

Sammy Davis Jr My Father

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Gonna Do Great Things - Gary Fishgall
2010-06-15

A major reappraisal of the life of legendary entertainer Sammy Davis, Jr., *Gonna Do Great Things* is at once an intimate portrait and an exuberant celebration of a wholly American icon. Through his multifaceted talent and personality, Sammy became one of the most magnetic and contentious figures in modern entertainment history. His outstanding talents as a dancer, singer, actor, impressionist, and comedian, combined with his close association with megastars and his interracial marriage, made him a celebrity in the truest sense. Born in Harlem in 1925, Sammy debuted onstage with Will Mastin's vaudeville troupe when he was only three years old. He was an instant hit, and his talent propelled him into one of the most luminous entertainment careers of his generation. No one could please a crowd like Sammy, whose overwhelming energy and infectious humor exhilarated audiences for sixty years. However, Sammy's life was not without hardship, and his high-spirited attitude often masked a fragile ego. From an impoverished, broken home, he lacked even a single day of formal education, and the rigors of his blossoming show business career denied him the traditional pleasures of childhood. Racism constantly affected his life, particularly when he joined the army in 1943. Because he refused to acknowledge any race-related restrictions, his very existence became a political statement. An active member of the Civil Rights movement and America's first African-American superstar, Sammy paved the way for other black entertainers. As a charter member of the Rat

Pack, Sammy spent the 1950s and 1960s basking in an image of "cool" and endearing himself to the public. But by the 1970s he was relying on cocaine and alcohol, flirting with Satanism, indulging in scandalous sexual behavior, and becoming the punchline of jokes on Saturday Night Live. Though his fans still adored him, his performances suffered. A four-pack-a-day smoker, Sammy succumbed to cancer when he was sixty-four, shortly after celebrating six decades in the spotlight. Renowned biographer of Hollywood giants Jimmy Stewart, Burt Lancaster, and Gregory Peck, Gary Fishgall brings an actor's and director's understanding of the entertainment industry to Sammy's complicated existence. Meticulously researched and filled with insights gathered from interviews with those who knew Sammy best, *Gonna Do Great Things* reveals the fascinating and controversial life of this beloved entertainer.

The Way It Was - Eliot Weisman 2017-10-24
A candid and eye-opening inside look at the final decades of Sinatra's life told by his longtime manager and friend, Eliot Weisman. By the time Weisman met Sinatra in 1976, he was already the Voice, a man who held sway over popular music and pop culture for forty years, who had risen to the greatest heights of fame and plumbed the depths of failure, all the while surviving with the trademark swagger that women pined for and men wanted to emulate. Passionate and generous on his best days, sullen and unpredictable on his worst, Sinatra invited Weisman into his inner circle, an honor that the budding celebrity manager never took for granted. Even when he was caught up in a legal net designed to snare Sinatra, Weisman went to

prison rather than being coerced into telling prosecutors what they wanted to hear. With Weisman's help, Sinatra orchestrated in his final decades some of the most memorable moments of his career. There was the Duets album, which was Sinatra's top seller, the massive tours, such as Together Again, which featured a short-lived reunion of the Rat Pack--until Dean Martin, having little interest in reliving the glory days, couldn't handle it anymore--and the Ultimate Event Tour, which brought Liza Minelli and Sammy Davis Jr. on board and refreshed the much-needed lining of both their pocketbooks. Weisman also worked with many other acts, including Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme, and an ungrateful Don Rickles, whom Weisman helped get out from under the mob's thumb. Over their years together, Weisman became a confidant to the man who trusted few, and he came to know Sinatra's world intimately: his wife, Barbara, who socialized with princesses and presidents and tried to close Sinatra off from his rough and tough friends such as Jilly Rizzo; Nancy Jr., who was closest to her dad; Tina, who aggressively battled for her and her siblings' rights to the Sinatra legacy and was most like her father; and Frank Jr., the child with the most fraught relationship with the legendary entertainer. Ultimately Weisman, who had become the executor of Sinatra's estate, was left alone to navigate the infighting and hatred between those born to the name and the wife who acquired it, when a mystery woman showed up and threatened to throw the family's future into jeopardy. Laden with surprising, moving, and revealing stories, *The Way It Was* also shows a side of Sinatra few knew. As a lion in winter, he was struggling with the challenges that come with old age, as well as memory loss, depression, and antidepressants. Weisman was by his side through it all, witness to a man who had towering confidence, staggering fearlessness, and a rarely seen vulnerability that became more apparent as his final days approached.

