

**Chapter 1 : The Mirror Running: eBook PDF, EPUB, TORRENT and Read Online**

*William McGonagall Meets George Gershwin has 21 ratings and 0 reviews. This is Spike Milligan's account of the man who was probably Scotland's most embar.*

Miles described Milligan as: His appearance on stage always brought a roar of delight from the kids in the audience and Spike had soon left the text far behind as he went off into a riff of sublime absurdity. Richard Lester later directed a film version , released in He refused to be serious when questioned about his motives. In the story, Oblomov decides to spend his life in bed. Spike decided to identify with his character, and told disbelieving reporters that he thought it would be a nice comfortable rest for him. This was of course, prevarication. The audience demanded a clown, he became a clown. When he forgot his words, or disapproved of them, he simply made up what he felt to be more appropriate ones. That night there were no riotous first night celebrations and most of the cast seemed to go home stunned. The following night Milligan began to ad lib in earnest. The text of the show began to change drastically. The cast were bedevilled and shaken but they went along with him Incredibly, the show began to resolve itself. The context changed completely. It was turned upside down and inside out. Cues and lines became irrelevant as Milligan verbally rewrote the play each night. By the end of the week, Oblomov had changed beyond recognition. Andre Morell came again First it was a means of livelihood. And I had sort of lagged behind my confederates, that I And I realise that basically I was quite a good clown I clowned it into a West End success and uh, we kept changing it all the time. It was a tour de force of improvisation He also did this on radio and television. He was interviewed live on air and remained in the studio for the news broadcast that followed read by Rod McNeil , during which Milligan constantly interjected, adding his own name to news items. The ABC also changed its national policy so that guests had to leave the studio after interviews were complete. He had brought around a silent cartoon" and asked Lester if his P. He ad-libbed the commentary for it and it was perfect. I was open-mouthed at the raw comedy creation in front of me. Most were visualisations of one-line jokes. Milligan was the youngest contributor, describing his life in India when it was under British rule. In it he mentions the imperial parades there: They wore these great long pantaloons, a gold dome to their turbans, khaki shirts with banded waistcoats, double-cross bandoliers, leather sandals, and they used to march very fast, I remember, bursting in through the dust on the heels of an English regiment. Dum-da-da-dum " It was sensational! Another child, a daughter Romany, is suspected to have been born at the same time, to a Canadian journalist named Roberta Watt. His last wife was Shelagh Sinclair, to whom he was married from to his death on 27 February The Life and Legacy of Spike Milligan After marrying Shelagh, he revoked his existing will which had left everything to his children, and instead left his entire estate to Shelagh. The children attempted to overturn the will, to no avail. These included his vast legacy of books and memorabilia, and a grand piano salvaged from a demolition and apparently played every morning by Paul McCartney , a neighbour in Rye in East Sussex. He spoke candidly about his condition and its effect on his life: I have got so low that I have asked to be hospitalised and for deep narcosis sleep. I cannot stand being awake. The pain is too much Normally I am the centre of attention, keep the conversation going " so that is depressing in itself. Milligan felt that he was entitled to a British passport, after having served in the army for six years. His passport application was refused, primarily because he would not swear an Oath of Allegiance ; his Irish ancestry gave him an escape route from his stateless condition. He became an Irish citizen and remained so until his death. The comedian interrupted the message to call the Prince a "little grovelling bastard". On 23 July , the Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer were presented with a poem about the forthcoming Royal Wedding, delivered to Buckingham Palace on a 3ft 9in parchment scroll, written under the pen name MacGoonical. A ridiculous verse written in the style of William McGonagall. The ode was commissioned by the Legal and General Assurance society as a "mark of esteem and affection". Twas in the year Prince Philip was reading Page 3 of the Sun! They were all sitting in Buckingham Palace Roaring with laughter at the comedy Dallas. The artwork included catfish, oysters and shrimp which were to be electrocuted. The name of his last wife has since been added along with birth and death dates and an additional epitaph. He also wrote his own obituary, in which he stated repeatedly that he

"wrote the Goon Show and died". His old house in Woodside Park is now demolished but there is a blue plaque in his memory on the block of flats on the site. There is a campaign to erect a statue in the London Borough of Lewisham where he grew up. In the adaptation of his novel *Adolf Hitler: Wiseman* said the joke contained all three elements of what makes a good gag: In one interview, which was widely quoted at the time, John Cleese stated "Milligan is the Great God to all of us". Graham Chapman gave him a minor part in *Yellowbeard*. Milligan named the town "the largest above ground cemetery in the world" [65] when visiting in the s.

