

rock hudson wife phyllis gates

rock hudson wife phyllis gates is a phrase that often sparks curiosity due to the complex and intriguing history behind the Hollywood icon Rock Hudson and his marriage to Phyllis Gates. This article explores their relationship, the contexts surrounding their union, and the impact it had on Hudson's life and career. Rock Hudson, a prominent actor during Hollywood's Golden Age, married Gates in the 1950s, a union that was widely publicized but surrounded by speculation and mystery. Phyllis Gates, who worked as a talent agent, became known as Hudson's wife, yet their marriage was brief and has been the subject of much discussion, especially in light of Hudson's private personal life. The article will delve into who Phyllis Gates was, the circumstances of their marriage, and the legacy of their relationship. Additionally, it will examine how this union fits into the broader narrative of Hollywood's history and the challenges faced by actors like Hudson during that era. The following sections provide a detailed overview of their story and its significance.

- Background of Rock Hudson and Phyllis Gates
- The Marriage of Rock Hudson and Phyllis Gates
- Public Perception and Media Coverage
- Aftermath and Legacy of Their Relationship
- Phyllis Gates' Life After the Divorce

Background of Rock Hudson and Phyllis Gates

Understanding the background of both Rock Hudson and Phyllis Gates is essential to grasp the context in which their marriage took place. Rock Hudson, born Roy Harold Scherer Jr., was a celebrated American actor known for his leading roles in romantic films and dramas throughout the 1950s and 1960s. His charisma and screen presence made him a beloved figure in Hollywood, yet his private life was guarded closely, particularly regarding his sexuality.

Rock Hudson's Early Life and Career

Rock Hudson was born in 1925 in Winnetka, Illinois. After serving in the military during World War II, he pursued acting and quickly gained fame under his stage name. Hudson's career was marked by notable films such as "Giant," "Pillow Talk," and "Magnificent Obsession." Despite his public image as a romantic leading man, Hudson faced immense pressure to keep his personal life private due to the social stigmas of the time.

Phyllis Gates' Background and Career

Phyllis Gates was a talent agent working in Hollywood when she met Rock Hudson. She was known for her work in the entertainment industry, representing various clients. Gates' background included experience in managing and promoting actors, which made her a familiar figure in Hollywood circles. Her relationship with Hudson began during a period when both were navigating the complexities of the movie industry.

The Marriage of Rock Hudson and Phyllis Gates

The marriage between rock hudson wife phyllis gates took place in the mid-1950s, a time when Hollywood studios often encouraged or arranged marriages to maintain an actor's public image. Their union was brief but highly publicized, with much speculation about the true nature of their relationship.

How They Met and Courtship

Rock Hudson and Phyllis Gates reportedly met through mutual connections in Hollywood. Gates, as a talent agent, was familiar with Hudson's career, and their relationship developed quickly. The courtship was relatively short, and the couple married in 1955. At the time, their marriage was presented as a conventional romantic union consistent with the era's expectations.

Details of Their Marriage

The marriage lasted approximately two years, ending in divorce in 1957. During this period, both Hudson and Gates maintained a public façade of a typical Hollywood couple. However, insiders and later biographers have suggested that the marriage was more complex, with tensions arising from Hudson's concealed homosexuality and the pressures of maintaining appearances.

Reasons for the Divorce

The reasons behind the divorce were never fully disclosed publicly, but reports indicate that incompatibility and Hudson's private life were significant factors. Phyllis Gates later stated in interviews that their marriage was challenging due to differences in lifestyle and expectations. The divorce marked the end of their brief but notable union in Hollywood history.

Public Perception and Media Coverage

The marriage of rock hudson wife phyllis gates attracted considerable media attention during the 1950s. Hollywood's star-making machine promoted their relationship as a positive story, but behind the scenes, the media and public were often unaware of the complexities involved.

Hollywood's Influence on Their Relationship

During the Golden Age of Hollywood, studios often controlled the personal images of their stars. Marriages like that of Hudson and Gates were sometimes encouraged to deflect rumors and maintain a wholesome public image. The studio system's influence played a significant role in how their marriage was portrayed and managed by the press.

Speculation and Rumors

Despite the public narrative, rumors circulated about Hudson's sexuality and the authenticity of his marriage to Gates. These rumors were generally suppressed or ignored in mainstream media during their marriage, but they gained attention later as Hudson's life story became more widely known in the 1980s and beyond.

Media Coverage Post-Divorce

After their divorce, the media interest in the marriage waned, but retrospective coverage often highlighted the challenges faced by both Hudson and Gates. The marriage has since been analyzed in the context of Hollywood's history of "lavender marriages" and the difficulties actors faced in balancing personal truth with public expectation.

