

Charm

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Previewing and Reviewing

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STAGE DOOR CANTEEN

Stars—and unknowns—of stage, screen, radio turn out nightly to serve and entertain at New York's canteen. Soldiers, sailors, marines dance, eat, rub elbows with the show world. Informality rules, everything's free—but after-hour dates with dancing partners are out. Picture's story is of ambitious actress Eileen (Cheryl Walker); her chorus-girl roommates, Jean and Ellen Sue; Private Dakota Smith (William Terry) who had no girl, but wrote love letters for his buddies; Dakota's pals, California and Texas. Before going overseas they all meet at the canteen. In three crowded canteen nights they are entertained by more than forty stars: Bergen and Charlie McCarthy, Ray Bolger, Katharine Cornell, Gracie Fields, Katharine Hepburn, Gypsy Rose Lee, Ethel Merman, Merle Oberon, Ed Wynn, plus six bands—Basie, Cugat, Goodman, Kyser, Lombardo, Martin. Eileen and Dakota find love—her "Dear God, he's got to come back" is the prayer of millions. Timely, inspiring. Net proceeds go to American Theatre Wing's canteen. (Lesser—United Artists)



William Terry, Cheryl Walker