Jet - 1988-06-13

The weekly source of African American political and entertainment news.

Sammy Davis Jr., My Father - Tracey Davis 1996

Weaving a compelling tapestry of the life and

times and ups and downs of legendary superstar Sammy Davis Jr., and his family, the only daughter of Sammy and Swedish actress May Britt presents a universal portrait of a delicate and often complicated father-daughter relationship. Photos.

Miss Shirley Bassey - John L. Williams 2013-10-01

From "Hot from Harlem" to "Goldfinger," the story of how a two-bit jazz singer from Cardiff became an immortal icon: In 1954, Shirley Bassey was seventeen years old. She had just returned from a cheesy revue tour called "Hot from Harlem." Depressed, disillusioned and four months' pregnant, she decided that her dream of being a professional singer was over. A mere ten years later, she was one of the biggest stars in the world. She had sold more records than any other British singer of the day, and was poised to conquer America. Her latest hit, "Goldfinger," was the theme tune to the year's blockbuster film. No longer the two-bit jazz singer from Cardiff, she was by now an international sex siren, as glamorous and unreal as Bond himself. Miss Shirley Bassey explores this remarkable transformation, both of an individual and of the British society and British psyche that made it possible. From the vibrant, multicultural oasis of Tiger Bay in the Cardiff docklands through the club-lands of Soho and Las Vegas to New York's Carnegie Hall, it is a journey from mere mortal to international icon. Along the way she would encounter homosexual husbands, predatory managers, newspaper scandals, and a range of friends and acquaintances from Sammy Davis Jr. to Reggie Kray. John L. Williams draws on original research and interviews to provide a portrait of a young woman on the cusp of stardom, whose rise to fame was in many ways symbolic of a changing world. Brilliantly written non-fiction in the style of David Peace's *The Damned Utd* or Nick Tosches' *Dino*, this is the story of a woman who set out to be extraordinary and--against all the odds--succeeded.

Yes I Can - Burt Boyar 2012

In *Yes I Can*, his 1965 worldwide Number One Best Selling autobiography, Sammy Davis recounts the extraordinary obstacles he overcame to become the undisputed world's greatest entertainer. He describes his personal

conviction, the view of success that both propelled him to stardom and served as his armor against racism. "I have to be a star like another man has to breathe. I've got to get so big, so powerful, so famous that the day will come when they'll look at me and see a man, and then somewhere along the way they'll notice he's a Negro." Beginning with his childhood in vaudeville Sammy writes with candor, often humor of the events that shaped his life: his jolting experiences in the army; the accident that took his eye and led to his conversion to Judaism; his friendship with Frank Sinatra; his risking professional destruction when, at the peak of his career he married a white woman: and, throughout, his encounters with racism. A half century after it became an immediate bestseller, *Yes I Can* is still an intensely absorbing book, full of the vitality and aggressive greatness of Sammy Davis, Jr.

Dear Father, Dear Son - Larry Elder
2012-11-13

The talk show host describes his relationship with his father, a hard man from whom he was estranged for ten years, and details how they finally came to understand each other.

Stars for Freedom - Emilie Raymond
2015-06-08

From Oprah Winfrey to Angelina Jolie, George Clooney to Leonardo DiCaprio, Americans have come to expect that Hollywood celebrities will be outspoken advocates for social and political causes. However, that wasn't always the case. As Emilie Raymond shows, during the civil rights movement the Stars for Freedom - a handful of celebrities both black and white - risked their careers by crusading for racial equality, and forged the role of celebrity in American political culture. Focusing on the "Leading Six" trailblazers - Harry Belafonte, Ossie Davis, Ruby Dee, Sammy Davis, Jr., Dick Gregory, and Sidney Poitier - Raymond reveals how they not only advanced the civil rights movement in front of the cameras, but also worked tirelessly behind the scenes, raising money for Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legal defense, leading membership drives for the NAACP, and personally engaging with workaday activists to boost morale.

Through meticulous research, engaging writing, and new interviews with key players, Raymond traces the careers of the Leading Six against the

backdrop of the movement. Perhaps most revealing is the new light she sheds on Sammy Davis, Jr., exploring how his controversial public image allowed him to raise more money for the movement than any other celebrity. The result is an entertaining and informative book that will appeal to film buffs and civil rights historians alike, as well as to anyone interested in the rise of celebrity power in American society.

