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I Must Say: My Life As A Humble Comedy Legend



Synopsis

In this engagingly witty, wise, and heartfelt memoir, Martin Short tells the tale of how a showbiz-obsessed kid from Canada transformed himself into one of Hollywood's favorite funnymen, known to his famous peers as the "comedian's comedian". Martin Short takes you on a rich, hilarious, and occasionally heartbreaking ride through his life and times, from his early years in Toronto as a member of the fabled improvisational troupe Second City to the all-American comic big time of Saturday Night Live and memorable roles in movies such as *Three Amigos!* and *Father of the Bride*. He reveals how he created his most indelible comedic characters, among them the manic man-child Ed Grimley, the slimy corporate lawyer Nathan Thurm, and the bizarrely insensitive interviewer Jiminy Glick. Throughout, Short freely shares the spotlight with friends, colleagues, and collaborators, including Steve Martin, Tom Hanks, Gilda Radner, Mel Brooks, Nora Ephron, Eugene Levy, Catherine O'Hara, Paul Shaffer, and David Letterman. But there is another side to Short's life that he has long kept private. He lost his eldest brother and both of his parents by the time he turned 20, and, more recently, he lost his wife of 30 years to cancer. In *I Must Say*, Short talks for the first time about the pain that these losses inflicted and the upbeat life philosophy that has kept him resilient and carried him through. In the grand tradition of comedy legends, Martin Short offers a show business memoir densely populated with boldface names and rife with re-tellable tales: a hugely entertaining yet surprisingly moving self-portrait that will keep you laughing - and crying - from the first page to the last. Special Lyrics for "It's The Most Wonderful Show of the Year" and "Picture-Perfect Christmas In The Palisades" by Martin Short, Marc Shaiman, and Scott Wittman; Special Lyrics for "Marty Throws a Party Just to Sing" by Marc Shaiman.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Get the audio book!! Oh, give me a break, what a wonderful performance by Marty, and that's no lie. Can I call him Marty? I suppose if we were best friends, I could call him Marty. Oh and I suppose that would ever happen! This book made me completely mental, I was so sad when the book finished and there was nothing more to listen to, it was similar to a pain that may linger, I must say. Seriously though, Martin Short reads this and he goes into character many times throughout the book, that is why the audio book would be better. I'm sure the printed version is funny, but the audio version must be funnier.

Martin Short is comprised of the funniest stuff in our solar system. The book reads marvelously, like he's sitting next to you telling all of these fantastic show biz anecdotes. My favorite part is the insider report from SCTV, just the best comedy show ever. He explains how his characters came to be - a laugh from this person, a voice from that one, a soupçon of Old Hollywood, et voilà ! Genius. Somehow I knew going in that he lost his wife, Nancy. This would be difficult for anyone, but the prospect of Short being sad is almost as sad as Ed Grimley being sad. But the way he weaves her quips and attitude throughout I Must Say shows the reader that she's still very present, that as long as he's here, she's here as well. Even in the sadness there's an undercurrent of joy that comes through. Short and his long-time friends - like his SCTV alums, or Paul Schaffer, Tom Hanks, and Steve Martin, - seem a happy, even at times goofball, troupe going through life, laughing and making each other laugh. A really nice read.

Mostly hilarious, but with touches of real life pathos, this is the biography of one of Hollywood's funniest men, and kid from the Great White North who made it big (I love his film in the Canada pavilion @ Epcot). Martin goes into some depth about his creation process for some of his characters such as Ed Grimley, Nathan Thurm, Jiminy Glick. And it's "not all about me" as he talks freely about his co-stars such as Steve Martin, Gilda Radner, Mel Brooks, Nora Ephron, Tom Hanks, Paul Shaffer, and David Letterman. However, this is more than just the usual show biz name dropping, he has humorous anecdotes to share. I thought these were some of the best parts. Martin's life isn't all beer and poutine however, he also tells about how he lost his parents at a early age and recently his wife. This may be one of the funniest memoirs I have read since Bob

Hope.

Poignant and hilarious, and I couldn't put it down. He's had a charmed life, with what seems like a wonderful family and great friends. It was fabulous to read about him. I'm a huge fan. As an 8 year old girl I was obsessed with SCTV and all things Martin Short, still am. Interesting to see how he dealt with the stress and pressure of a performer's life, how he worked to remain positive all the while. I can apply it to my life as well! So thanks for that Mr. Short. The parts about his wife and her illness were heartbreaking but so beautiful. It's up there with George Carlin and Steve Martin's autobiographies.

I have been a big fan of Martin Short for years. Loved this book, it was like sitting down with him and having a nice long chat. One of the funniest men out there. This is not to be missed if you are a fan

I read this in two sittings. Easy to understand how Martin Short has gained the reputation as one of the most beloved entertainers of our time. His memoir weaves his brilliant humor with his equally beautiful kindness, giving the reader a tutorial on how to be a creative and devoted friend, parent and spouse. I will be laughing about and recounting some of these stories for years.

Martin Short is one of my favorite comedian's of all time and I am 29. I loved him ever since I watched The Three Amigos since I was a little kid and now I have tried to see every movie he has ever made, along with his new TV show. I was able to see his one man stand up show last year in Jamestown, NY and it was the best show I have ever seen. He is so entertaining and makes me laugh like no other, and also is a very humble person. I am asking for this book or CD for Christmas!

this is a very funny and surprisingly touching book from one of the greats.

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