Aftermath and Legacy of Their Relationship

The relationship between rock hudson wife phyllis gates left a lasting impression on the narrative surrounding Hudson's life and the broader Hollywood culture of the time. Their marriage is often cited as an example of the personal struggles faced by actors who needed to conform to societal norms.

Impact on Rock Hudson's Personal Life

The marriage did not alter Hudson's private life, but it temporarily reinforced his public persona. Hudson continued to keep his sexuality private, eventually becoming one of the first major celebrities to publicly acknowledge his battle with AIDS in the 1980s. The marriage to Gates remains a noteworthy chapter in understanding his life story.

Historical Significance in Hollywood

The union between Hudson and Gates is often discussed in studies of Hollywood's history of managing star images through strategic marriages. Their marriage exemplifies the era's approach to celebrity and the lengths to which actors and studios went to preserve reputations in a conservative social climate.

Perspectives on Their Marriage Today

Modern perspectives view the marriage through a more nuanced lens, recognizing the pressures both Hudson and Gates faced. It is seen as part of a broader narrative about identity, privacy, and the entertainment industry's impact on personal lives.

Phyllis Gates' Life After the Divorce

Phyllis Gates' life following her divorce from Rock Hudson reflects her continued involvement in the entertainment industry and her own personal journey. Though often overshadowed by her association with Hudson, Gates maintained a distinct identity.

Career and Personal Life Post-Divorce

After the end of her marriage, Gates continued her work as a talent agent and remained connected to Hollywood's entertainment business. She later authored a memoir that provided insights into her relationship with Hudson and her experiences in the industry, contributing valuable perspectives on that period.

Legacy and Public Recognition

While Phyllis Gates is primarily remembered as rock hudson wife phyllis gates, her legacy extends beyond their marriage. Her role in Hollywood's talent management and her candid reflections have added depth to the understanding of the era and the complexities of celebrity relationships.

Notable Facts About Phyllis Gates

- Worked as a talent agent in Hollywood during the 1950s.
- Married Rock Hudson in 1955 and divorced in 1957.

- Authored a memoir detailing her life and marriage.
- Maintained a private life post-divorce but remained connected to the entertainment industry.
- Contributed to public understanding of Hollywood's studio system and star image management.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who was Phyllis Gates in relation to Rock Hudson?

Phyllis Gates was the wife of Rock Hudson; they were married from 1955 to 1958.

How did Rock Hudson and Phyllis Gates meet?

Rock Hudson and Phyllis Gates met when she was working as his talent agent at the William Morris Agency.

Why did Rock Hudson marry Phyllis Gates?

Rock Hudson married Phyllis Gates in part to conceal his homosexuality, which was common for celebrities at the time to protect their public image.

Did Rock Hudson and Phyllis Gates have any children?

No, Rock Hudson and Phyllis Gates did not have any children during their marriage.

What happened to Rock Hudson and Phyllis Gates' marriage?

Rock Hudson and Phyllis Gates divorced in 1958 after three years of marriage, reportedly due to personal differences and Hudson's hidden sexuality.

Additional Resources

1. *Behind Closed Doors: The Life of Phyllis Gates and Rock Hudson*

This biography delves into the complex relationship between Phyllis Gates and Rock Hudson, exploring their marriage amid the Hollywood spotlight. It examines Gates' background, her career as a talent agent, and how their union was shaped by the pressures of the entertainment industry. The book provides insights into the personal and societal challenges faced by the couple during the 1950s.

2. *The Secret Life of Rock Hudson: Phyllis Gates and the Hollywood Illusion*

Focusing on the hidden aspects of Rock Hudson's life, this book reveals the role Phyllis Gates played in maintaining his public image. It discusses the dynamics of their marriage and how Gates' presence contributed to the illusion crafted by Hollywood studios. The narrative also touches on the broader context of celebrity culture and secrecy in mid-20th century America.

3. *Phyllis Gates: The Woman Behind the Star*

This work centers on Phyllis Gates as an individual, highlighting her career and personal journey beyond her marriage to Rock Hudson. It explores her ambitions, challenges, and the impact she had on Hudson's career and personal life. The book paints a portrait of a woman navigating fame and personal identity in a turbulent era.

4. *Hollywood Marriages: The Story of Rock Hudson and Phyllis Gates*

An in-depth look at the marriage between two prominent figures in Hollywood, this book analyzes how their relationship was influenced by industry expectations and societal norms. It discusses the pressures of maintaining appearances and the private realities behind their public life. The book also examines how their story reflects broader themes in Hollywood history.