Frank Sinatra, My Father - Nancy Sinatra 1986
The author offers a personal look at the popular American singer and actor, describes his complex personality, and shares the reminiscences of his friends and colleagues
[Memories Are Made of This](#) - Deana Martin
2010-05-12

Deana Martin's captivating, heartfelt memoir of her father, Dean Martin Charming, debonair, and impeccably attired in a black tuxedo, Dean Martin was coolness incarnate. His music provided the soundtrack of romance, and his image captivated movie and television audiences for more than fifty years. His daughter Deana was among his most devoted fans, but she also knew a side of him that few others ever glimpsed. In this heartfelt memoir, Deana recalls the constantly changing blended family that marked her youth, along with the unexpected moments of silliness and tenderness that this unusual Hollywood family shared. She candidly reveals the impact of Dean's fame and characteristic aloofness, but delights in sharing wonderful, never-before-told stories about her father and his pallies known as the Rat Pack. This enchanting account of life as the daughter of one of Hollywood's sexiest icons will leave you entertained, delighted, and nostalgic for a time gone by.

Easy Street (the Hard Way) - Ron Perlman
2014-09-30

The candid, revealing, hilarious, and inspiring memoir of the iconic star of the Hellboy movies, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *Sons of Anarchy*
Deconstructing Sammy - Matt Birkbeck
2009-10-06

Sammy Davis Jr. lived a storied life. Adored by millions over a six-decade-long career, he was considered an entertainment icon and a national treasure. But despite lifetime earnings that topped \$50 million, Sammy died in 1990 near bankruptcy. His estate was declared insolvent,

and there was no possibility of it ever using Sammy's name or likeness again. It was as if Sammy had never existed. Years later his wife, Altovise, a once-vivacious woman and heir to one of the greatest entertainment legacies of the twentieth century, was living in poverty, and with nowhere else to go, she turned to a former federal prosecutor, Albert "Sonny" Murray, to make one last attempt to resolve Sammy's debts, restore his estate, and revive his legacy. For seven years Sonny probed Sammy's life to understand how someone of great notoriety and wealth could have lost everything, and in the process he came to understand Sammy as a man whose complexity makes for a riveting work of celebrity biography as cultural history. Matt Birkbeck's serious work of investigative journalism unveils the extraordinary story of an international celebrity at the center of a confluence of entertainment, politics, and organized crime, and shows how even Sammy's outsized talent couldn't save him from himself.

All the Beautiful Girls - Elizabeth J. Church
2019-03-26

"An exquisitely crafted novel of love discovered and friendship found."—Martha Hall Kelly, author of *Lilac Girls* Ruby's life glitters with success, but she still must conquer her tragic past and discover what love really looks like. Lily Decker never meant to become a showgirl. As a young girl in small-town Kansas, she danced to forget the pain of losing her family in a car accident. And dancing made her feel beautiful when the attentions of her Uncle Miles only brought shame. In 1967, Lily is grown and ready to leave her past behind. She changes her name to Ruby Wilde and heads to the Rat Pack's Las Vegas to make a name for herself as a troupe dancer. However, the competition is fierce and she finds work as a showgirl, instead, doing fan-kicks in sky-high headdresses and sparkling costumes. Her new life brims with glamour and excitement, but something is still missing. Is it love? What choices will she make to feel whole again, and at what cost? With her uncanny understanding of the hidden lives of women, Elizabeth J. Church captures the iconic extravagance of an era and the bravery of a woman who blazes her own path to freedom. Praise for *All the Beautiful Girls* "[Elizabeth] Church's lively coming-of-age tale transports us

to a world of ostrich-plumed headdresses and pinky-ringed mobsters while tracing a tumultuous quest for acceptance and love."—People "A gorgeously written novel with the bite of a gin martini, *All the Beautiful Girls* goes beyond the splashy, gaudy dazzle of Las Vegas in the sixties to reveal the beating heart beneath the glamorous façade of a showgirl with big ambitions."—Sara Gruen, *New York Times* bestselling author of *At the Water's Edge* "A stirring bildungsroman that follows a girl from trauma in 1957 Kansas to self-discovery in 1960s Las Vegas . . . Church paints an unflinching, frequently heartbreaking portrait of a resilient young woman's coming-of-age set against an exciting, glamorous backdrop."—Publishers Weekly "Church's appreciation of language is apparent as she masterfully creates pictures with words . . . *All the Beautiful Girls* provides a delightful antidote to cold and dark mid-winter days."—Associated Press "A beautifully rendered tale of personal redemption filled with friendship, loss, extravagant furs, and feathery headdresses."—Kirkus Reviews

