

Annie Oakley- A Wild West Legend

Marilyn Warsofsky



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ArtAge Publications

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Readers Theatre: *Legendary Ladies and their Gents* by Marilyn Warsofsky is a collection of five plays based on historical women characters. For ten years, she toured the shows throughout her community. Actors and audiences loved the combination of rich history with solid theatre. We think you will too! The book includes:

[*Molly Brown She Was Unsinkable*](#). Full of spirit, this is Molly Brown's tale of rags to riches and her courage when the *Titanic* was sinking.

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[*Annie Oakley: A Wild West Legend*](#). Annie Oakley comes alive as the best and most exciting sharpshooter on both sides of the ocean in her tour with Buffalo Bill's Wild Wild West Show.

[*The Harvey Girls: They Tamed the West*](#). In the Old West when your train stopped at the depot, you ate in Fred Harvey's restaurants which were famous for good food, friendly service, and the famous Harvey Girls who won the hearts of travelers.

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You can order plays from *Readers Theatre: Legendary Ladies and their Gents* as individual e-scripts or get all of them in a hard copy book.

ANNIE OAKLEY- A WILD WEST LEGEND

by

Marilyn Warsofsky

CAST

ANNIE: Annie Oakley, earnest, amazing sharpshooter, loves Frank.

FRANK BUTLER: Handsome, smug, but caring. Loves Annie.

BUFFALO BILL: Showy, admired, boss of the Wild West Show; an international icon.

BUSYBODY: Noodge and meddler, means well.

MOLLIE: Annie's younger, starry eyed sister.

JIMMIE: Annie's supportive, pushy, younger brother.

SALLIE: Dottie's friend, a showgirl, performs in the Wild West Show.

DOTTIE: Sally's friend, a showgirl, performs in the Wild West Show.

NARRATOR: Describes the action.

JUDGE: Runs the shooting match.

Place

The United States and Europe.

Time

1883 through 1917.

STORY: Annie Oakley came from humble backwoods beginnings to become the best and most exciting sharpshooter, who graced the public on both sides of the ocean with her skill. Frank Butler became her husband and her most ardent supporter. For many years they toured with Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show.

CAST: Annie Oakley had a special name,
Little Sure Shot helped to bring her fame.
She epitomized the Wild, Wild West,
Her shooting was the best!

Annie Oakley couldn't read or write,
But her shooting made her look quite bright.
Frank was always there to be her mate.
Their love was really great!

DOTTIE: Ladies and gentleman, gather round. There's a challenge to be met!

SALLIE: Yes, indeed! You see before you the greatest sharpshooter in the world...
Frank Butler. Dottie and I worked with him for years.

(A buzz runs through the crowd.)

DOTTIE: Frank usually shoots an apple off my head at 50 paces.

SALLY: Now he will challenge any man to shoot clay pigeons in quick
succession.

DOTTIE: First one to miss will be the loser. Right, Sally?

SALLIE: But never fear, the loser will get two free tickets to Wild Bill Cody's
Wild West Show.

BUSYBODY: What will the winner get?

DOTTIE: Frank Butler never loses.

(The crowd adlibs Ooo! and Ah!)

JIMMIE: Go ahead, Annie. You kin do it.

ANNIE: Jimmie, don't push. You either, Mollie. The lady said man. I just don't fit.

JIMMIE: But you can shoot and hit any darn thing.

ANNIE: Well, I can shoot and hit every darn thing.

DOTTIE: Hey, move out of the way, little girl. We're setting up a for shootin' match.

JIMMIE AND MOLLIE: Tell'm, Annie. Tell'm why we are here.

BUSYBODY: Let's get on with it. How about some side bets. I'm for Mr. Butler no matter what!

JUDGE: Wait a minute! I don't see any challenger. How can we bet?

SALLIE: Frank Butler always wins.

(The crowd reacts to this.)

ANNIE: Not when I'm here! I'm as good as any man. I got my Granny right with me.

FRANK: You call that rusty old gun Granny.

ANNIE: I shur' do. She's always there for me. I'm ready.

DOTTIE: Little girl, this ain't a joke.

ANNIE: Do I look like a joke to you?

FRANK: Aw, let'r try. We can use a good laugh.

DOTTIE: Well...

ANNIE: Who do you think you are? They say there's some fat-headed showoff I'm supposed to challenge.

FRANK: *(haughty)* That's me.

ANNIE: I...I... I guess my mouth was too quick.

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