**Chapter 2 : william mcgonagall | eBay**

*William McGonagall Meets George Gershwin: A Scottish Fantasy. Milligan, Spike, Hobbs, Jack in the Other Fiction category for sale in Cape Town (ID) Buy William McGonagall Meets George Gershwin: A Scottish Fantasy.*

Born of an English mother and an Irish father, he spent most of childhood in India the country of his birth, before immigrating to the UK later in life. He was most famous for being the lead character in The Goon Show, while also being the chief writer and co-creator. His seven-volume war memoir that is an autobiographical account of his experiences in WWII is one of his most popular works. The first work in the series is Adolf Hitler: My Part in His Downfall. A man of many talents Spike Milligan wrote a lot of comical verse most of which was written for children. After attaining much success with The Goon Show, Spike was involved in writing and performing a surreal sketch show known as Q5, which largely influenced the Monty Python Flying Circus. In and , he applied for British citizenship, but was rejected after refusing to swear allegiance to the United Kingdom, instead opting to take up Irish citizenship. Spike Milligan got married in and had three children from the marriage, Sile, Sean, and Laura before getting divorced in He would get remarried two more times to Patricia Ridgeway and Roberta Watt. Milligan had severe bipolar disorder, which meant that he lived with serious mental depression that sometimes lasted up to a year. However, he candidly spoke of his condition and asserted that he wrote some of his deepest poetry while he was in depression. Spike felt that his service as a soldier in the British Army during World War II entitled him to British citizenship, even as he refused to swear the oath of allegiance to Britain. Nonetheless, he was great friends with the Prince of Wales who was a great fan of his work. He was big on matter environment and argued against unnecessary noise. He also campaigned against domestic violence and animal cruelty. Milligan died in his home in Rye, Sussex in from Kidney failure aged 83 years old. Milligan poetical works are best categorized in the genre referred to as literary nonsense. As a novelist, he is best known for the comical novel Puckoon, and his War Memoirs series of novels that are an autobiography of his war experiences. The seven-volume work covers his years of service from to They tell the narrative of his call up, service in the war, first breakdown, his travels in Italy as an entertainer, and his return to the United Kingdom. The novels are presented in an unusual format expected of such an eccentric character as Milligan. He mixes in performance programs, rough sketches, letter, excerpts from diaries, contemporary photography, and narrative anecdotes accompanied by fake memoranda and comic sketches from top ranking Nazi officials. Nonetheless, he asserted that all the salient facts in the novels were true and that the death of his friends and colleagues would live forever in his mind even if he tried to make light of it. My Part in His Downfall was made into a movie by the same name in In his first novel in the War Memoir series, Adolf Hitler: Part One documents the young Milligan at home with his family when Chamberlain announces that Britain was going to war with the Germans. Milligan soon receives a letter with the initials O. S that he does not open. After a series of letter marked urgent makes its way to his house, he opens one to find an invitation to go fight in the war. After the initial setback where he slips a disk in his back, he is on his way to war with the 56th Heavy Regiment where he is immediately identified as a troublemaker. He is disrespectful in speech and calls his commanding officer names in private. Having nothing better to do he spends most of his time setting up musical shows and practicing as a gunner as his regiment is not called up for duty for a year. What follows is a series of diary notations about what was allowed with regard to communication about their ammo, guns, and troop number until they dock in Algeria. This was the time of the invasion of Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco, otherwise known as Operation Torch. Now ranking as gunner, his first action in war is to swear that he hopes a plane flying above would crash which it instantly does. Now staying in a variety of accommodations and eating army food, Milligan is still as mischievous as ever and sneaks food to an Arab with a struggling family nearby. It was during this time that he meets Harry Secombe, who would later become one of the goons. Milligan is charged with the laying of phone lines and proceeds to make a lot of noise that could attract the enemy, much to the consternation of his commanding officer. With limited time for playing, Spike and his friends take over a bombed out floor and practice during the evenings. They would sing slushy, nostalgic moon June love songs and entertain their regiment until the army took

Tunis. Jack Reacher is back! Family secrets come back to haunt Reacher when he decides to visit the town his father was born in. Because when he visits there he finds out no-one with the last name of Reacher has ever lived there. It leaves him wondering - did his father ever live there? Recommendations Every 2 weeks we send out an e-mail with Book Recommendations. Insert your e-mail below to start getting these recommendations. If you see one missing just send me an e-mail below. Featured Author Our author of the month is Canadian author Opal Carew who writes erotic romance novels. Opal has written over novels with multiple book series such as the Dirty Talk series and the Abducted series.