Everything Is Illuminated - Jonathan Safran Foer
2013-09-03

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER. Jonathan Safran Foer's debut—"a funny, moving...deeply felt novel about the dangers of confronting the past and the redemption that comes with laughing at it, even when that seems all but impossible." (Time) With only a yellowing photograph in hand, a young man—also named Jonathan Safran Foer—sets out to find the woman who might or might not have saved his grandfather from the Nazis. Accompanied by an old man haunted by memories of the war, an amorous dog named Sammy Davis, Junior, and the unforgettable Alex, a young Ukrainian translator who speaks in a sublimely butchered English, Jonathan is led on a quixotic journey over a devastated landscape and into an unexpected past. As their adventure unfolds, Jonathan imagines the history of his grandfather's village, conjuring a magical fable of startling symmetries that unite generations across time. As his search moves back in time, the fantastical history moves forward, until reality collides with fiction in a heart-stopping scene of extraordinary power. "Imagine a novel as verbally cunning as *A Clockwork Orange*, as

harrowing as *The Painted Bird*, as exuberant and twee as *Candide*, and you have *Everything Is Illuminated* . . . Read it, and you'll feel altered, chastened—seared in the fire of something new.” — Washington Post “A rambunctious tour de force of inventive and intelligent storytelling . . . Foer can place his reader’s hand on the heart of human experience, the transcendent beauty of human connections. Read, you can feel the life beating.” — Philadelphia Inquirer

In Black and White - Wil Haygood 2014-05-28
For decades one of America’s most recognizable stars, the real Sammy Davis, Jr. has long remained hidden behind the persona the performer so vigorously generated—and so fiercely protected. *In Black and White* vividly recounts this untold story, drawing on painstaking research and more than two hundred and fifty interviews to trace Davis, Jr.’s journey from the vaudeville stage to Broadway, Hollywood, and, of course, Las Vegas. Here Wil Haygood brings Davis’s life into full relief against the backdrop of an America in the throes of racial change. He made his living entertaining white people but was often denied service in the very venues he played, and in his broad and varied friendships—not to mention his romances—Davis crossed racial lines in ways few others had. Both an incisive biography and a sweeping cultural history, *In Black and White* is an important record of a vanished America—and of one of its greatest entertainers.

Sinatra and Me - Tony Oppedisano 2021-06-08
From Sinatra's closest confidant and an eventual member of his management team, Tony Oppedisano, comes an extraordinarily intimate look at the singing idol. Deep into the night, for more than two thousand nights, Frank and Tony would converse, about music, family, friends, great loves, achievements and successes, failures and disappointments, the lives they'd led, the lives they wished they'd led

Sammy - Sammy Davis (Jr.) 2000
Describes his career, affairs, his marriage to Swedish actress May Britt, his conversion to Judaism, his relationships with the Kennedys and Richard Nixon, and his drug and alcohol problems.

Wear and Tear - Tracy Tynan 2016-07-12
"The memoirs of a celebrity costume designer describe her upbringing in the fashionable

celebrity circles of her literary parents, her family's artistic but traumatizing approaches to shopping and how the fashion-savvy perspectives of her early years shaped her relationships and career, "--NoveList.

Sinatra - Andrew Howick 2015-10-27
Full of commentary by the people who knew him best, this exceptional collection of photographs showcases Frank Sinatra like never before. Nobody packed a visual punch like Frank Sinatra. With his clothes, his gestures, his posture, and even his facial expressions, Sinatra exuded a confident swagger that inspired generations. Photographs capture not only his ineffable sense of style, but also his aura of vulnerability, intensity, sexuality, and charm. *Sinatra: The Photographs* focuses on the decades after World War II, when he towered over the American entertainment landscape. These were the years of the Rat Pack and Las Vegas, socializing with Jack Kennedy and Marilyn Monroe, and making music with Nelson Riddle, Count Basie, and Quincy Jones. Featured here is the best work by a group of photographers—Ted Allan, Bob Willoughby, Ed Thrasher, Sid Avery, and Bernie Abramson—who helped shape the public image of an immortal legend. “Andrew Howick, who helps curate and edit one of the world’s largest collections of photos of Sinatra, collects a stunning array of photographs that helped shape the singer’s persona.” —Publishers Weekly

Breathing Out - Peggy Lipton 2007-04-01
Peggy Lipton's overnight success as Julie Barnes on television's hit *The Mod Squad* made her an instant fashion icon and the "it" girl everyone—from Elvis to Paul McCartney—wanted to date. She was the original and ultimate California girl of the early seventies, complete with stick-straight hair, a laid-back style, and a red convertible. But Lipton was much more: smart and determined to not be just another leggy blonde, she struggled for a way to stay connected to her childhood roots, though her coming of age had not been an easy one. And when she fell in love with Quincy Jones, that wasn't easy, either: their biracial marriage made headlines and changed her life. Lipton's passionate and complicated seventeen-year marriage to Jones plunged her into motherhood and also into periods of confusion and difficulty.

