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## **Biographies and Memoirs from the Golden Age of Hollywood**

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### **Home A Memoir of My Early Years By Julie Andrews**

Read by Jill Ferris

Reading time 13 hours, 24 minutes

British actress describes growing up a child star with her vaudevillian mother and stepfather. By book's end she has given a royal command performance, acted in Broadway's Camelot and My Fair Lady, is married with a child, and is heading to Hollywood in 1963 to film Mary Poppins. Bestseller. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Home a Memoir of My Early Years](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB066539

### **Lauren Bacall by Myself By Lauren Bacall**

Read by Yvonne Fair Tessler

Reading time 19 hours, 16 minutes

Here, in her own words is the life of the actress and her break in Hollywood stardom. She tells of her years as Mrs. Humphrey Bogart and Bogie's death from cancer; her failed marriage to Jason Robards; her children and herself. Some strong language.

[Download from BARD: Lauren Bacall by Myself](#)

Also available on cassette RC013275

**Barbara Stanwyck the Miracle Woman** By Dan Callahan

Read by Ray Hagen

Reading time 12 hours, 4 minutes

Biography of legendary actress Barbara Stanwyck (1907-1990) chronicles her rise from a chorus girl in the 1920s to a Hollywood star in the 1930s, 40s, and 50s. Discusses her work with prominent directors such as John Ford and Frank Capra and her later career in television. 2012.

[Download from BARD: Barbara Stanwyck the Miracle Woman](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB074543

**Please Don't Shoot My Dog: the Autobiography of Jackie Cooper** By Jackie Cooper

Read by Andy Chappell

Reading time 12 hours, 2 minutes

The former child actor offers candid account of his multifaceted career. He tells of his successes as an entertainer during World War II, as an actor on Broadway, and later as a TV director and producer. There are sketches of such figures as Bing Crosby, Wallace Beery, Judy Garland, and Harpo Marx. 1981.

[Download from BARD: Please Don't Shoot My Dog: the Autobiography...](#)

Also available on cassette RC017137

**Ava Gardner the Secret Conversations** By Peter Evans

Read by William Hope

Reading time 9 hours, 11 minutes

Legendary screen star's alcohol-fueled, late-night conversations with British journalist, published thirteen years after her death, provide candid details about Gardner's movies, career, marriages, and lovers and Hollywood highlife in the forties and fifties. Some strong language and some descriptions of sex. Bestseller. Commercial audiobook. 2013.

[Download from BARD: Ava Gardner the Secret Conversations](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB077054

**Clark Gable: A Biography** By Warren G. Harris

Read by Jack Fox

Reading time 17 hours

Life of "the king of Hollywood" Clark Gable (1901-1960) covering his family background, five marriages, numerous affairs, and children. Describes the actor's professional development--beginning in theater and vaudeville and continuing in the studio system as it existed in the early days of motion pictures. Some strong language. 2002.

[Download from BARD: Clark Gable: A Biography](#)

Also available on cassette RC054530

**Shirley Jones: a Memoir** By Shirley Jones

Read by Jill Ferris

Reading time 8 hours, 11 minutes

Actress known for her roles in Oklahoma! and The Music Man and the TV show The Partridge Family discusses her career and personal life, including her first marriage to adulterous Jack Cassidy and her second to comedian Marty Ingels. Some explicit descriptions of sex. Bestseller. 2013.

[Download from BARD: Shirley Jones: a Memoir](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB077345

**Ball of Fire: the Tumultuous Life and Comic Art of Lucille Ball** By Stefan Kanfer

Read by Mitzi Friedlander

Reading time 17hours

Details the life and times of comedienne and sit-com star Lucille Ball (1911-1989), beginning with her difficult childhood in upstate New York. Covers her unhappy marriage to Desi Arnaz and the evolution of her career until she became "the first woman with major economic power in postwar Hollywood." Bestseller. 2003.

[Download from BARD: Ball of Fire: The Tumultuous Life and Comic Art...](#)

Also available on cassette RC057093

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR15132](#)

Also available in braille BR015132

**Tough Without a Gun: the Life and Extraordinary Afterlife of Humphrey Bogart** By Stefan Kanfer

Read by Ray Hagen

Reading time 12 hours, 47 minutes

Explores the career of actor Bogart (1899-1957), who starred in hit movies such as High Sierra, The Maltese Falcon, Casablanca, The African Queen, and The Big Sleep. Discusses his personal life, including marriage to and kids with Lauren Bacall, and his enduring posthumous fame. Some strong language. 2011.

