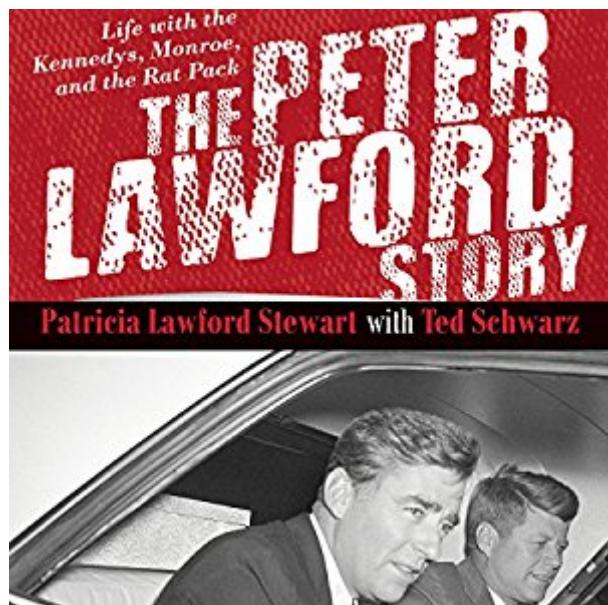


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The Peter Lawford Story: Life With The Kennedys, Monroe, And The Rat Pack



Synopsis

As the brother in law to JFK and a member of the Rat Pack, Peter Lawford was one of America's most acclaimed movie stars. Lawford led an extraordinary life. His story, as told by the woman who knew him best, is the always candid, sometimes shocking unveiling of the most intriguing show business personalities and significant political events of our time. Now fully updated and revised for 2014, this is a must-listen for anyone interested in Hollywood, film, and celebrity gossip.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 12 hoursÂ andÂ 12 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Audible Studios

Audible.com Release Date: March 17, 2015

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B00TKS8L8Q

Best Sellers Rank: #393 inÂ Books > Audible Audiobooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Entertainers & Celebrities #862 inÂ Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Leaders & Notable People > Rich & Famous

Customer Reviews

I know that Patricia Seaton was married to Peter Lawford, and I am confident that many of the things she covered in this biography are undeniable, but the gross variances between her accounts and established facts almost begs the reader to question this author's credibility. Prime example: Seaton Lawford states that Colonel Ernest Aylen (Lady May Lawford's husband at the time) learned that his wife was pregnant (by his commanding officer) and killed himself in 1923--in front of May's own eyes. Dramatic story, yet public records clearly indicate that Aylen filed for divorce seven months after his alleged suicide and died some 24 years later (on October 12, 1947) by his own hand. Obviously, both stories cannot be true... So, when Seaton Lawford writes that Bobby Kennedy did NOT have a sexual relationship with Marilyn Monroe, can I believe her? Or when she states that Peter Lawford showed more concern for a marijuana plant than for his son Christopher (who was strung-out on heroin and standing on a second-story ledge) can I believe her? Or when she states that First Lady-to-be Nancy Davis (before her marriage to Ronald Reagan) was known for certain

sexual acts, can I believe her? Just as troubling, Seaton Lawford interjects personal stories (like her rape by an OB-GYN or Ted Kennedy's apparent proposition for sex) and awkwardly tries to include them as some significant commentary on Peter Lawford's sensibilities or psyche. These disturbing experiences seem inappropriate in a discussion of his life, and they paint the author as someone who is too close to the subject to convey objective information. Overall, I was left with the unsatisfying feeling that someone had been mixing lies with facts.

First of all, some people confuse her with his first wife, Pat Kennedy. Second, I have read other books on the Rat Pack, the Kennedy family and Peter, and many of her accounts are not corroborated in any of these books. I didn't fact check everything in this book, but when I got to the part where she tells us that Cass Elliot died from choking on a ham sandwich, I found it impossible to believe anything else in this book. It takes very little effort to discover that Cass died of a heart attack. (Shame on the police and reporters who started the "ham sandwich" speculation.) There might be some truth in here, but I believe her intention was to cash in one last time on Peter's fame, not caring who got hurt in the process.

Relatively thin information on Peter Lawford is padded out by Ted Schwarz with generally known histories of people and events related to Lawford. So you learn a bit about HUAC and the blacklist, too much about Louis B. Mayer's background and romantic aspirations, far too much about Joseph Kennedy's ditto, and WAY too much about how President John Kennedy acted in bed. The things that you might want to learn about, such as Marilyn Monroe, and the Rat Pack are passed over lightly. What there is about Peter Lawford is sprinkled in between these diverse page-filers and the whole is seasoned with opinions often not backed up. Too bad that Schwarz didn't put some effort into researching Lawford, the supposed subject of this book. Instead he seemed to have churned it out for the sake of adding another publication to his massive list. This book makes me wonder if they are all as poor a job as this one.

Reading this book gives a look into the lives of Peter Lawford, his parents, His 4 wives. 4 children. His friends and his career. Fame and fortune can be cruel, especially when drugs and alcohol are used and abused, Recommended

At first this book was an interesting read about a "mentally ill" May Lawford and the way she faced life and ruined her son Peter for the entirety of His life. If this book is to be believed Peter was

nothing but a pimp for the Kennedys and himself and his last wife. If you want to be on the outside looking in to the life of a drug addict-abuser of women and a pimp this is the real deal. Sad to say I think this book should have not been written--Peter should have been left dead and not "sold" for a couple of bucks.

Though not a literary tome, it brings to life the sad life of Peter Lawford. Well documented with many interviews from Lawford's peers, it chronicles his ups and downs, his successes and failures. It recounts his relationships with those in high places and others who were not exactly A listers. What was best about the story was no hinting at situations, but recounting the facts as the author saw them. Good read for those who want to be in the know or readers who enjoy the history of Old Hollywood.

I always enjoy gossipy books. And this one was especially revealing. What a hard life he lead. You get what you reap. Norma

Sad really. Handsome talented and totally insecure Peter Lawford certainly had it all (prior to and certainly when in Hollywood). This is a well written bio of a man who should've picked his pals better but never did. As harsh as it seems poor Peter had vultures for buddies and beginning with the Kennedy's and including the rat pack these so-called friends used him and because of his desire for friends and need for closeness he allowed them to do at will... plus a whole lot more. A well written book and well worth your while. If you are into Hollywood and life/times of that ilk you'll really like this one. I am and found this to be a large page turner.

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