**Chapter 3 : Spike Milligan - Book Series In Order**

*Story time just got better with Prime Book Box, a subscription that delivers hand-picked children's books every 1, 2, or 3 months at 40% off List Price.*

Great poets are ten a penny but Scotland alone produced a native son whose verses are so bad they are totally unique. A man who may well have published more poems in the English language than any rival. A man in fact whose poetic anthologies have sold more copies than even Burns, Shakespeare, or Kipling. Well, he was born to parents of Irish origin who had moved to Edinburgh in search of work. There is some doubt about his birth year as he wrote two autobiographies giving in one and in the other. It was an era when the poor and unemployed starved, a period when only the rich and powerful had the vote, yet a time when diseases like cholera spread their horrors free from Class distinction. When cities were cess pits and poverty and drunkenness dominated the lives of working people. McGonagall Senior was a skilled handloom weaver and travelled around Scotland to obtain work. He even took the family to Orkney for a couple of years where he was a pedlar and it was there that William received his scant education. The family moved to Dundee where William also became a weaver, here he lived out most of his life, and developed his astounding talents. Thus began that obsession with the stage which lasted until his death. A classic Ham actor, he gave recitals from Macbeth and Hamlet to his workmates during lunch breaks. They egged him on and eventually clubbed together to raise money so he could perform in a real theatre with a professional cast. The play was Macbeth and it ran to three crowded houses. The truly memorable moment was when Macbeth was scheduled to die. The fiasco only ended when the other actor knocked him to the floor, or did it? The audience demanded no less than seven encores of this death scene. Word of the show spread around Dundee and mounted police had to control crowds rushing to the other performances. During a slump in the jute industry he and most of his workmates, were laid off. Here Australia had a very narrow escape as some of those weavers took ship to Queensland, I wonder if they helped set up the Ipswich mills? Luckily William decided to take up acting full time and began travelling on foot to villages around Dundee displaying his Shakespearean exuberance in halls and smithies. Sixpence here, a shilling there he and his family lived from hand to mouth, dodging creditors, striving to find rent money, often hungry. Poverty became the companion that never forsook him,. Sometimes he found work at his trade but he still gave dramatic recitals to raise a wee bit more money for his family. Respected Dundee citizens wrote him testimonials which he proudly displayed. Here is an example from a distinguished clergyman, author, and orator. I certify that William McGonagall has for some time been known to me. I have heard him speak, he has a strong proclivity for the elocution art department, a strong voice, and great enthusiasm. He has had a great deal of experience too, having addressed audiences, and acted parts here and elsewhere. George Gilfillan Remember that name as he has a key role to play in our saga. It was not until he was 52 that McGonagall was hit by the Muse of Poetry. During the Dundee Holiday week in the bright and balmy month of June, when trees and flowers were in full bloom, while lonely and sad in my room. McG of Dundee, who modestly seeks to hide his light under a bushel, has surreptitiously dropped into our letter box an address to the Rev George Gilfillan. He is a liberal gentleman To the poor while in distress, And for his kindness unto them. The Lord will surely bless. My blessing on his noble form And on his lofty head, May all good angels guard him while living. After preaching about sudden death. Gilfillan died unexpectedly the following year, McGonagall then wrote a poem about the funeral with which he raised a little ready cash. He was now having his poems printed as broadsheets which he sold in the streets, a full time poet at last! Let us pause here for reflection. What did our hero write about? The uninitiated claim he wrote As I was walkin doon the road, Ah met a coo, a buhll by Goad! Ogden Nash wrote that one. With your numerous arches and pillars in so grand array, And your central girders, which seem to the eye To be almost towering to the sky. Beautiful Railway Bridge of the Silvery Tay! That has caused the Emperor of Brazil to leave His home far away, incognito in his dress, And view thee ere he passed along en route to Inverness. I hope that God will protect all passengers By night and by day, And that no accident will befall them while crossing The Bridge of the Silvery Tay, For that would be most awful to be seen Near by Dundee and the Magdalen Green. The original

