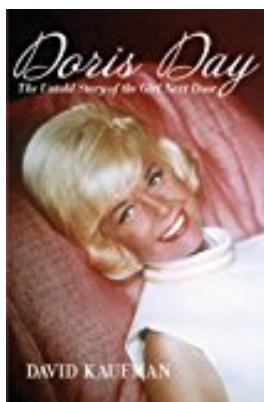


# [PDF] Doris Day: The Untold Story Of The Girl Next Door

David Kaufman - pdf download free book

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#### Books Details:

Title: Doris Day: The Untold Story o  
Author: David Kaufman  
Released: 2010-01-22  
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#### Description:

**From** After reading Doris Day's own memoir, *Doris Day: Her Own Story* (1975), Kaufman decided to research and write his own biography, seeking to tell the definitive tale of the box-office queen. Day enjoyed a brilliant career as queen of the all-American, wholesome, girl-next door types, but, as Kaufman reveals, her personal life was much more dramatic. The actress started life in Cincinnati, the product of an overly ambitious stage mother and a withdrawn, taciturn father who eventually left

the family. Conducting extensive interviews with many of Day's family members, friends, and peers in the acting world, Kaufman goes beyond the sanitized version in the star's autobiography. The result is fascinating, as Kaufman weaves anecdotes about famous players involved in Day's life, including Ronald Reagan, Frank Sinatra, Jimmy Stewart, Rock Hudson, and many others. Kaufman also explores Day's relationships with her four husbands, including Martin Melcher, whose business dealings left her nearly bankrupt, and her tireless activism on behalf of animal welfare. Readers, especially fans of the star, will thoroughly enjoy this meaty, well-written, entertaining look at the surprisingly tumultuous life of an American icon. --Kathleen Hughes

## Review

"Aside from her as-told-to autobiography with A.E. Hotchner in 1975, this is the first full-length biography devoted to Doris Mary Anne von Kappelhoff, who was rechristened Doris Day just before she began fronting for the Les Brown Band in 1940. Although Day was continually portrayed in magazines and onscreen as a contented wife and mother, Kaufman (*Ridiculous!: The Theatrical Life and Times of Charles Ludlam*)—who spent eight years interviewing more than 150 people to create this definitive biography—uncovers a tireless workaholic (from 1947 to 1968, she made 39 films and recorded more than 600 songs) with four failed marriages and a son (music producer Terry Melcher) who was "more of a brother or father-figure than a son to his mother." Kaufman also uncovers that she was born in 1922, making her two years older than reference works state. Mismanaged by her third husband (their 16-year marriage was "a business arrangement" by their fifth anniversary), her career (and legacy) was severely damaged by the last seven films she made over a three-year period. This is an eye-opening, fair-minded bio of a woman who brought a lot of joy to fans but has found very little herself." Publishers Weekly (starred review)

*"Although Doris Day is still the number one box office star of all time, history has not taken her accomplishments very seriously, and little is known about her life after retirement—until now. Kaufman's definitive biography is highly recommended.... Delivering on his subtitle's 'untold story' phrasing, (Kaufman) uncovers juicy details of Day's nervous breakdown; her relationships, which belied her girl-next-door image; her reclusive life after retirement; and her little-known fourth marriage. Kaufman had unparalleled access to Day's friends and family, especially her son, Terry Melcher, who also discusses his relationship with Candice Bergen. ..—(starred review) Library Journal, May 27, 2008*

"There's not been a truly great biography of Doris Day, but that may change come 2008. That's the pub date for David Kaufman's book on Day, a work he promises will give Day her due as an actress and reveal what went on behind the shiny blond façade." —Liz Smith, *New York Post*

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