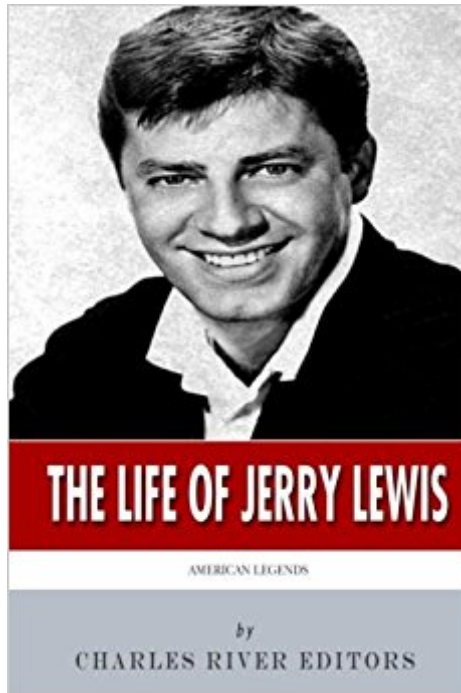




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American Legends: The Life Of Jerry Lewis



Synopsis

*Includes pictures. *Includes Lewis' quotes about his own life and career. *Includes a bibliography for further reading. "I've had great success being a total idiot." "Jerry Lewis A lot of ink has been spilled covering the lives of history's most influential figures, but how much of the forest is lost for the trees? In Charles River Editors' American Legends series, readers can get caught up to speed on the lives of America's most important men and women in the time it takes to finish a commute, while learning interesting facts long forgotten or never known. Jerry Lewis has been in show business for over 7 decades, a multi-talented entertainer known for comedy, acting, singing, and producing and directing films to match. In many ways, his versatility is unprecedented even today, an era in which stars routinely alternate between film and musical careers, and Lewis has enjoyed it, as he once happily noted, "I get paid for what most kids get punished for." He has been paid in several ways, including with too many lifetime awards to count, and he remains a household name today. At the same time, however, Lewis remains best known for his work with Dean Martin, and in that sense, he remains overshadowed by his more famous partner. There's no doubt part of this was due to the stark contrast between their images, as Martin was suave and traditionally masculine while Lewis was a bundle of frantic energy. Although the circumstances that initiated their partnership are unusual and purely coincidental, the natural contrasts between the two ensured a perfect and complementary comedic fit. Working as "Martin and Lewis", the team became the most popular nightclub act in America, commanding huge fees for their appearances all across the country. Perhaps the most ironic aspect of their success is that Dean Martin was not a comedian in any real sense of the word, and even during their act, he essentially served as the straight man to Jerry Lewis. The routine ensured that critics took more notice of Jerry Lewis, who intentionally came across as an awkward figure with a brand of bodily humor that was borrowed from a lineage of Yiddish humor predicated on physical slapstick. And just as Martin benefited from Lewis' comedic skills, Lewis also further developed a singing career thanks to the more famous Martin's crooning. American Legends: The Life of Jerry Lewis profiles the life and career of one of America's most famous entertainers. Along with pictures of important people, places, and events, you will learn about Jerry Lewis like never before, in no time at all.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Good read! Succinct yet highly informative. Would buy more "bio" books from this author!

thank you jerry for a look into your life !

I enjoyed getting to know Jerry Lewis through the pages in this book. I always wondered why he and Dean Martin split up. Lots of good information

A very well written book about my favorite actor and philanthropist. I really enjoyed reading it and would read more by these editors

This book seems to really get into each aspect of Lewis the performer and Lewis the man; both the good and the not-so-good!

I have read other books that are more interesting. This book just skims the surface of his life. Buy something better, more indepth.

A wonderful story of a truly great guy..

This book gives you some insights on Jerry and his career. It's helps you to know and understand the relationship between him and Dean and why it all came to a head. It also tells you of Jerry's life after Dean. It was refreshing to read and learn some interesting facts about my favourite idol whom I've watched and admired since I was knee high to a duck (meaning since I was a very young kid) and he's still my idol to this day. The only person who came somewhat close to being the next Jerry

Lewis was actor Jim Carey. Jerry has given all he could give and as long as his movies are being shown, I will keep watching over and over again. Yes, I'm a true blue Jerry Lewis fan at heart and to the core. I enjoyed this book.

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