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# Hollywood Divas: The Good, The Bad, And The Fabulous (Encore Film Book Classics 8)



James Robert Parish



## Synopsis

Part of the Encore Film Book Classics series, this is a reprint of the original text to *Hollywood Divas* by James Robert Parish. Which slapstick redhead reduced Joan Crawford to tears? Which tragic songbird secretly carried vodka to her ambulance as she was carted off on a stretcher? Can you name the blonde prima donna who went on a shopping spree so wild that she bought a whole town? These are but a few of the high jinks of Hollywood's favorite "It Girls," whose overdrive to personal and career excess earned them the rank of diva. Each of the book's 70 chapters reveals in rich detail the subject's often torturous road to fame and how it shaped her oversized personality, needs, and demands. This volume delivers an eye-popping backstage peek into the lusty private lives and cutthroat careers of Hollywood's most memorable bad girls over the decades. The iconoclastic *Hollywood Divas* presented are: Jean Arthur, Lucille Ball, Tallulah Bankhead, Theda Bara, Drew Barrymore, Ethel Barrymore, Kim Basinger, Clara Bow, Louise Brooks, Brett Butler, Mariah Carey, Cher, Joan Collins, Joan Crawford, Dorothy Dandridge, Bette Davis, Dolores Del Rio, Marlene Dietrich, Shannen Doherty, Patty Duke, Faye Dunaway, Jane Fonda, Kay Francis, Zsa Zsa Gabor, Greta Garbo, Ava Gardner, Judy Garland, Greer Garson, Paulette Goddard, Melanie Griffith, Jean Harlow, Susan Hayward, Rita Hayworth, Sonja Henie, Katharine Hepburn, Miriam Hopkins, Whitney Houston, Betty Hutton, Janet Jackson, Grace Kelly, Veronica Lake, Hedy Lamarr, Jennifer Lopez, Jeanette MacDonald, Madonna, Jayne Mansfield, Liza Minnelli, Marilyn Monroe, Maria Montez, Demi Moore, Mae Murray, Vera Ralston, Joan Rivers, Julia Roberts, Roseanne, Diane Ross, Meg Ryan, Norma Shearer, Cybill Shepherd, Britney Spears, Sharon Stone, Barbra Streisand, Gloria Swanson, Elizabeth Taylor, Lana Turner, Lupe Velez, Mae West, Shelley Winters, Natalie Wood, and Loretta Young. A must-have volume for every pop-culture fanatic, *Hollywood Divas* promises to tantalize you with juicy tidbits and saucy scandals that earned each of these devilish darlings the title of diva. JAMES ROBERT PARISH, a former entertainment reporter, publicist, and book series editor, is the author of many published major biographies and reference books on the entertainment industry including *Whitney Houston: We Will Always Love You*; *The Hollywood Book of Extravagance*; *It's Good to Be the King: The Seriously Funny Life of Mel Brooks*; *The Hollywood Book of Breakups*; *Fiascos: Hollywood's Iconic Flops*; *The Hollywood Book of Love*; *Jet Li*; *The Encyclopedia of Ethnic Groups in Hollywood*; *The Hollywood Book of Death*; *Gus Van Sant*; *Whoopi Goldberg*; *Rosie O'Donnell's Story*; *The Unofficial "Murder, She Wrote" Casebook*; *Today's Black Hollywood*; *Let's Talk! America's Favorite TV Talk Show Hosts*; *Prison Pictures from Hollywood*; *Prostitution*

in Hollywood Films; The Great Cop Pictures; Ghosts and Angels in Hollywood Films; Pirates and Seafaring Swashbucklers on the Hollywood Screen; Gays and Lesbians in Mainstream Cinema; Hollywood's Great Love Teams; and The Fox Girls. Mr. Parish is a frequent on-camera interviewee on cable and network TV for documentaries on the performing arts. The author resides in Studio City, California.

## Book Information

File Size: 1708 KB

Print Length: 442 pages

Publisher: Encore Film Books (September 20, 2015)

Publication Date: September 20, 2015

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B015NKSHTM

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #66,381 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #8

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## Customer Reviews

Had to give this book at least 1 star to review it but I would not recommend it unless you like reading People Magazine type biographies, complete with "boxed highlights" in it. All were short, most were contemporary figures and you would get more by reading the gossip mags at the supermarkets (same type of facts and rumors). Of the old Hollywood stars, there were a lot of inconsistencies, half-truths and questionable facts. I have read over 80 full length and extensive bios of old Hollywood stars (pre-1960) by different authors, sometimes several on the same star. In most every one of these articles - I call them articles because they certainly aren't biographies - Mr. Parrish claims that the men were "rumored to be homosexual or bisexual" and the women all had

female lovers, as if it were a stated fact and something he could prove beyond the shadow of a doubt. Innuendos and speculations are not part of a good biography. But then dead stars cannot sue for slander or defamation of character. Don't waste your time or money by paying for this book.

In my opinion, too much of the book was devoted to stars of silent films and very early talkies. They held no interest for me.

Boring, don't waste your \$.

I was disappointed that there were no pictures to go with the stories. The stories were too brief and I wasn't interested in reading about spoiled singers I wanted to read about classic Hollywood starlets

Not as "Juicy" as I thought it would be. Actually skimmed through most of the older actresses.

Good to read about The Stars

I really enjoyed reading this book If you like reading hollywood magazines this book is for you. The difference is there are no untruths in the book.

Well we all know that the ladies of the silver screen are more than a little impressed with themselves but as one of them said. " nobody ever got famous from being too nice". A great insight into the more sordid lives of some of the best talents around. The seller Revised to me in record time & in excellent condition.

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