Her struggle to keep moving forward in the world while maintaining a rich inner life informed many of her decisions as an adult. When Lipton's marriage to Jones ended, she returned to television, appearing in David Lynch's *Twin Peaks* as well as in *The Vagina Monologues* and other stage productions. But her most recent triumph has been her overcoming a surprising diagnosis of colon cancer in 2003. *Breathing Out* is full of fresh stories of life with the pop culture icons of our times, but is also a much more thoughtful book about life in the limelight, work, motherhood, and marriage. It's a refreshing and real look at the life of an actress who became, in many senses, a woman of her times.

[Rickles' Book](#) - Don Rickles 2008-06-03

An internationally popular comedian describes his youth as a disadvantaged Jewish boy from Queens, the obstacles he overcame in order to achieve success, and his four-decade stage and screen career. Reprint. 50,000 first printing.

[Why Me?](#) - Sammy Davis 1993

Photo by Sammy Davis, Jr. - Burt Boyar 2013-02-05

Sammy Davis, Jr. will forever be remembered as one of America's finest entertainers. An all-around performer who could sing, dance, and act, Davis broke racial barriers in the entertainment world and became the only non-white member of the Rat Pack. Only now, however, is Davis's talent as a photographer finally being recognized. In this previously unpublished collection of black and white photography, readers will be fascinated by Davis's portrayals of A-list performers, iconic world leaders, and scenes from everyday life. Davis's subjects include dozens of classic celebrities—such as Frank Sinatra, Marilyn Monroe, Paul Newman, and James Dean—who are often photographed at their most casual and revealing moments. Accompanying the pictures is an assortment of remembrances by Burt Boyar, a longtime friend and traveling companion of Davis who collaborated with the entertainer on both of his autobiographies. Through a series of memorable anecdotes, Boyar reflects on Davis's many achievements as well as the private moments they shared as friends. Along with Davis's candid shots of ordinary

life—from a group of children laughing to a baseball game at the Washington Monument—these stories reveal a side of the performer far removed from his Rat Pack persona. The release of this book will also coincide with the release of Burt Boyar's upcoming documentary, *Sammy Speaks*, created from his extensive archive of taped conversations with the star.

[Sammy Davis Jr.](#) - Tracey Davis 2014-04-22

Based on conversations between Sammy Davis Jr. and his daughter, this intimate portrait of Mr. Show Business recounts his adventures through the Rat Pack era and the extraordinary obstacles he overcame to become a huge legend and one of the greatest pop culture icons of the 20th century.

[LIFE The Rat Pack](#) - The Editors of LIFE 2017-05-26

They weren't the original bad boys of stage and screen, but they were the most famous: Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., Joey Bishop, Peter Lawford and so many hangers-on and wannabes, male and female. Revisit the 1960s in this reissue of a classic LIFE special edition, the Rat Pack is in town. Among the highlights: A new introduction, commemorating what would have been Dean Martin's 100th birthday. Inside the friendship between Sinatra and John F. Kennedy Jr. The birth of Vegas and how Sin City became the sensation it is today. Rare and intimate photos from the great LIFE magazine photographer John Dominis. *The Devil May Dance* - Jake Tapper 2021-05-11 Charlie and Margaret discover the dark side of Hollywood in Jake Tapper's follow-up to New York Times bestseller *The Hellfire Club*—an "excellent" cocktail of corruption and ambition (Publishers Weekly). Charlie and Margaret Marder, political stars in 1960s Washington DC, know all too well how the tangled web of power in the nation's capital can operate. But while they long to settle into the comforts of home, Attorney General Robert Kennedy has other plans. He needs them to look into a potential threat not only to the presidency, but to the security of the United States itself. Charlie and Margaret quickly find themselves on a flight to sunny Los Angeles, where they'll face off against a dazzling world of stars and studios. At the center of their investigation is Frank Sinatra, a

close friend of President John F. Kennedy and a rumored mob crony, whom Charlie and Margaret must befriend to get the inside scoop. But in a town built on illusions, where friends and foes all look alike, nothing is easy, and drinks by the pool at the Sands and late-night adventures with the Rat Pack soon lead to a body in the trunk of their car. Before they know it, Charlie and Margaret are being pursued by sinister forces from Hollywood's stages to the newly founded Church of Scientology, facing off against the darkest and most secret side of Hollywood's power. As the Academy Awards loom, and someone near and dear to Margaret goes missing, Charlie and Margaret find the clock is not only ticking but running out. Someone out there knows what they've uncovered and can't let them leave alive. Corruption and ambition form a deadly mix in this fast-paced sequel to *The Hellfire Club*.

