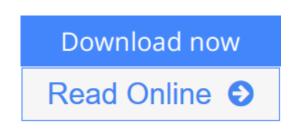


# The Queen's Throat: Opera, Homosexuality, and the Mystery of Desire

By Wayne Koestenbaum



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This passionate love letter to opera, lavishly praised and nominated for a National Book Critics Circle Award when it was first published, is now firmly established as a cult classic. In a learned, moving, and sparklingly witty melange of criticism, subversion, and homage, Wayne Koestenbaum illuminates mysteries of fandom and obsession, and has created an exuberant work of personal meditation and cultural history.

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### The Queen's Throat: Opera, Homosexuality, and the Mystery of Desire By Wayne Koestenbaum Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #921448 in Books
- Published on: 2001-04-10
- Released on: 2001-04-10
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .64" w x 6.00" l, .91 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 272 pages

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#### **Editorial Review**

#### Amazon.com Review

Why do so many gay men love opera? What makes an "opera queen"? What is the connection between gay sexuality and the full-throated longing that emerges from the diva's mouth? In *The Queen's Throat: Opera, Homosexuality, and the Mystery of Desire,* self-proclaimed opera queen Wayne Koestenbaum investigates the hidden--and unexpected--mysteries that opera and sexuality produce. At once a personal meditation and an iconoclastic, highly entertaining survey of divas, *The Queen's Throat* is ultimately a profoundly moving, and at times curiously disturbing, investigation of the intricate interplay between art and sexuality, between beauty and eroticism. Koestenbaum is not afraid to challenge, and he more or less grabs readers by the hand to drag them, with nonstop exuberance, through the ornate, highly stylized world of diva worship. Traipsing through descriptions of classic performances, musical autobiographies, personal recollections, historical notations, and the music itself, Koestenbaum creates for us the daring, frenzied, disordered, highly sexual-- and ultimately ecstatic--world of the opera queen. *--Michael Bronski* 

From Publishers Weekly

Witty reminiscences, personal confessions and cultural analyses of the reputed affinity of gay men for opera. Author tour.

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#### From Library Journal

Initially, The Queen's Throat reminded this reviewer of the author's earlier work, Ode to Anna Moffo and Other Poems (LJ 9/15/90), which also had an operatic theme. Here, everything from opera trivia to serious analysis is blended in the context of the author's personal experience, with results that are at times humorous. Koestenbaum's innovative ideas reflect a gay point of view that will be startlingly different and refreshing for some readers. As an example, the author reads the autobiographies of long-gone divas looking for the words queer or gay and then interprets each diva's words from his personal perspective. An appropriate book for the 1990s. Recommended for collections in opera or gay studies.

- James E. Ross, Seattle P.L.

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#### **Calvin Baker:**

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important work, like looking for your favorite e-book and reading a e-book. Beside you can solve your problem; you can add your knowledge by the book entitled The Queen's Throat: Opera, Homosexuality, and the Mystery of Desire. Try to make the book The Queen's Throat: Opera, Homosexuality, and the Mystery of Desire as your buddy. It means that it can to get your friend when you experience alone and beside regarding course make you smarter than ever before. Yeah, it is very fortuned in your case. The book makes you a lot more confidence because you can know every thing by the book. So , let me make new experience in addition to knowledge with this book.

#### **Merry Springs:**

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#### Jon Pittenger:

The book The Queen's Throat: Opera, Homosexuality, and the Mystery of Desire has a lot info on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of benefit. The book was authored by the very famous author. Tom makes some research previous to write this book. This book very easy to read you will get the point easily after perusing this book.

#### **Concepcion Bass:**

Beside this The Queen's Throat: Opera, Homosexuality, and the Mystery of Desire in your phone, it could give you a way to get closer to the new knowledge or data. The information and the knowledge you are going to got here is fresh from the oven so don't always be worry if you feel like an outdated people live in narrow commune. It is good thing to have The Queen's Throat: Opera, Homosexuality, and the Mystery of Desire because this book offers for your requirements readable information. Do you oftentimes have book but you rarely get what it's interesting features of. Oh come on, that wil happen if you have this in the hand. The Enjoyable blend here cannot be questionable, like treasuring beautiful island. Use you still want to miss it? Find this book in addition to read it from right now!

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