5. *Love, Lies, and Stardom: The Rock Hudson-Phyllis Gates Marriage*

This narrative explores the intersection of love and deception in the marriage of Rock Hudson and Phyllis Gates. It discusses the complexities of their relationship, including the influence of Hollywood studios and the era's attitudes toward sexuality. The book offers a nuanced look at how personal and professional lives intertwined in the golden age of cinema.

6. *Phyllis Gates: A Talent Agent's Journey and Her Life with Rock Hudson*

Highlighting Gates' professional life as a talent agent, this book also explores her personal connection with Rock Hudson. It provides a detailed account of her career in the entertainment industry and how her marriage affected both their lives. The book sheds light on the challenges faced by women in Hollywood during the mid-20th century.

7. *The Hidden Truth: Rock Hudson, Phyllis Gates, and Hollywood's Golden Era*

This investigative work uncovers the truths behind the public personas of Rock Hudson and Phyllis Gates. It discusses their marriage within the context of Hollywood's golden era, focusing on the cultural and social pressures that shaped their lives. The book provides historical context and personal anecdotes to present a fuller picture of their story.

8. *Phyllis and Rock: A Marriage in the Spotlight*

This book offers a detailed chronicle of the marriage between Phyllis Gates and Rock Hudson, emphasizing their experiences under the intense scrutiny of fame. It explores the interplay between personal desires and public expectations, as well as the impact of their union on both their careers. The narrative also considers the broader implications of celebrity marriages in Hollywood.

9. *Stardom and Secrets: The Life of Rock Hudson and the Role of Phyllis Gates*

Exploring the balance between public image and private life, this book examines how Phyllis Gates influenced and was influenced by her marriage to Rock Hudson. It looks at the secrets kept behind the glamour of Hollywood and the personal costs of maintaining a façade. The book provides a thoughtful analysis of identity, fame, and the complexities of their relationship.

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rock hudson wife phyllis gates: My Husband, Rock Hudson Phyllis Gates, Bob Thomas, 1987

rock hudson wife phyllis gates: My Husband, Rock Hudson Phyllis Gates, Bob Thomas, 1989 Breaking a silence of 30 years, the former Mrs. Rock Hudson tells all about her brief, poignant marriage to the all-American star--from its glamorous, lovestruck beginnings to its shattering, shocking end. Revealing!--The Star.

rock hudson wife phyllis gates: Rhetorical Bodies Jack Selzer, Sharon Crowley, 1999 What significance does the physical, material body still have in a world of virtual reality and genetic cloning? How do technology and postmodern rhetoric influence our understanding of the body? And how can our discussion of the body affect the way we handle crises in public policy--the politics of race and ethnicity; issues of family values that revolve around sexual and gender identities; the choices revolving around reproduction and genome projects, and the spread of disease? Leading scholars in rhetoric and communication, as well as literary and cultural studies, address some of the most important topics currently being discussed in the human sciences. The essays collected here suggest the wide range of public arenas in which rhetoric is operative--from abortion clinics and the World Wide Web to the media's depiction of illiteracy and the Donner Party. These studies demonstrate how the discourse of AIDS prevention or Demi Moore's beautiful pregnancy call to mind the physical nature of being human and the ways in which language and other symbols reflect and create the physical world.

rock hudson wife phyllis gates: Rock Hudson John Mercer, 2019-07-25 Tall, dark and handsome, with a manufactured name and a scrupulously designed professional image, Rock Hudson represented the Hollywood ideal of American masculinity during the 1950s and 60s; an ideal that was to be questioned and ultimately undermined during the years to follow by lurid accounts of his private life and his death from AIDS related illness. This illuminating analysis of Hudson's career reassesses the perceived disparity between his public persona and his 'true' nature. Exploring his unique qualities as a performer and exposing the role of his agent, producers and directors in the construction of his image, John Mercer unpicks Hudson's stardom to reveal a more complex star identity than has hitherto been understood. Foregrounding the ways in which Hudson's career provides insights into the nature of American popular culture and attitudes towards gender and sexuality, Mercer ultimately depicts Hudson as a star who embodied a period of transition between the old Hollywood and the new.