Sammy Davis Jr. - Tracey Davis 2014-04-22
Nicknamed Mr. Show Business, Sammy Davis Jr. was a consummate performer who sang, danced, and acted on film, television, radio, and the stage for over six decades. In this uniquely intimate volume, the entertainment legend's story comes to life through rare family photos and a compelling narrative based on conversations between Sammy Davis Jr. and his daughter, Tracey Davis. The story of a future superstar unfolds beginning with his bittersweet childhood days, raised primarily by his grandmother in Harlem. On the stage by age three, he first became a star in vaudeville with the Will Mastin Trio. Davis was already an up-and-coming performer by the time he was recruited into the Army during World War II. As Tracey Davis candidly relates, it was there that her father first learned to use his talent—singing and dancing—as a weapon against racial bigotry. Davis's career took off in the 1940s through his sheer determination, talent, and the support of friends like Frank Sinatra. With tenderness and humor Tracey describes her father's friendship with Sinatra, and how he stood by him when Davis married Tracey's Swedish actress mother. In a time when interracial marriages were forbidden by law in thirty-one states, both bride and groom endured an onslaught of negative press and even death threats. Complete with rare personal and professional photos, Sammy

Davis Jr. recounts Davis's adventures through the Rat Pack era, and the extraordinary obstacles he overcame to become a 5'6", 120-pound legend who across six decades packed in more than forty albums, seven Broadway shows, twenty-three films, and countless nightclub and concert performances. What emerges from the pages of this loving, but utterly frankly written book, is a uniquely personal perspective on one of the greatest pop culture icons of the twentieth century.

Eartha & Kitt - Kitt Shapiro 2021-05-04
A luminous and inspiring portrait of a Black pioneer and artistic force—Eartha Kitt—and one of the most moving mother/daughter stories in Hollywood history. In this unique combination of memoir and cultural history, we come to know one of the greatest stars the world has ever seen—Eartha Kitt—as revealed by the person who knew her best: her daughter. Eartha, who was a mix of Black, Cherokee, and white, is viewed by the world as Black. Kitt, her biological daughter, is blonde and light skinned. This is the story of a young girl being raised by her mother, who happened to be one of the most famous celebrities in the world. For three decades, they traveled the world together as mother and daughter. Even after Kitt got married and started a family of her own, she and Eartha were never far from each other's sides Eartha had a very difficult childhood growing up in extreme poverty in South Carolina. She described herself as being “just a poor cotton picker from the South.” She did not have her own familial ties to lean on after being abandoned by her own mother as a toddler and having never known who her father was. She and Kitt were each other's whole world. Eartha's legacy is still felt today. Not only do we still listen to “Santa Baby” every Christmas, but many of today's most influential artists consistently mention Eartha, paying tribute to her groundbreaking stances on social issues such as racial equality and women's and LGBTQ rights. And she is still widely remembered for her definitive portrayal of Catwoman in the classic Batman television series, voicing the character Yzma in Disney's *The Emperor's New Groove*, and her many other movie and Broadway roles. In these pages, Kitt brings her mother to life so vividly, you will feel as if you'd met her. You'll embrace her love of

nature, exercise, simple food, and independence, along with her lessons on the importance of treating people kindly and always being true to yourself. Filled with love, life lessons, and poignant laughter, Eartha & Kitt captures the passion and energy of two remarkable women. *Rat Pack Confidential* - Shawn Levy 1999-09-17 For the first time, the full story of what happened when Frank brought his best pals to party in a land called Vegas January 1960. Las Vegas is at its smooth, cool peak. The Strip is a jet-age theme park, and the greatest singer in the history of American popular music summons a group of friends there to make a movie. One is an insouciant singer of Italian songs, ex-partner to the most popular film comedian of the day. One is a short, black, Jewish, one-eyed, singing, dancing wonder. One is an upper-crust British pretty boy turned degenerate B-movie star actor, brother-in-law to an ascendant politician. And one is a stiff-shouldered comic with the quintessential Borscht Belt emcee's knack for needling one-liners. The architectonically sleek marquee of the Sands Hotel announces their presence simply by listing their names: FRANK SINATRA. DEAN MARTIN. SAMMY DAVIS, JR. PETER LAWFORD. JOEY BISHOP. Around them an entire cast gathers: actors, comics, singers, songwriters, gangsters, politicians, and women, as well as thousands of starstruck everyday folks who fork over pocketfuls of money for the privilege of basking in their presence. They call themselves The Clan. But to an awed world, they are known as The Rat Pack. They had it all. Fame. Gorgeous women. A fabulose playground of a city and all the money in the world. The backing of fearsome crime lords and the blessing of the President of the United States. But the dark side—over the thin line between pleasure and debauchery, between swinging self-confidence and brutal arrogance—took its toll. In four years, their great ride was over, and showbiz was never the same. Acclaimed Jerry Lewis biographer Shawn Levy has written a dazzling portrait of a time when neon brightness cast sordid shadows. It was Frank's World, and we just lived in it.

