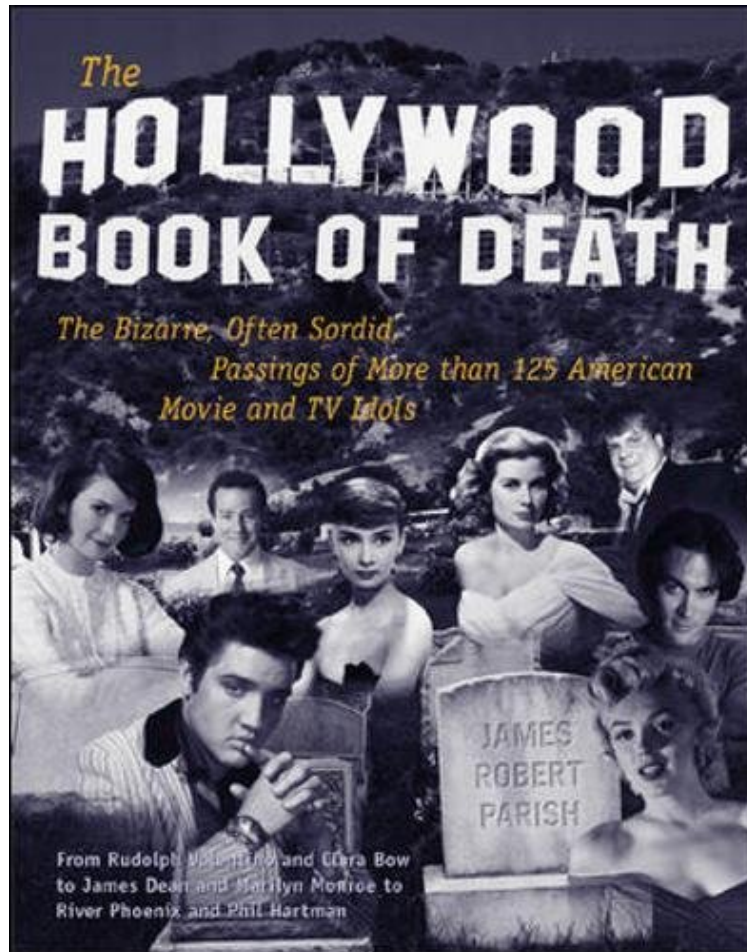


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The Hollywood Book of Death: The Bizarre, Often Sordid, Passings of More than 125 American Movie and TV Idols

James Robert Parish

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James Robert Parish : The Hollywood Book of Death: The Bizarre, Often Sordid, Passings of More than 125 American Movie and TV Idols before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Hollywood Book of Death: The Bizarre, Often Sordid, Passings of More than 125 American Movie and TV Idols:

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Interesting read. But...By Bob ToppingIt was an ok read, conveniently parsed out in bite-sized chunks that make it easy to read for ten minutes or two hours. Lots of interesting trivia.But... There needs to be some fact-checking as well as some proofreading of the book. Consistent in mistaking an uppercase I for the number one seemed popular. Also the author tended to inject a lot of personal opinions, as we see in the note for Clara Blandick (Auntie Em from The Wizard of Oz). Clara committed suicide after being wracked

with pain and a steadily declining health outlook as well as progressive blindness, prompting the author to write, "What a pathetic end for the sturdy, no-nonsense Auntie Em." I took exception to that statement and it caused me to read the rest of the book with a slightly less enthusiastic demeanor. I don't feel that this is the kind of book that is served by editorializing in this manner. I was pleased to see that the book contains a very comprehensive necrology of, at the very least, many hundreds - perhaps thousands -- of Hollywood notables. There is also a lengthy list of burials by site of Tinseltown's departed, a surely welcome resource for fans who plan vacations around cemeteries and death ephemera. To be sure, I would have given this at least one more star but for the distraction of unproofread copy and unnecessary editorializing. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Book of the dead. By Lisa Well, I'll admit it. I must be one doozy of a morbid person, because I enjoyed the heck out of this book! So much so, that the other 2 book's that I was reading were placed aside, just so I could finish this. I'm 53, and I've heard of, and watched about 90% of the people in this book, but I hadn't much of an idea how or when they had died. Boy, stars sure do get married a lot! One thing bothered me, and that was the section that Jon-Erik Hexum was filed under. Suicide. While he did kill himself with a gun loaded with blanks, he didn't know the repercussions of what a blank bullet can really do. I felt it should have been filed under accidents. Aside from a few snide remarks from the author, especially about Clara's death "Auntie Em," I would recommend this book. It was a fascinating read. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Hollywood Book of Death By Miss Elaine's Musings The Hollywood Book of Death The bizarre, often sordid passings of more than 125 American Movie TV Stars By: James Robert Parish For full disclosure. I am a "celebrity" buff. I take great pride in knowing about the stars of today and yesteryear. Mr. Parish's "The Hollywood Book of Death" (The bizarre, often sordid passings of more than 125 American Movie TV Stars) filled my head with many stars unknown to me as well as the stories of their deaths. Mr. Parish provides a detailed synopsis on each person's life and death. I was fascinated to learn of Florence Lawrence "The BIOGRAPH Girl" as well as the world's first movie star in the chapter on Obscurity. I was also fascinated with Wallace Reid, Ernie Kovacs and The Wizard of Oz's Auntie Em, Clara Blandick. In the Introduction, Mr. Parish points out that while the stars are on the top of their game, every tidbit about them is published. As they begin to fall off the radar, obscurity sets in, until their "final" day, when they are suddenly worthy of stories in newspapers, a retrospective on Entertainment Tonight and a few more days of being newsworthy. For many of them, perhaps it's their idea of Heaven. I liked the way Parish broke up the chapters: Accidental, Drugs Alcohol, obscurity, murder, suicide, natural causes, puzzling. This book spoke the facts and left the gossip out. Written with dignity. 5 STARS

Discover the tantalizing details of Hollywood's famous and infamous fatalities The death of a celebrity is often as fascinating as--and sometimes more fascinating than--a star's actual life. From the grisly end of Sharon Tate at the hands of the Manson family and the mysterious demise of Bob Crane to the peaceful passings of Lucille Ball and George Burns, The Hollywood Book of Death is a captivating and appealingly packaged volume of more than 125 television and movie stars' final curtain calls. Arranged by manner of death, these well-researched accounts include details of celebrities' colorful lives and unusual deaths, their funerals, and the intriguing aftermath. With more than 100 rare photographs and a special "necrology" index of more than 6,000 stars and directors, along with a section revealing where Hollywood personalities are resting in eternal sleep, this enthralling reference promises to be on every film and television buff's "Top 10" gift list.

About the Author James Robert Parish, a former entertainment reporter and publicist, is the author of more than 90 books. A well-known authority on show business, he appears frequently as an expert on AE's "Biography" and E! Television's "Mysteries and Scandals," as well as numerous other network and cable television documentaries.