Tay Bridge seen from the north. This was his sop to Cerberus but Cerberus, as we shall see, was not hungry. Prophetic powers reappear in the second last verse. This mighty looking bridge actually had major weaknesses. The design was full of technical errors and there were irregularities in work done by contractors. Bees wax was put in cracks in the steelwork and painted over. Much of the work fell far short of specified standards yet was passed by bribed Inspectors. We will soon learn how the prophecy was fulfilled but first McGonagall made his famous journey to Balmoral. After all had he not sent her a bundle of his poems written in her honour? Had not the Lord Chamberlain returned them in an official envelope stating she was not allowed to receive gifts of this nature? Surely this signified Royal Patronage? Not a penny in his pocket, no food, and no accommodation arranged. He was looked after by caring locals, what a contrast to Dundee! McGonagall asked if he was hard of hearing, he had distinctly said he wanted to see Her Majesty. When asked to identify himself he stated he was the Poet Laureate. Why did you not tell me this before? Next he made an epic tour of the surrounding area only to return penniless as usual. Most dramatic of all was the event that took place on the evening of 28th December. The bridge he had immortalised proved mortal when fierce rain and tremendous gales raged through its High Girders. A train approached the small station on the far side and railway staff watched it pass into the tunnel approaching the bridge. In a house overlooking the Tay a man and his daughter looked out to see the train crossing the bridge in the raging storm. Its lights created a flickering effect as it passed between the steel uprights which the child compared to lightning. The Tay Bridge was down and all 75 passengers and crew on the train were killed, the world was shocked. McGonagall gained poetic immortality with his account of this horrendous event. His estimate of the casualties was, fortunately, wrong. Many of the bodies were never found but the locomotive was raised and remained in service for another 40 years. Soon afterwards he died from guilt, final casualty of the tragedy. Evidence in a forthcoming BBC documentary may well exonerate him. By now McGonagall was dedicated absolutely to the Muse and the unwitting butt of the local population. Literary societies sprang up to con him into attending so they could pull his leg. He took it all seriously most of the time, having no sense of humour. Being totally honest himself he assumed everybody else was the same. Thugs hassled him with trumpets and football rattles during his performances, even worse showered him with dried peas. Our hero carried on undaunted as spoiled hams flew around and into him. Refrain from throwing peas! Students sent a letter, purportedly from King Thibault of the Andaman Islands, that gave him the exalted titles subsequently printed on his letterhead. Ruffians threw stones to knock off his hat when he walked the streets, children yelled abuse at him, yet he continued the Quest for his personal Grail. Riots in the course of his presentations led to Council bans. When the real producer heard of this shameful event he sent the victim 5 guineas in recompense, this inspired William to visit London where he was certain the Great Man would make him famous. As usual nothing came of his journey. There being no work in London back he went to Bonnie Dundee. Home again a sadder, but in no way wiser man, he continued his efforts to reform Scottish literature. Poor McGonagall was now showing signs of his age. Stomping around Scotland in all weathers looking for engagements did not help and pubs full of foul tobacco smoke did nothing for lungs already affected by jute dust. In he consulted a Dr Murison, commemorated in a poem which tells us his problem. Because I was suffering from inflammation of the brain. Did the Dundee City Council bribe the Dr to make this diagnosis? Despite his illness he soon embarked on another adventure. In the Spring of an ex Dundee weaver and his wife in their tenement in New York City heard a knock at the door. Back home, in June of the same year a better designed, better constructed bridge spanned the Tay. There was a major breakthrough when he moved on to commercials. Aye he may be the one who created the first jingles.

#### Chapter 4 : Spike Milligan | Open Library

*William McGonagall Meets George Gershwin: A Scottish Fantasy [Spike Milligan, Jack Hobbs] on calendrierdelascience.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. This is Spike Milligan's account of the man who was probably Scotland's most embarrassing denizen and the world's worst poet.*

#### Chapter 5 : Books by Jack Hobbs (Author of William McGonagall)

*Note: Citations are based on reference standards. However, formatting rules can vary widely between applications and fields of interest or study. The specific requirements or preferences of your reviewing publisher, classroom teacher, institution or organization should be applied.*

## Chapter 6 : William McGonagall Meets George Gershwin by Spike Milligan

*William McGonagall Meets George Gershwin by Spike Milligan William Topaz McGonagall (March 18, -" 29 September ) was a Scottish weaver, poet and calendrierdelascience.com won notoriety as an extremely bad poet who exhibited no recognition of, or concern for, his peers' opinions of.*

## Chapter 7 : Milligan - William McGonagall meets George Gershwin

*The Great McGonagall is a British comedy film directed by Joseph McGrath and starring Spike Milligan in the title role, Peter Sellers as Queen Victoria and Julia Foster as Mrs McGonagall.*

## Chapter 8 : The Great McGonagall (film) - Wikipedia

*McGonagall inspired a series of books, concluding with William McGonagall Meets George Gershwin (). "A William Topaz McGonagall Appreciation Society keeps his memory warm in his hometown of Dundee where, until his born-again life as a poet and performer, he was an impoverished hand-loom weaver.*

## Chapter 9 : Spike Milligan - Wikipedia

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