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Bette & Joan: The Divine Feud



Synopsis

They were two of the most talented beauties Hollywood ever produced: the elegant Joan Crawford, a former chorus girl who shot through the ranks at MGM, and the brash, tempestuous Bette Davis, a Broadway star notorious for refusing to bow to the studio bosses. Their work together in the hit film *What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?* sowed the seeds for a mutual hatred that would consume their lives. As each fading star tried to outshine the other, lives were upended and reputations were destroyed. Glamorous, merciless, and cruel, their feud became the stuff of legends. Based on interviews the author conducted with both actresses and more than a decade of research, *Bette & Joan* shows the hard-drinking, hard-fighting duo at their best and worst. The epic story of these dueling divas is hilarious, monstrous, and tragic. Bette Davis and Joan Crawford are portrayed by Susan Sarandon and Jessica Lange in the Ryan Murphy TV series *Feud*.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I loved reading this. Every moment with this book was delicious dishy fun. Joan Crawford and Bette

Davis were powerful, talented actresses, but also completely selfish, manipulative, and destructive. Like the best of enemies, they were too much alike. This book is full of hilarious anecdotes that you will enjoy sharing with your friends. The only thing missing from the book was the story of Joan's famous last words. Apparently, she said to her maid of 30+ years, "Don't you DARE ask God to help me!"

I've always been fascinated with the movie stars of old and this book gives great insight on how life as a movie star really was. If you're a fan of either Bette Davis or Joan Crawford, this book is a must read! There really is so much more to their history that most of us know and you get an inside look with quotes from the stars and the people who were closest to them. The book is very well researched and the author took his time, 10yrs, to make sure this story was told right. This is a newer print that has 2 additional chapters and 16 pages of photos added. There were a few editing mistakes, but nothing that will make you want to take out your red pen and begin scribbling corrective notes. If you found this review to be helpful please click yes to let me know :)

Purchased as a gift for my mom, and she read it in one day! Now, I'm looking forward to reading it!

Just finished the book. I learned so much about old Hollywood and found it so interesting. Reading about Joan Crawford was actually inspiring to me even though she was full of flaws. The woman had class, a strong work ethic, and the way she upstaged Bette Davis on Oscar night was brilliantly evil. Both women are to be admired for their strength, genius, and resilience in an era when women were not supposed to be so bold or powerful. I can't say that either were without their personality problems but it is amazing how much they had in common.

What a laugh out loud, entertaining book. Tons of insider scoop and detail. The war of comments between the two stars was hilarious and illuminating. I always wondered what the set of What Ever Happened To Baby Jane was like during shooting, given the two stars history of professional jealousy. Ultimately, the ladies were more alike than either of them would ever have admitted.

What a great fun read...all the fire of each actress is on full display. I've always wondered what the truth was behind the feud and now I know.

I liked it. They were two interesting and driven women. Their dislike for each other was a

combination of jealousy, bad tempers, and insecurity. They never really knew each other that well so it was a weird relationship. But, it was interesting to see how each one climbed the ladder of success in their own crazy way. Joan lived her life as the quintessential movie star with a control freak personality. Bette was a little more down to earth but had a strong personality and strove to be the best actress she could be. Neither of them would let anyone stop them doing what they wanted. It was an interesting look into the old Hollywood days.

Always wondered about this "feud". Goes over life stories for both women and their film careers and films together. Really goes into depth on their feeling about each other; quite entertaining and somewhat sad at the end of their stories. Their quotes are priceless. And, of course, Bette always spoke her mind. Would really recommend.

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