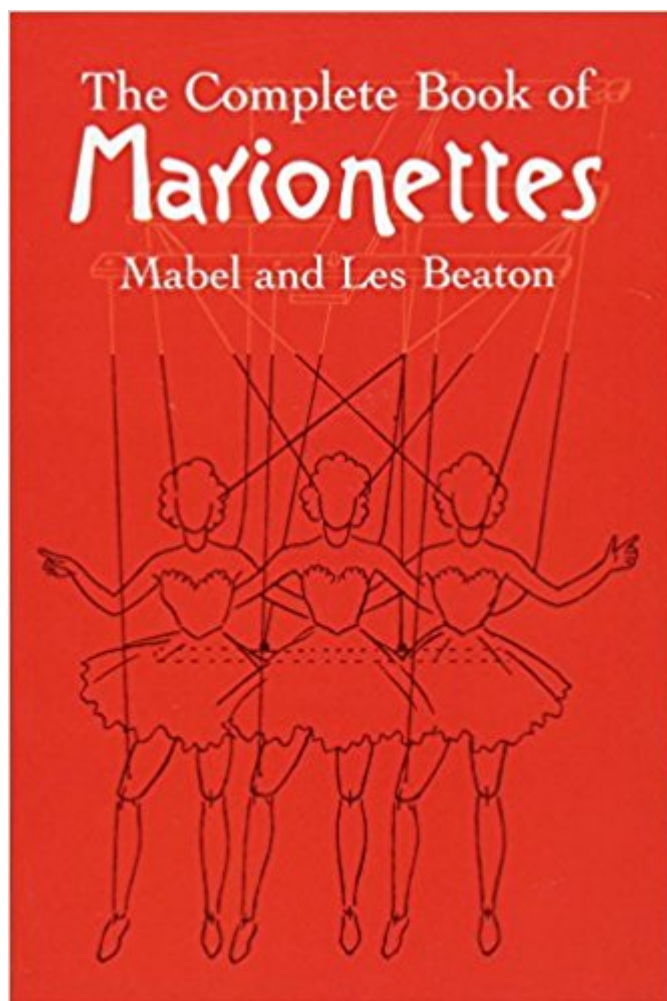


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# The Complete Book Of Marionettes



## Synopsis

"Highly recommended." — Library Journal  
Marionettes, those beguiling, animated little actors on strings, have endeared themselves to puppet show lovers for generations. Constructed to approximate most nearly the movement and appearance of humans and animals, the jointed figures appear today in a variety of places — in the theater, motion pictures, schools, and even as an advertising medium. This instructive and engaging guide, written by professionals with a passion for their art, provides everyone from beginners to veteran performers with all the information needed to create these beloved figures and the stages on which they perform. Enhanced with more than 200 sequenced photographs and diagrams, the comprehensive manual contains valuable advice for making heads, bodies, wigs, and puppet clothing and includes entire chapters on how to manipulate the puppet, set up and furnish a stage, light scenes, and even how to build miniature pieces of furniture. A production chapter tells how to incorporate music, put on sketches, parody celebrities, and arrange programs. There's even a complete script for *Beauty and the Beast*, as well as a section on the history of puppeteering.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Professional puppeteers and devoted amateurs have cherished this book since its original publication in 1948, calling it the Beaton Bible. It has EVERYTHING one needs to design, build, costume, and perform with professional-quality marionettes representing humans (there is no section for animal marionettes). Some have complained that the book is dated. This is true in only two instances. First, the section on lighting is indeed outdated, though one should have no problem substituting modern lighting instruments. Second, using Plastic Wood to cast heads is now

impossible thanks to Plastic Wood's formula being changed over the years; many professionals now use a product called MendAll which works exactly as the original, old-formula Plastic Wood did. I have used MendAll many times and recommend it highly. For those few who find the Beaton Bible doesn't (somehow) suit their needs, I am happy to recommend books that will. Cheers!

This book was a Christmas present from my uncle when I was 12. I poured over it, making two marionettes. It gives every step, everything one needs to know about making marionettes, stages, and performances. No wonder it's still in print. I bought a copy for my young private student. She was thrilled. I recommend this book highly. It's fabulous. Even a child can understand and follow its instructions.

I was a puppeteer when I was around my pre-teen years. I made all kinds of dolls and puppets, and I helped to make a marionette...I still have that marionette--It's only a few years younger than I am. I want to make marionettes again! This book, *The Complete Book of Marionettes* has patterns that you can actually use and shows you a great control bar, like the one we made for my marionette...This book even tells you how to make a papier mache head! I haven't read it entirely, yet, because I have so many other artistic projects I want to get into 3D form. But I love this book.

This is a great book for anyone interested in building and/or using marionette puppets. The descriptions and how-to's are well explained and the history is most interesting. I loved it as a general read and will use it over and over as a reference book. definitely recommended.

Yep. It's okay. Reprint of old text; a bit dated but usable information.

Purchased as a gift. No complaints!

I recommend this well-written book. It details the world of marionettes. It is thorough, and is perfect for a beginner, such as myself.

Very helpful and understandable. Good illustrations and directions. Will use it to teach my students about marionettes and producing a play.

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