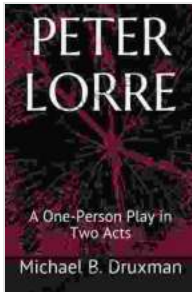


One Person Play in Two Acts: The Hollywood Legends



PETER LORRE: A One-Person Play in Two Acts (The Hollywood Legends Book 36) by Michael B. Druxman

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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Act I: Marilyn Monroe

Marilyn Monroe was born Norma Jeane Mortenson on June 1, 1926, in Los Angeles, California. Her mother, Gladys Pearl Baker, was a film cutter, and her father, Charles Stanley Gifford, was a traveling salesman. Monroe's parents divorced when she was three years old, and she was raised by her mother and a series of foster homes. As a child, Monroe was often neglected and abused, and she developed a deep sense of insecurity and self-doubt.

In 1944, at the age of 18, Monroe married James Dougherty, a merchant marine. The marriage was unhappy, and Monroe divorced Dougherty in

1946. After her divorce, Monroe began working as a model, and she soon caught the attention of Hollywood talent scouts. In 1947, she signed a contract with 20th Century Fox, and she began her acting career.

Monroe quickly became one of the most popular actresses in Hollywood. She starred in a number of hit films, including *The Asphalt Jungle* (1950), *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* (1953), *How to Marry a Millionaire* (1953), and *Some Like It Hot* (1959). Monroe's iconic status was cemented in 1953, when she posed for a nude calendar shoot for *Life* magazine. The calendar was a huge success, and it helped to make Monroe one of the most recognizable faces in the world.

Despite her success, Monroe struggled with personal demons throughout her life. She was addicted to drugs and alcohol, and she suffered from depression and anxiety. Monroe's marriage to baseball star Joe DiMaggio ended in divorce in 1954, and her marriage to playwright Arthur Miller ended in divorce in 1961. Monroe died of a drug overdose on August 5, 1962, at the age of 36. Despite her tragic end, Monroe remains one of the most iconic figures in Hollywood history.

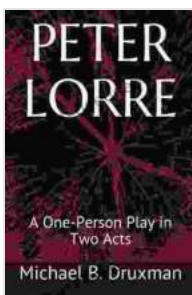
Act II: James Dean

James Dean was born James Byron Dean on February 8, 1931, in Marion, Indiana. His father, Winton Dean, was a dental technician, and his mother, Mildred Wilson, was a homemaker. Dean's parents divorced when he was nine years old, and he was raised by his mother and his aunt and uncle. As a child, Dean was often rebellious and difficult to control. He was expelled from school several times, and he ran away from home on more than one occasion.

In 1949, at the age of 18, Dean enrolled at the University of California, Los Angeles, to study drama. He dropped out of college after one year, and he moved to New York City to pursue his acting career. Dean studied at the Actors Studio under the legendary acting teacher Lee Strasberg. In 1951, Dean made his Broadway debut in the play *The Immoralist*. He followed this up with a role in the film *East of Eden* (1955), which earned him an Academy Award nomination for Best Actor.

Dean became a major star in 1955, when he starred in the film *Rebel Without a Cause*. The film captured the angst and frustration of teenage youth in the 1950s, and it made Dean an icon for a generation. Dean followed up *Rebel Without a Cause* with two more hit films, *Giant* (1956) and *East of Eden* (1956). Dean died in a car accident on September 30, 1955, at the age of 24. Despite his short career, Dean remains one of the most iconic figures in Hollywood history.

Marilyn Monroe and James Dean were two of the most iconic Hollywood legends of all time. They both had tragic lives, but their careers continue to inspire and fascinate audiences around the world. The one-person play in two acts, *The Hollywood Legends*, tells the stories of these two extraordinary stars, and it offers a glimpse into the lives and careers of two of the most recognizable faces in the world.



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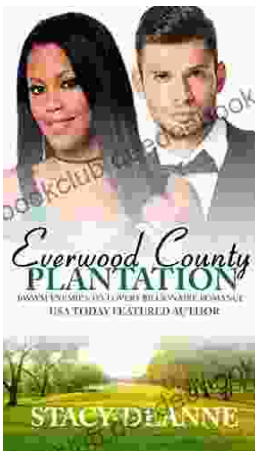
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