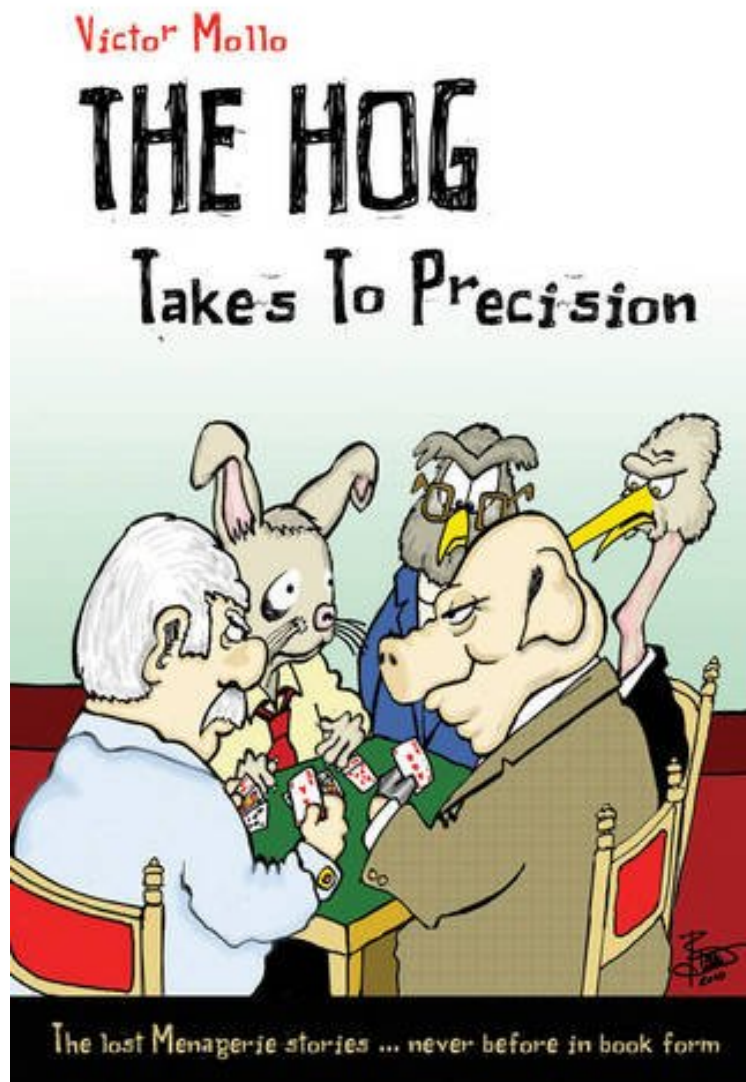


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## The Hog Takes to Precision

*Victor Mollo*

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**Victor Mollo : The Hog Takes to Precision** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Hog Takes to Precision:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. The Hog is Back! By G. Peter Wityk The Hideous Hog is in fine form in this collection of tales from the menagerie by Victor Mollo. Those who enjoyed the 5 previous HH books by Mollo or the 4 volumes added to the series by Phillip and Robert King will find this one most enjoyable as well. It is a collection of 32 tales that were published in magazines and never appeared in book form. They stand up well

compared to any of the other 9 books. You need not know Precision to enjoy this book just as you did not need to know ACOL to enjoy the previous adventures. All of the characters appear and live completely up to the standards of the previous works. Papa the Greek continues to self-destruct due to pride and hubris; Karapet the Armenian is still the unluckiest mortal since Job; Rueful Rabbit is still dependent on his Guardian Angel to pull victory out of defeat; Secretary Bird is still using the laws of Bridge to self-destruct; Walter the Walrus is still mystified by failures of the point count and all the rest of the menagerie are present in a timeless wonderland of bridge paradise, chocolate biscuits and magnums of champagne. Read it and enjoy!

The tales were collected and edited by Mark Horton. He did not have a heavy hand as editor and showed excellent taste in the tales selected. Mollo's voice comes through clear and clean. One can only hope that there are a few more of these in the Mollo archives for another volume. There are 207 pages of enjoyment here. This is a must have for any Mollo fan and all those who believe, "Please, please partner, let me play the hand. It is in your best interests."

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Fun and games

By Henry Bethe

The Menagerie series by Victor Mollo is about as much fun as one can have from bridge other than actually playing. His characters, from the Hideous Hog to Molly the Mule are archetypes as much as SJ Simon's Unlucky Expert and Futile Willy. The hands are sort of silly, and range from double dummy exercises to esoteric deception, but all in great fun. I would recommend starting with "Bridge in the Menagerie" and continuing through the other earlier works in the series, but this is a worthy extension. And by the way, if you treat the hands as problems you can actually learn some play techniques in the process -- if you can stop laughing long enough!

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. The Hog Takes to Precision

review

By Larry E. Manter

I've only started reading this book but it's a typical Victor Mollo book from what I can tell. The Hideous Hog (the title character) is from the Bridge in the Menagerie series and his explanations to others watching of why he did what he did is laced broadly with not only humor but painless instruction as well. It's no secret that Mollo (one of the better bridge players ever in England - possibly right up there with Terence Reese, or even better maybe, altho he primarily played money bridge) not so secretly admires the Hog and that the Hog is really him. While this book was assembled from a series of articles Mollo wrote, it IS Mollo. He is one of the most entertaining and instructive bridge authors ever (right up there with Eddie Kantar) to take up the pen. He really knew whereof he wrote and had such an event-filled life and such a gift for humor that his books are universally fabulous (which can't be said of other good authors - they have lemons but Mollo seems to have had none).

Just about every bridge player in the world has read Victor Mollo's Bridge in the Menagerie, a book that is on any list of the all-time top ten on the game. Towards the end of his life, Mollo continued to write stories about the same well-loved characters (the Hideous Hog, the Rueful Rabbit, Oscar the Owl, and the rest), but some appeared only in the pages of obscure magazines, while others were never published. Now, for the first time, these lost Menagerie gems are available collected in book form. Victor Mollo is everyone's favorite bridge humorist, and a genuinely new book from him will be greeted as something to be treasured.

Victor Mollo

The late Victor Mollo (London, UK) is one of the best-loved authors ever to write about bridge. He penned many excellent how-to books on the game (including Card Play Technique, with Nico Gardner) but it is as a humorist, and the author of Bridge in the Menagerie and its sequels, that he is best remembered.

Mark Horton

Mark Horton (born 1950) is a British author, journalist and expert on bridge, as well as a former lawyer and chess champion. He has been the editor of Bridge Magazine since 1995. The magazine was founded in 1926 and is the world's oldest bridge magazine, and it is now distributed through Chess Bridge in the UK. He currently lives in Bath with his wife Liz.

About the Author

The late Victor Mollo (1909-1987) was a British journalist employed by the BBC and one of the best-loved authors ever to write about bridge. He penned many excellent technical books (including Card Play Technique, with Nico Gardner) but it is as a humorist, and the author of Bridge in the Menagerie and its sequels, that he is best remembered.