



## Article - Basil Brush: My Story



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### Basil Brush: My Story

Boom boom! The red foxy one is back with a thrills and pun-filled memoir

*My Story* by Basil Brush (with Andy Merriman)

Out now, published by Boxtree

#### In short

Nation's favourite light entertainment animal (Gordon the Gopher notwithstanding) ploughs the comeback furrow with his 'autobiography' – a tale of the rise to stardom of a humble fox, followed by a stint as a government agent, and a spell in Hollywood, not to mention plenty of star cameos.

#### The story

Well, if we're playing along with the publicity, then that's the story. Of course, it could all be just a cynical marketing ploy to cash in on the nostalgia wave still sweeping the country. But it'd be churlish to suggest that, wouldn't it? Of course, old Basil's heading for a comeback and this book is squarely aimed at current students and twentysomethings who look back on the Brush years with fondness.

Those who remember Mr Derek and Mr Rodney will be pleased to see them here again, and the story of the Brush life is mostly told with wit throughout. Despite the rights changing hands a few times since creators Ivan Owen and Peter Firmin (he of Bagpuss, Clangers and many other perennial favourites) first brought him to our screens, the Brush touch is still there – although whether it stands up to twenty-first century television remains to be seen...

#### The verdict

It's just not the same when you're grown up, although in amongst all the predictable gags, there are a few sparkling gems, and the star appearances by - amongst others - Noel Coward and the Queen Mother, are largely good reading. While the endless puns sometimes drag a little, there's enough there overall to carry it through.

#### Can it or canon?

It's a good read – well written and very funny in places, if a little cheesy as far as the jokes go. Pick it up and have a flick through – it's definitely worthwhile as far as light reading goes. Look out for Brush, the sitcom, due out next year, as well as a blitz of Basil publicity.

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