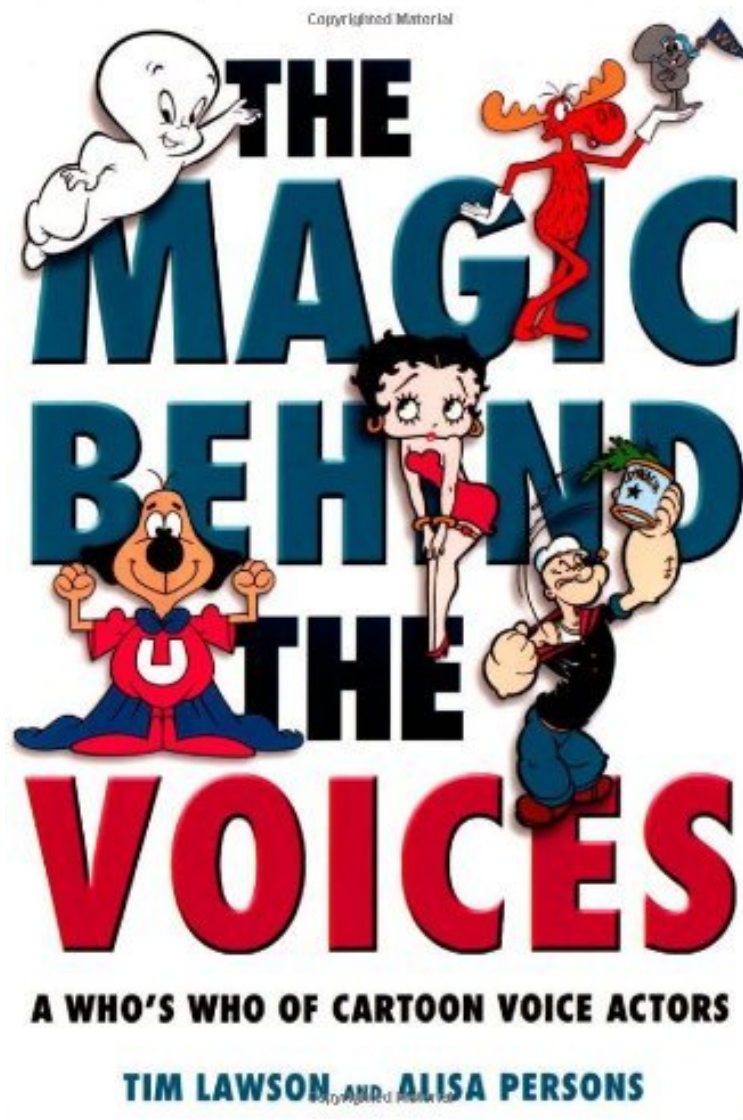


# The Magic Behind the Voices: A Who's Who of Cartoon Voice Actors

Tim Lawson, Alisa Persons  
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**Tim Lawson, Alisa Persons : The Magic Behind the Voices: A Who's Who of Cartoon Voice Actors** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Magic Behind the Voices: A Who's Who of Cartoon Voice Actors:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful By R. Bohn It's a wonderful book of mini bios about those wonderful voice people, some of whom are no longer with us, from cartoons past and present, some of the likes we will never see again. Too much of today's animation is voiced by celebrity "actors" who don't have "magic". 0 of 0

people found the following review helpful. Who's Who in The Characters? By Leticia Rosado This is one of the best books, featuring the actors behind the cartoon voices, and the characters they had performed as over the years. Great for both animation fans, and for those aspiring to get into the voice acting business. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The faces behind the voices! By Lincoln's girl My 13-year-old son loves this book. He had a blast thumbing through the pages and seeing the faces behind the voices of some of his favorite cartoons, both old and new. We were all blown away by a few of these incredibly talented people when we saw the vast array characters in their resumes! Really amazing talent ... would be fun to see a color version of this with more photos of the recording sessions.

The Magic Behind the Voices is a fascinating package of biographies, anecdotes, credit listings, and photographs of the actors who have created the unmistakable voices for some of the most popular and enduring animated characters of all time. Drawn from dozens of personal interviews, the book features a unique look at thirty-nine of the hidden artists of show business. Often as amusing as the characters they portray, voice actors are charming, resilient people—many from humble beginnings—who have led colorful lives in pursuit of success. Beavis and Butt-Head and King of the Hill's Mike Judge was an engineer for a weapons contractor turned self-taught animator and voice actor. Nancy Cartwright (the voice of Bart Simpson) was a small town Ohio girl who became the star protegee of Daws Butler—most famous for Yogi Bear, Huckleberry Hound, and Quick Draw McGraw. Mickey Mouse (Wayne Allwine) and Minnie Mouse (Russi Taylor) are a real-life husband-and-wife team. Spanning many studios and production companies, this book captures the spirit of fun that bubbles from those who create the voices of favorite animated characters. In the earliest days of cartoons, voice actors were seldom credited for their work. A little more than a decade ago, even the Screen Actors Guild did not consider voice actors to be real actors, and the only voice actor known to the general public was Mel Blanc. Now, Oscar-winning celebrities clamor to guest star on animated television shows and features. Despite the crushing turnouts at signings for shows such as Animaniacs, The Simpsons, and SpongeBob Squarepants, most voice actors continue to work in relative anonymity. The Magic Behind the Voices features personal interviews and concise biographical details, parting the curtain to reveal creators of many of the most beloved cartoon voices.

From Publishers Weekly Perhaps not surprisingly, cartoon voice actors are overshadowed by their visual embodiments. This book is an earnest attempt to bring the profession more respect by profiling 40 of the biggest names in the business. Lawson and Persons, a freelance writer and animator, respectively, are ever-sunny in their approach; they don't editorialize or provide an in-depth history of the trade. Rather, they simply illuminate an often-ignored corner of show business. Some of the industry's giants—Daws Butler (Yogi Bear, Huckleberry Hound); Mel Blanc (Bugs Bunny, Barney Rubble)—get their due, but the more intriguing profiles are those of lesser-known performers. The authors unearth Paul Frees, the flamboyant, eccentric, practical-joking voice for many Rocky and Bullwinkle characters, who routinely wore firearms to the studio. They introduce one-note actors, too, like Nicole (Jaffe) David, creator of Velma on Scooby Doo, who left the show in 1974 and is now John Travolta's agent. The book isn't just concerned with the past, though; there are profiles of Mike Judge (King of the Hill), Dan Castellaneta (The Simpsons) and John Kricfalusi (Ren and Stimpy). Though not always scintillating, this gold mine of information for animation fans will serve as a solid reference work on the field. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "this clever tribute informs and entertains... Lawson and Persons have taken a fresh approach. A nice addition to film/animation collections." -- Library Journal, November 15, 2004 From the Publisher A biographical encyclopedia of the actors who gave voice to SpongeBob Squarepants, Beavis and Butt-Head, Bart and Homer Simpson, Bugs Bunny, Mickey Mouse, and many, many more Boasts an impressive who's who lineup of voice actors for Yogi Bear, Scooby Doo, the Jetsons, Snow White, Popeye, Betty Boop, Pinkeye, the Brain, Underdog, and more Features detailed information on 39 voice actors Features photographs of the voice actors and comprehensive lists of each actor's performance credits Delivers the zany and fun spirit of these special actors who, until recently, weren't acknowledged