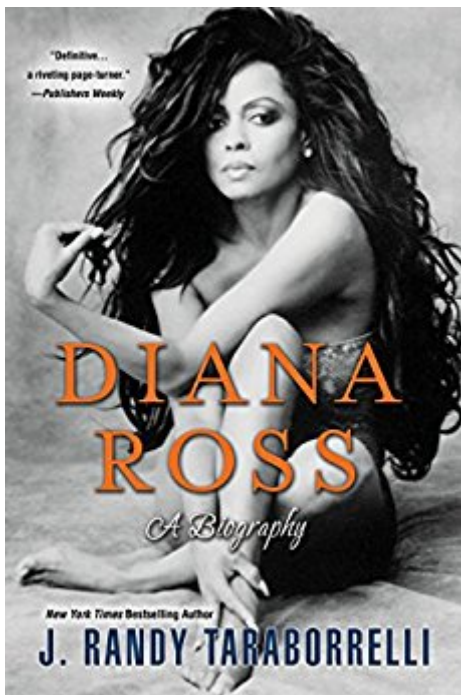


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Diana Ross: A Biography



Synopsis

There is only one Diana Ross. This is her story. Drawn from hundreds of interviews conducted over four decades, Diana Ross paints an unforgettable picture of an extraordinary and often controversial legend— a pop music goddess, acclaimed actress, loving mother, Civil Rights trailblazer, and consummate entertainer. Beautiful and fascinating, she is her own invention— the definition of a superstar. "A riveting celebrity dish-fest." --Washington Post First-time revelations abound, from the tough decisions she made while having Berry Gordy's baby and the real reasons behind the break-up of the Supremes to her triumphant recovery after a surprising DUI driving arrest and her gala appearance at the Kennedy Center Honors. "The dish on Motown's most famous songstress." --The Dallas Morning News Bestselling biographer J. Randy Taraborrelli boldly explores Diana Ross's troubled relationships and the heartbreak she feels compelled to hide, bringing into focus a complex personality too often obscured by the bright lights of fame. Rich with detail and personal anecdotes, and fully up-to-date, Diana Ross is both definitive and delightful--the ultimate biography that Miss Ross so richly deserves. "A complete, up-to-date history of the star." -- Associated Press 190,000 Words

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Customer Reviews

Much more complete than "call her Miss Ross". It shows a human being with high and low points. Good and Bad. Weak and strong. But a super talent and a survivor nonetheless. An enigma she is, but a great talent. Which of us can cast a stone, we are as human as she is. Thanks for showing me the other side of a lady I have admired from my teenage years. I have seen another side, but it has not colored my appreciation of her contribution to the music world. Some of her behaviour in the early years, especially when Florence cared for her when she had the breakdown in Boston, but yet when it was Florence's turn, she was so matter of fact and uncaring. Also I can identify with her dilemma with her unemotional father. I had the same. I knew he loved us all, but he was still distant. She has blessed the world with some beautiful music and lyrics that are not X-rated! We all identify with the experiences that called forth the songs - whether it was a death of a loved one, the lost of a lover, we have all been there, in one way or another. Her film says a lot about her courage and depth of feeling. How can one so beautifully portray a Schizophrenic when you have never been there personally, or a drug addict like Lady? I fell in love with her in Double Platinum! I've watched it three times so far, and I will again. We may fault her DUI episode, but have we walked in her shoes? We may criticize her insistence on being respected, she was a businesswoman, an employer, not simply an entertainer. She has blessed the planet with 5 beautiful children, they don't seem to have been scarred by her 'humanness'. Thanks Diana for your years of beauty and poise, and grace. Thank you for showing us how to pick ourselves up, brush ourselves off, and continue walking. You have aged gracefully. May the force behind the power be with you. You are still the BOSS!!!

Large sections of this book were lifted from other publications. Entire stories and entire passages were lifted from even some of Taraborrelli's previous books on Diana Ross. There is some new information included in this book but not enough to compensate for the almost word for word duplication of entire passages from other books. On the positive side, the new information that Taraborrelli does include is fascinating. Taraborrelli did include a lot of new information on Diana's later career -post 1986 that is...information that is not included in his previous book on Diana Ross. What I would have liked for Taraborrelli to include was more detail as to why DJ's have virtually snubbed Miss Ross as far as promoting her post 1986 recordings...some of which were quite good. Taraborrelli is a good writer. If he was going to include some of the same information that was included in other publications he should have incorporated a lot more new information to give it a new twist.

Diana Ross: A Biography by J. Randy Taraborelli is an exceptional biography of one of the greatest singer's of all time. For many, Diana Ross's reputation precedes her. She's often been characterized as a difficult and demanding diva. Certainly, one of the infamous legends attached to her is her request to only be addressed as Miss Ross. Others would cite her putting herself ahead of the other members of The Supremes in order to advance her career as the height of her diva behavior. And to an extent, her reputation for diva-ish behavior was accurate. But in this book we learn why she acted the way she did and that she was much more complex than her reputation would suggest. She was just being herself and dealing with the fame her singing career brought her as best she knew how. The relationship between her and Berry Gordy and his aspirations for her only added to the mix. Most people don't appreciate her struggle from being a kid from Detroit to becoming famous during the Civil Rights era. She was one of the few breakthrough artists of that era, appealing to white people as well as black. And she also dealt with the issues that the South struggled with during this time, while on tour, facing racism head on. She was also one of the few leading ladies on the silver screen that wasn't white. I learned so much about Miss Ross from this book. Some of the stories are familiar, but many I've never heard. Taraborelli does an excellent job of showing how Diana went from a typical teen to the Queen of Motown. It is very much worth a read. Taraborelli has a love for Miss Ross, but is not afraid to put out the truth. He also gives us context to her behavior, giving us a better understanding of what made Diana tick and why she acted the way she did. No matter the odds or what some people said, Diana persevered and made her dreams come true. And while her life has had its ups and downs (just like the rest of us), she never stopped trying. Her journey is something we all could learn from. And this book will show you the way. By the end, you'll not only appreciate Diana's music, but how she got where she is. And you'll believe that you can make your dreams come true.

Allot to digest in this book. Many things I was surprised and saddened to discover. Allot of personal stuff one cannot be sure if all true. Bottom line if you are or a new fan you be jump for joy at times and be upset at other times.

Child of her golden era, loved watching her elegant dresses and tresses and legendary vocals. Brilliant stub born and spoiled diva. Loved her story and her. Great read.

As a massive Diana Ross fan I can witness to reading Mr. Taraborelli's previous works more times

than I can count. . (Diana!, Call Her Miss Ross, Diana Ross) And now with this update of "Diana Ross", we have the author's additional writing about the recent adventures of this most amazing artist. For better or for worse (Sorry Randy!) the author remains the gold-standard for the written history of La Ross. And yet because his gifts as a writer are so enormous, the casual fan will enjoy the journey J. Randy Taraborelli takes us on. Diana Ross' impact on popular culture over the last 50 plus years is undeniable. The author's contributions to the historical record of the Supreme Lady will be cherished for years to come. Well done, sir!

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