eclipsed by his dedication to his craft.

From Publishers WeeklyWriter and former television producer Froug follows his five books on screenwriting with a mean-spirited, overlong memoir of his life in the entertainment industry that will be of interest solely to television history buffs. Despite the book's title, Froug quickly dispatches his work on Gilligan's Island as "trivial and uninteresting" choosing instead to share anecdotes about celebrities, including Elizabeth Montgomery, Lucille Ball and Aaron Spelling, but his mean-spirited stories have a sourness to them that keeps the gossip from being enjoyable. Froug's writing is alternately clichd and shallow, one moment telling the reader, "The deepening blue sky was crystal clear," and a few pages later brusquely describing the "milk-skinned redhead with a voluptuous body" who ditched her movie star boyfriend to hop in the sack with Froug As for his work in television, Froug portrays himself as the innocent victim of a devious studio system, so much so that it's hard to take what he says at face value. For completists interested in the birth of television, The Twilight Zone, Bewitched or one of the other shows Froug worked on, this book is a necessity; to anyone else the book will appear as Froug's belated attempt at score settling. PhotosCopyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Bill Froug is a born storyteller with a rich treasury of stories to tell about a career that led him to the highest reaches of television production, where his sense of humor remained gloriously intact.Roger Ebert