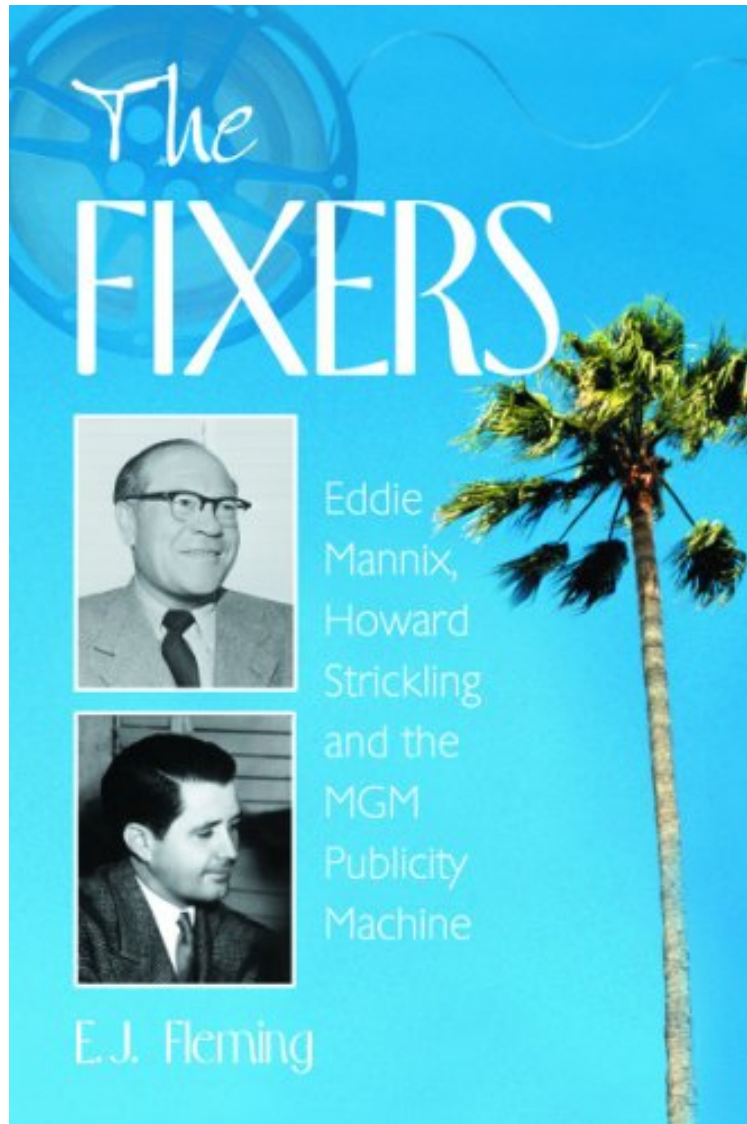


[FREE] The Fixers: Eddie Mannix, Howard Strickling and the MGM Publicity Machine

## The Fixers: Eddie Mannix, Howard Strickling and the MGM Publicity Machine

*E.J. Fleming*

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**E.J. Fleming : The Fixers: Eddie Mannix, Howard Strickling and the MGM Publicity Machine** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Fixers: Eddie Mannix, Howard Strickling and the MGM Publicity Machine:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I have always enjoyed reading about the antics of the people who were ...By Darryl W. Graham I have always enjoyed reading about the antics of the people who were part of the golden

era of motion pictures. You have to take the stories with a grain of salt as few, if any, of the subjects of the book are around to defend themselves. However, I believe the author did an excellent job in his research and that most of these tales are true; show business people are, indeed, different from most of us. I very much enjoyed the first portion of the book as it gave a completely new (to me) perspective on the history of motion pictures. It was insightful, very well written, and made me aware of what a spectacular innovation movies were when the public was first exposed to them. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Not all Glitz and Glamour By Sunny If a part of you has often wondered what it would be like to be around to witness all the glamour of Hollywood's "Golden Days" from the early '30s to the mid 50's, when the big studios like MGM took care of their stars, as Louis B. Mayer always said, like 'family' and they lived in fabulous homes, drove the most expensive cars, seemingly carefree...Right? This book takes you inside the Family where you learned of the high price some paid for their place in the Family and the Glamour and Glitz. You'll learn more than you ever knew before about the professional and private lives of Clark Gable, Greta Garbo, Jean Harlow, Joan Crawford, Judy Garland, Cary Grant, Spencer Tracy, Charlie Chaplin and many others. It's an amazing story and a page-turner that you're never quite certain of the ending. Many paid a high price for their place in "the family" though. This book 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Superficial Look at Mannix and Strickling By Director Robert I had high hopes for this book but found it disappointing for the amount of questionable and unsourced allegations. Just because a story has been told before in print doesn't make it true. I was looking for a source to support my own research and so I already knew some history around MGM in general and Mannix and Strickling in particular, so I spotted errors in *The Fixers* right away. As a result I have shied away from using this as a source. For an overview of MGM and its way of doing business, this is fine. Just don't expect every word inside the covers to be true.

Eddie Mannix and Howard Strickling are virtually unknown outside of Hollywood and little-remembered even there, but as General Manager and Head of Publicity for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios, they lorded over all the stars in Hollywood's golden age from the 1920s through the 1940s--including legends like Garbo, Dietrich, Gable and Garland. When MGM stars found themselves in trouble, it was Eddie and Howard who took care of them--solved their problems, hid their crimes, and kept their secrets. They were "the Fixers." At a time when image meant everything and the stars were worth millions to the studios that owned them, Mannix and Strickling were the most important men at MGM. Through a complex web of contacts in every arena, from reporters and doctors to corrupt police and district attorneys, they covered up some of the most notorious crimes and scandals in Hollywood history, keeping stars out of jail and, more importantly, their names out of the papers. They handled problems as diverse as the murder of Paul Bern (husband of MGM's biggest star, Jean Harlow), the studio-directed drug addictions of Judy Garland, the murder of Ted Healy (creator of *The Three Stooges*) at the hands of Wallace Beery, and arranging for an unmarried Loretta Young to adopt her own child--a child fathered by a married Clark Gable. Through exhaustive research and interviews with contemporaries, this is the never-before-told story of Eddie Mannix and Howard Strickling. The dual biography describes how a mob-related New Jersey laborer and the quiet son of a grocer became the most powerful men at the biggest studio in the world.

"Fascinating detail...a must-have book." --Little Shoppe of Horrors "Interesting." --Communication Booknotes Quarterly About the Author E.J. Fleming has been researching Hollywood for decades and has penned biographies of Carole Landis and Wallace Reid, among other books. He lives in the country in Connecticut.