

[PDF] Sinatra: The Life

Anthony Summers, Robbyn Swan - pdf download free book

Books Details:

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Description:

From Publishers Weekly The second collaboration for the husband-and-wife team (after their Nixon bio, *The Arrogance of Power*) is hardly the first book about Frank Sinatra, and despite their claim to be the only objective biographers to address the crooner's final years, the book's later chapters feel rushed compared with the lengthy passages covering Sinatra's well-trod glory days. Furthermore, since Sinatra's musical genius and acting skills have been thoroughly analyzed by previous writers, Summers and Swan put in minimal effort there. Where their work does stand out is in firming up the evidence of organized crime's "continuing interest" in Sinatra, from affirming that the famous scene in *The Godfather* only slightly exaggerates how he got his breakthrough role in *From Here to Eternity* to exploring his possible role as a go-between for the mob and John F. Kennedy. The pair also break new ground in depicting what they describe as Sinatra's alcoholism, pointing out that he frequently drank all night long, and his abusive treatment of women, for which they cite cases. Yet even when the authors say Sinatra raped a woman or fathered another woman's child out of wedlock—and they make good cases for both—their delivery is a lot closer to objective

biography than tabloid sensationalism. A&E's airing of a linked documentary, timed to coincide with the book's publication, as well as a first serial in *Vanity Fair*, will create significant interest in this latest Sinatra saga. 32 pages of photos. (May 17)

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From Veteran show-biz and political biographer (of Richard Nixon, J. Edgar Hoover, and Marilyn Monroe, among others) Summers teams up with his sometime collaborator Swan, shining an illuminating spotlight on Old Blue Eyes in this irresistible chronicle of the late, great crooner. Emphasizing the extreme manifestations that defined Sinatra's essential character--his ambition, his volatility, and his fervor--the authors paint a portrait of an astonishingly gifted singer who beat the odds by surviving and thriving over the course of several generations and a number of profound shifts in musical tastes and audience expectations. Aside from his natural abilities, Sinatra the man defied easy classification. Undeniably promiscuous, violent, and self-serving, he could also be tremendously compassionate, loyal, and generous. Beset by insecurities and inner demons and worried by the apparent death of his career in the late 1940s, he made several nods toward suicide but bounced back both emotionally and professionally. His host of love affairs, irrefutable Mob ties, singing and acting careers, political forays, and slow decline are all recorded in fascinating detail. This well-researched version--the authors have included more than 100 pages of notes--of Sinatra's life packs a powerful punch but is more balanced in tone and approach than Kitty Kelley's juicy, unauthorized expose. *Margaret Flanagan*

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