# Nathan Burkan: The Man Who Shaped American Popular Culture

Nathan Burkan was born in Russia in 1884. He immigrated to the United States with his family in 1893, and grew up in New York City. He attended Columbia University and New York Law School, and began practicing law in 1906.



### Adventures of a Jazz Age Lawyer: Nathan Burkan and the Making of American Popular Culture by Gary A. Rosen

🚖 🚖 🚖 🚖 4.8 out of 5	
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Print length	: 409 pages
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Screen Reader	: Supported



Burkan quickly made a name for himself as a skilled and aggressive advocate for his clients. He represented many of the biggest names in the entertainment industry, including Irving Berlin, George Gershwin, and Charlie Chaplin. He also represented the Authors Guild, and played a key role in shaping the copyright laws that govern the entertainment industry.

In 1920, Burkan founded the Authors Guild. The Authors Guild is a trade association that represents the interests of writers and authors. It has

become one of the most powerful voices for creators in the United States. The Authors Guild has been instrumental in protecting the rights of authors, and has helped to ensure that they are fairly compensated for their work.

Burkan was also a passionate advocate for freedom of speech. He represented many artists and writers who were accused of obscenity or sedition. He also helped to establish the principle of fair use, which allows for the limited use of copyrighted material without permission.

Burkan died in 1971. He is remembered as one of the most influential figures in the development of American popular culture. He helped to shape the copyright laws that govern the entertainment industry, and he played a key role in the founding of the Authors Guild.

#### **Burkan's Legacy**

Nathan Burkan's legacy is vast. He helped to shape the copyright laws that govern the entertainment industry, and he played a key role in the founding of the Authors Guild. But his influence extends far beyond the legal realm. Burkan was a passionate advocate for freedom of speech, and he helped to establish the principle of fair use. His work has helped to ensure that the voices of artists and writers are heard, and that the public has access to a rich and diverse range of creative expression.

Burkan was a complex and fascinating figure. He was a brilliant lawyer, a tireless advocate for the arts, and a passionate defender of free speech. His legacy is one of creativity, innovation, and the protection of our most cherished cultural values.

#### Timeline of Burkan's Life

- 1884: Born in Russia
- 1893: Immigrated to the United States
- 1906: Began practicing law
- 1920: Founded the Authors Guild
- 1941: Argued the landmark case of United States v. Paramount Pictures, Inc.
- 1971: Died in New York City

#### **Further Reading**

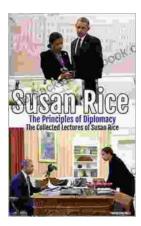
- The Authors Guild website
- The Copyright Office website
- Nathan Burkan: Copyright Crusader



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