[Download from BARD : Tough Without a Gun: the Life and...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB072911

**Furious Love: Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton, and the Marriage of the Century** By Sam Kashner

Read by Kristin Allison

Reading time 15 hours, 42 minutes

Uses Richard Burton's love letters and interviews with Elizabeth Taylor to construct dual biographies of the Welsh Shakespearian actor and the Hollywood star. Traces their volatile relationship from the 1962 movie set of Cleopatra, where they began an adulterous affair, through their two marriages and divorces. Strong language. Bestseller. 2010.

[Download from BARD: Furious Love: Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB071424

**Paul Newman a Life** By Shawn Levy

Read by David Hartley-Margolin Reading time 18 hours, 18 minutes

Chronicles the sixty-year career of leading man Newman (1925-2008), whose work included fifty-eight movies, five Broadway plays, and ten Oscar nominations. Also discusses his race-car driving, camps for ill children, fifty-year second marriage to actress Joanne Woodward, children from both marriages, and battle with cancer. Some strong language. 2009.

[Download from BARD: Paul Newman a Life](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB069075

**Dean & Me (A Love Story)** By Jerry Lewis

Read by Stephen Hoye

Reading time 8 hours, 43 minutes

Comic Jerry Lewis reminisces about his professional and personal relationship with entertainment partner Dean Martin. Anecdotally describes their New York City meeting in 1945, overwhelming success in movies and nightclubs, break up ten years later, and prolific solo careers. Strong language and some descriptions of sex. Commercial audiobook. 2005.

[Download from BARD: Dean & Me \(a Love Story\)](#)

**Joan Crawford the Essential Biography** By Lawrence J. Quick

Read by Gary Tipton

Reading time 11 hours, 34 minutes

Lawrence Quirk, longtime confidante of Joan Crawford (1904-1977), coauthors a biography of the Academy Award-winning actress. Describes Crawford's dysfunctional upbringing, early career as a chorus girl, and evolution into a Hollywood film star. Disputes the claims made by Crawford's adopted daughter Christina in the memoir *Mommie Dearest* (DB0 12943). 2002.

[Download from BARD : Joan Crawford the Essential Biography](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB072058

**The Astaires Fred & Adele** By Kathleen Riley

Read by Ray Hagen

Reading time 10 hours, 54 minutes

Dual biography of Adele Astaire (1896-1981) and her younger brother Fred (1899-1987). Chronicles the siblings' childhood vaudeville act that evolved into Broadway and London dancing and singing performances. Discusses the 1932 marriage of Adele--considered the more talented of the two--to Lord Charles Cavendish and Fred's subsequent venture into film. 2012.

[Download from BARD: The Astaires Fred and Adele](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB075142

**Beautiful the Life of Hedy Lamarr** By Stephen Michael Shearer

Read by Barbara Rappaport

Reading time 25 hours, 9 minutes

Biography of Viennese-born actress Hedy Lamarr (1913-2000) chronicles her early career in Austria, her arrival in Hollywood under the auspices of MGM mogul Louie B. Mayer, and the scandals of her later years. Also assesses the impact of "frequency hopping" technology that Lamarr copatented during World War II. 2010.

[Download from BARD: Beautiful the Life of Hedy Lamarr](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB073731

**High Society the Life of Grace Kelly** By Donald Spoto

Read by Laura Giannarelli

Reading time 9 hours, 54 minutes

Biography of Academy Award-winning actress Grace Kelly (1929-1982) based on the author's interviews. Chronicles Kelly's wealthy Philadelphia upbringing, seven years in Hollywood, and subsequent 1956 marriage to Prince Ranier of Monaco. Includes discussion of Kelly's earlier romances. 2009.

[Download from BARD: High Society the Life of Grace Kelly](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB071334

**The Secret Life of Marilyn Monroe** By J. Randy Taraborrelli

Read by Ray Hagen

Reading time 21 hours, 50 minutes

Biographer Taraborrelli, author of Elizabeth (RC063718), uses records and interviews with family and friends to reconstruct the life of actress Marilyn Monroe (1926-1962). Examines Monroe's relationships with the women who raised her and later with the Kennedy clan. Discusses her mother Gladys Baker's mental illness and Monroe's suicide. 2009.

[Download from BARD: The Secret Life of Marilyn Monroe](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB069558

**The Golden Girls of MGM: Greta Garbo, Joan Crawford, Lana Turner, Judy Garland, Ava Gardner, Grace Kelly, and Others** By Jane Ellen Wayne

Read by Gary Tipton

Reading time 16 hours, 8 minutes

Collective biography of female film stars who worked for Louis B. Mayer's Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio. Concentrates on the love lives of the major actresses, and how they were held to a morals clause and needed Mayer's permission to wed. Some strong language. 2002.

[Download from BARD: The Golden Girls of MGM: Greta Garbo, Joan...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB056320

Also available on cassette RC056320