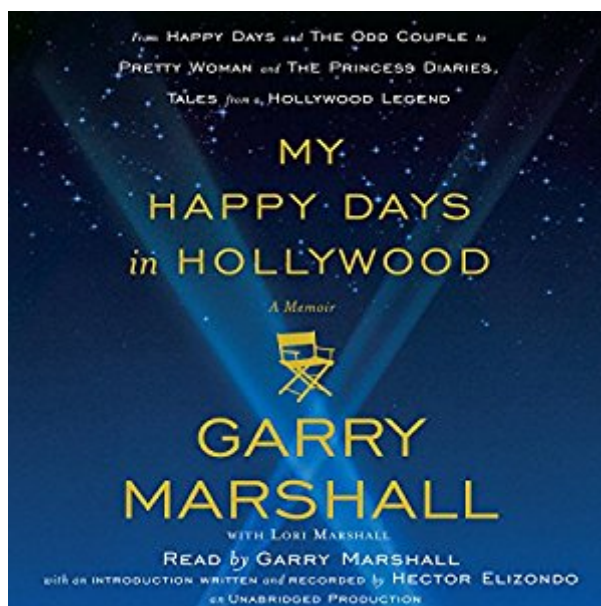


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My Happy Days In Hollywood: A Memoir



Synopsis

Once called a legend in his own time slot, Garry Marshall has been among the most successful writers, directors, and producers in America for more than five decades. As a comedy writer who began his career during television's last "golden age" writing for Dick Van Dyke, he went on to produce some of the most beloved sitcoms in television history, including *The Odd Couple*, *Happy Days*, *Laverne & Shirley*, and *Mork & Mindy*. Marshall's enormous influence as a director has been felt in film as well, in such classic motion pictures as *The Flamingo Kid*, *Beaches*, *Pretty Woman*, and *The Princess Diaries*. His work on the big screen has delighted audiences for the last three decades and has withstood the test of time. In *My Happy Days in Hollywood*, Marshall takes us on a journey from his stickball-playing days in the Bronx to his time at the helm of some of the most popular television series and movies of all time, sharing the joys and challenges of working with the Fonz and the young Julia Roberts, the "street performer" Robin Williams, and the young Anne Hathaway, among many others. This honest, vibrant, and often hilarious memoir reveals a man whose career has been defined by his drive to make people laugh and whose personal philosophy - despite his tremendous achievements - has always been that life is more important than show business.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Production #25 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Arts & Literature > Movie Directors #47

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Customer Reviews

This book is so entertaining in the audio version. Hollywood producer/director/writer Garry Marshall takes the reader through his multi-faceted and interesting life and voices his own narration. The

book has a wonderfully positive tone. He treats his good experiences and his bad, with a calm perspective and wonderful outlook. He respects his journey and it shows. From Happy Days to Pretty Woman, Lucille Ball to Ronnie Howard, his memories are golden.

Garry Marshall's autobiography is a delight from his stories of growing up as sickly child in the Bronx to his desires to be a writer, his college days at Northwestern, and his Army service. And you can't leave out his tap-dancing mom, his business travelling dad, and sisters Ronny and Penny. He began his professional writing career with Joey Bishop and worked with folks like Danny Thomas, Sheldon Leonard, and Lucille Ball. During this time he worked with both difficult and easy to work with people and I think, found that being easy to work with is the way to go. Based on advice from Sheldon Leonard, he worked his way into producing/directing The Odd Couple, Happy Days, Laverne and Shirley, and Mork and Mindy, among others. It was interesting to read how the mix of people got along and what shows were headaches and what shows made going to work fun. (I won't give it away). He then turned to directing films with hits and not-so-hits like The Flamingo Kid, Nothing in Common, Beaches, Pretty Women, Runaway Bride, The Princess Diaries, and so on. Again, his work ethic of trying to make things pleasant for everyone impressed me. It is a difficult business but if you can make it fun, it's a plus, for everyone involved. It's too bad not everyone has this up-beat attitude. And yes, Marshall did not always have good days. He encountered cancer and hip replacement surgery later in life but is still looking forward to each and every day. I could not believe folks saying they were irritated by his references to being a dad or that people grow up and away from Happy Days. I think if we had more people writing/directing/producing films of the family quality of Garry Marshall, we as a society would be in better shape today. I really enjoyed this book and some of the antidotes are hilarious.

At the end of reading this book I was wishing Garry Marshall was my dad! What a nice, thoughtful, funny, talented man. All round pleasant read about his life story, his career, family and colleagues.

I loved this man and I loved this book. Just like the author there is nary a negative word in the book. Mr. Marshall was a man who took his work very seriously... but not himself. A rarity in Hollywood. He is missed. The book is great reading.

A light autobiography about a comic genius. In reading this book, I was left with the feeling that

there was so much more that could have been written about a very fascinating man and his life. At times, it felt like Mr. Marshall was in a hurry and just trying to fill pages. That's too bad because I'm sure a little more detail would have made for a more interesting and enjoyable read. Maybe someday someone will do Mr. Marshall justice and write a deserved in depth biography about a man who was a major influence to multiple generations of TV viewers. Overall, this book is recommended as a light and fun read.

I really enjoyed this book! Garry Marshall just seems like one of the nicest guys! He had some great anecdotes about all of his various movies and TV shows and their stars! If it's Hollywood gossip or dirt that you are looking for, look somewhere else. Even things that could be viewed as negative are tempered with understanding. He seems to have had made many friends throughout his career and it is easy to see why. I was a fan of his work before I read his book and now I'm trying to check out some of the ones that I haven't seen. It's just so sad that he is gone, I would love it if he was still making movies!

Enjoyable light reading. It's a pretty happy book. The first half is more fun than the second half. He gives the inside scoop on the shows he directed and was surprisingly frank about working with his sister. Not unkind, but honest. If you watched his shows, you'll get a kick out of the book. Nothing deep here or gut wrenching, just light enjoyment. Good for relaxing before you sleep.

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