

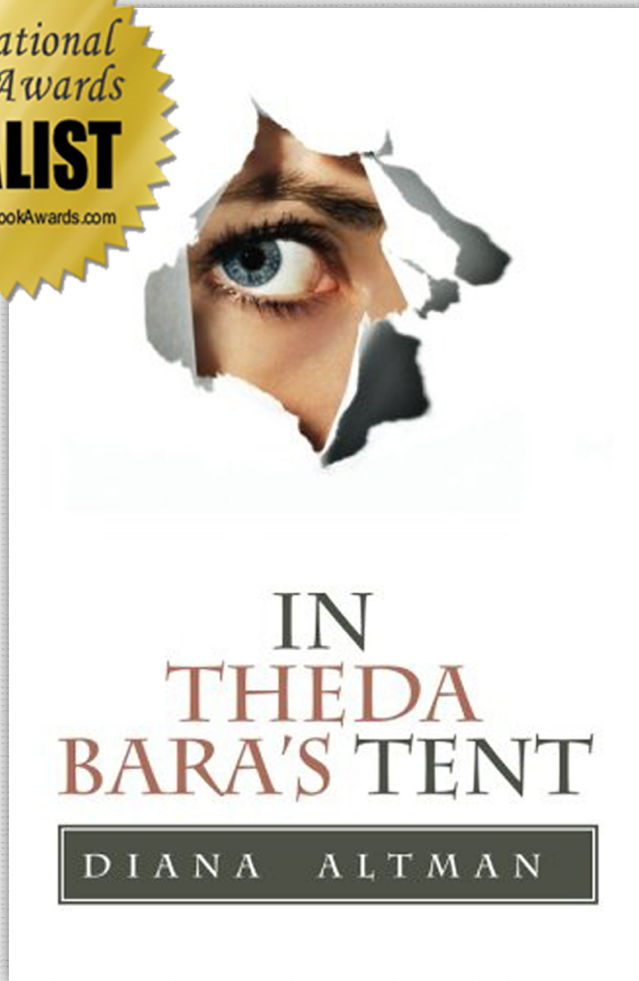
PUBLISHERS WEEKLY



Kirkus Reviews
 “History enthusiasts will enjoy Altman's characters, fictional and real.”



Popdose
 “Altman knows this milieu inside and out, and brings it to vivid life.”



***In Theda Bara's Tent** chronicles the rise of Harry Sirkus from his days in an orphanage in Haverhill, Massachusetts, to his tenure as producer at Fox News in the days when Fox was a newsreel company on Tenth Avenue and 54th Street. As he seeks his fortune and comes of age, he meets young would-be mogul Louis B. Mayer as well as a host of influential performers and famous film industry figures. He is befriended by screen stars, tin pan Alley song pluggers, bootleggers, dare-devil cameramen, and a young gossip columnist who steals his heart. Rich in historical context, with a cast of characters real and imagined from the movies' early days, Harry Sirkus is so captivating and vivid readers will be hard-pressed to remember that the author made him up.*

Lawrence Cohn

Author, Movietone Presents the Twentieth-Century

“The effort is an absolute delight and a most wonderful read. It vividly recreates the beginnings of the movie industry, of newsreels, of the movers and shakes found therein and takes the reader on an exciting roller-coaster ride through the formative years of these industries. I, without reservation, recommend this book highly.”

THE JEWISH ADVOCATE

Established 1910

The Jewish Advocate

“Historical fiction is a tricky business, in that it mixes real people and situations with characters that exist only in the author's imagination. Diana Altman has neatly placed a fictional Jewish orphan among the folks starting the film industry in the early 20th century - and gets all the details right. It is an entertain read, even for those who think they already know about the birth of Hollywood.”



Feathered Quill Book Reviews

“In Theda Bara's Tent was hard to put down. It was one of those books that stayed with me throughout the day. Scenes would come into my head like remembered dreams, and I found myself telling people, “I'm reading this book...””

Diana Altman is the daughter of the late Al Altman, the MGM talent scout who discovered Joan Crawford, Ava Gardner, Jimmy Stewart, Bob Hope, and dozens of other unknown actors who became stars. Her non-fiction book, *Hollywood East: Louis B. Mayer and the origins of the studio system* (Carol Publishing '92) continues to be quoted in books of film history and movie star biographies. She has appeared on television's *Entertainment Tonight* and on numerous radio talk shows. Her work has appeared in *ForbesWoman*, the *New York Times*, *StoryQuarterly*, *Yankee* and other publications. A graduate of Harvard University, she is married and lives in New York City.

www.DianaAltman.com

daltman3@nyc.rr.com

(212)517-8801