Yes I Can - Sammy Davis Jr 2012-08-03
YES I CAN is the self-portrait of one of the extraordinary men of our time, who became a figure of controversy because he dared to live

his life not as a Negro but as a man. "I've got to be a star like another man has to breathe," write Sammy Davis. "I've got to get so big, so powerful, so famous that the day will come when they'll look at me and see a man, and then somewhere along the way they'll notice he's a Negro." YES I CAN is: ..".one of the most candid, engrossing and important American autobiographies of our time," wrote the N.Y. Herald Tribune Book Editor and Critic Maurice Dolbier. "One of the really great autobiographies ever written." Brother Judd . Audible.com
[From Cuba with Love: My Father's American Success Story](#) - Chris Umpierre 2017-11-15
Discover how a Cuban native left his homeland after Fidel Castro's communist takeover, trained for a massive planned U.S. military attack on Castro and overcame language and cultural barriers to excel in America. "From Cuba with Love" details Pablo Umpierre's idyllic childhood before communism. Castro nationalized all businesses, including the robust retail business Umpierre's father had worked a lifetime to create. Pablo Umpierre chose to leave his parents, brother and extended family for a new life. When he arrived in Miami on June 16, 1962, Pablo Umpierre had just 10 cents to his name. Pablo Umpierre ended up joining a top-secret Cuban brigade commissioned by the U.S. Army. Learn about the underreported volunteer Cuban battalion, where the group trained, how the group was honorably discharged, how Umpierre settled in Los Angeles, Calif., met singer Dean Martin, found the love of his life and started a family.

Why Me? - Sammy Davis, Jr. 2013-03-04
Why Me? is the self-portrait of one of the extraordinary men of our time, who became a figure of controversy because he dared to live his life not as a Negro but as a man. "I've got to be a star like another man has to breathe," write Sammy Davis. "I've got to get so big, so powerful, so famous that the day will come when they'll look at me and see a man, and then somewhere along the way they'll notice he's a Negro."

[My Song](#) - Harry Belafonte 2011-10-11
Harry Belafonte is not just one of the greatest entertainers of our time; he has led one of the great American lives of the last century. Now, this extraordinary icon tells us the story of that

life, giving us its full breadth, letting us share in the struggles, the tragedies, and, most of all, the inspiring triumphs. Belafonte grew up, poverty-ridden, in Harlem and Jamaica. His mother was a complex woman—caring but withdrawn, eternally angry and rarely satisfied. His father was distant and physically abusive. It was not an easy life, but it instilled in young Harry the hard-nosed toughness of the city and the resilient spirit of the Caribbean lifestyle. It also gave him the drive to make good and channel his anger into actions that were positive and life-affirming. His journey led to the U.S. Navy during World War II, where he encountered an onslaught of racism but also fell in love with the woman he eventually married. After the war he moved back to Harlem, where he drifted between odd jobs until he saw his first stage play—and found the life he wanted to lead. Theater opened up a whole new world, one that was artistic and political and made him realize that not only did he have a need to express himself, he had a lot to express. He began as an actor—and has always thought of himself as such—but was quickly spotted in a musical, began a tentative nightclub career, and soon was on a meteoric rise to become one of the world's most popular singers. Belafonte was never content to simply be an entertainer, however. Even at enormous personal cost, he could not shy away from activism. At first it was a question of personal dignity: breaking down racial barriers that had never been broken before, achieving an enduring popularity with both white and black audiences. Then his activism broadened to a lifelong, passionate involvement at the heart of the civil rights movement and countless other political and social causes. The sections on the rise of the civil rights movement are perhaps the most moving in the book: his close friendship with Martin Luther King, Jr.; his role as a conduit between Dr. King and the Kennedys; his up-close involvement with the demonstrations and awareness of the hatred and potential violence around him; his devastation at Dr. King's death and his continuing fight for what he believes is right. But *My Song* is far more than the history of a movement. It is a very personal look at the people in that movement and the world in which Belafonte has long moved. He has befriended many beloved and important

figures in both entertainment and politics—Paul Robeson, Eleanor Roosevelt, Sidney Poitier, John F. Kennedy, Marlon Brando, Robert Kennedy, Nelson Mandela, Fidel Castro, Tony Bennett, Bill Clinton—and writes about them with the same exceptional candor with which he reveals himself on every page. This is a book that pulls no punches, and turns both a loving and critical eye on our country's cultural past. As both an artist and an activist, Belafonte has touched countless lives. With *My Song*, he has found yet another way to entertain and inspire us. It is an electrifying memoir from a remarkable man.

Hollywood in a Suitcase - Sammy Davis (Jr.)
1981

A candid, anecdotal account of Davis's further adventures in Hollywood picks up where *Yes I Can* left off, recalling wild Vegas nights with the "rat pack," philosophical discussions with Bogart, and love advice from Porfirio Rubirosa
[Public Confessions](#) - Rebecca L. Davis
2021-09-15

Personal reinvention is a core part of the human condition. Yet in the mid-twentieth century, certain private religious choices became lightning rods for public outrage and debate. *Public Confessions* reveals the controversial religious conversions that shaped modern America. Rebecca L. Davis explains why the new faiths of notable figures including Clare Boothe Luce, Whittaker Chambers, Sammy Davis Jr., Marilyn Monroe, Muhammad Ali, Chuck Colson, and others riveted the American public. Unconventional religious choices charted new ways of declaring an "authentic" identity amid escalating Cold War fears of brainwashing and coercion. Facing pressure to celebrate a specific vision of Americanism, these converts variously attracted and repelled members of the American public. Whether the act of changing religions was viewed as selfish, reckless, or even unpatriotic, it provoked controversies that ultimately transformed American politics. *Public Confessions* takes intimate history to its widest relevance, and in so doing, makes you see yourself in both the private and public stories it tells.

Sinatra - James Kaplan 2016-10-25

One of the Best Books of the Year
The Washington Post • Los Angeles Times •
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
The story of Frank

Sinatra's second act, Sinatra finds the Chairman on top of the world, riding high after an Oscar victory—and firmly reestablished as the top recording artist of his day. Following Sinatra from the mid-1950s to his death in 1998, Kaplan uncovers the man behind the myth, revealing by turns the peerless singer, the (sometimes) powerful actor, the business mogul, the tireless lover, and—of course—the close associate of the powerful and infamous. It was in these decades that the enduring legacy of Frank Sinatra was forged, and Kaplan vividly captures "Ol' Blue Eyes" in his later years. The sequel to the New York Times best-selling Frank, here is the concluding volume of the definitive biography of "The Entertainer of the Century."

Yes I Can - Sammy Davis (Jr.) 1965

Mobituaries - Mo Rocca 2021-11-02

From popular TV correspondent and writer Rocca comes a charmingly irreverent and rigorously researched book that celebrates the dead people who made life worth living.

The Greatness of Dads - Kirsten Matthew 2017-05-30

For every dad, grandfather, father-to-be, stepdad, or father figure, this book is the ultimate expression of love. Featuring compelling quotes, literary excerpts, and pop culture references as well as inspiring photographs of fathers (some are famous and some are heroes only to their

own families), *The Greatness of Dads* celebrates the unique bond between dads and their children in an unforgettable book that showcases the universal threads of fatherhood: love, discipline, responsibility, fun, embarrassment, sadness, and joy. The compelling prose, heartwarming images of fathers and their children, and variety of dads included make this handsome volume the ideal gift for Father's Day, birthdays, holidays, or just to say "I love you."

The Negro Motorist Green Book - Victor H. Green

The idea of "The Green Book" is to give the Motorist and Tourist a Guide not only of the Hotels and Tourist Homes in all of the large cities, but other classifications that will be found useful wherever he may be. Also facts and information that the Negro Motorist can use and depend upon. There are thousands of places that the public doesn't know about and aren't listed. Perhaps you know of some? If so send in their names and addresses and the kind of business, so that we might pass it along to the rest of your fellow Motorists. You will find it handy on your travels, whether at home or in some other state, and is up to date. Each year we are compiling new lists as some of these places move, or go out of business and new business places are started giving added employment to members of our race.