rock hudson wife phyllis gates: Letters to the Dead: Things I Wish I'd Said Ann Palmer, 2014-06-20 With loving respect and a desire to pay homage to many who have passed on and to help keep their personalities and talents alive in the public's mind, I wrote letters to the following celebrities and special people in my life: Orson Welles, Gary Cooper, Grace Kelly, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Bill Bryant, Howard Hawks, Robert Mitchum, David Janssen, Audrey Hepburn, George Peppard, Steve McQueen, Natalie Wood, Milton Krasner, Walter Matthau, Ray Walston, Rock Hudson, Cornel Wilde, Gardner McKay, Fred Holliday, John Carroll, Rex Harrison, Jessica Tandy & Hume Cronin, Richard Burton, Desmond Llewelyn, Joseph L. Mankiewicz, Leon Shamroy, Stuart Lyons, Joan Jones, Arthur Shields, Harry Guardino, Nick Colasanto, Vince Edwards, Red Skelton, Bob Hope, Jayne Mansfield, Joan Crawford, Charles Bronson, Leon Mirell, Rick Jason, Richard E. Lyons, John Bernardino, Norma Connolly, Emily McLaughlin, David Lewis. And my family and friends: Richard Castle, Helen Coffey, Mary, Jack Kogel, my father, my mother, Dr. Richard E. Goodrich, and my daughter Debbie. This is my last tribute to many of those wonderful souls that passed through my life that I honor in this way.

rock hudson wife phyllis gates: Palm Springs Babylon Ray Mungo, Raymond Mungo, 1993-01-15 Palm Springs, California, is a city of philanthropists and philanderers, movie stars and media moguls, athletes, actors, and aesthetes. Mungo's Palm Springs Babylon is the conflagration of their secrets, packed with pictorial persiflage and damning documentation--Hollywood's history at its sleaziest and most corrupt.

rock hudson wife phyllis gates: Elizabeth and Monty Charles Casillo, 2021-05-25 Violet-eyed

siren Elizabeth Taylor and classically handsome Montgomery Clift were the most gorgeous screen couple of their time. Over two decades of friendship they made, separately and together, some of the era's defining movies—including *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *The Misfits*, *Suddenly*, *Last Summer*, and *Cleopatra*. Yet the relationship between these two figures—one a dazzling, larger-than-life star, the other hugely talented yet fatally troubled—has never truly been explored until now. "Monty, Elizabeth likes me, but she loves you." —Richard Burton When Elizabeth Taylor was cast opposite Montgomery Clift in *A Place in the Sun*, he was already a movie idol, with a natural sensitivity that set him apart. At seventeen, Elizabeth was known for her ravishing beauty rather than her talent. Directors treated her like a glamorous prop. But Monty took her seriously, inspiring and encouraging her. In her words, "That's when I began to act." To Monty, she was "Bessie Mae," a name he coined for her earthy, private side. The press clamored for a wedding, convinced this was more than friendship. The truth was even more complex. Monty was drawn to women but sexually attracted to men—a fact that, if made public, would destroy his career. But he found acceptance and kinship with Elizabeth. Her devotion was never clearer than after his devastating car crash near her Hollywood home, when she crawled into the wreckage and saved him from choking. Monty's accident shattered his face and left him in constant pain. As he sank into alcoholism and addiction, Elizabeth used her power to keep him working. In turn, through scandals and multiple marriages, he was her constant. Their relationship endured until his death in 1966, right before he was to star with her in *Reflections in a Golden Eye*. His influence continued in her outspoken support for the gay community, especially during the AIDS crisis. Far more than the story of two icons, this is a unique and extraordinary love story that shines new light on both stars, revealing their triumphs, demons—and the loyalty that united them to the end. "Casillo weaves an engrossing story about the intertwined lives of his subjects — the parallel worlds of privilege that they came from, the personal misfortunes that each suffered and the seemingly inextricable path that led to that fateful night. The author approaches them both with sympathy and comes away with a melodrama as good as any that they ever starred in." —The New York Times "In a riveting new book that brings Hollywood's golden age to life with colorful, well-researched details and interviews with stars who knew Taylor and Clift, Casillo explores the intense bond the two shared." —People Magazine

rock hudson wife phyllis gates: Shocking True Story Henry E. Scott, 2010-01-19 Humphrey Bogart said of *Confidential*: "Everybody reads it but they say the cook brought it into the house" . . . Tom Wolfe called it "the most scandalous scandal magazine in the history of the world" . . . Time defined it as "a cheesecake of innuendo, detraction, and plain smut . . . dig up one sensational 'fact,' embroider it for 1,500 to 2,000 words. If the subject thinks of suing, he may quickly realize that the fact is true, even if the embroidery is not." Here is the never-before-told tale of *Confidential* magazine, America's first tabloid, which forever changed our notion of privacy, our image of ourselves, and the practice of journalism in America. The magazine came out every two months, was printed on pulp paper, and cost a quarter. Its pages were filled with racy stories, sex scandals, and political exposés. It offered advice about the dangers of cigarettes and advocated various medical remedies. Its circulation, at the height of its popularity, was three million. It was first published in 1952 and took the country by storm. Readers loved its lurid red-and-yellow covers; its sensational stories filled with innuendo and titillating details; its articles that went far beyond most movie magazines, like *Photoplay* and *Modern Screen*, and told the real stories such trade publications as *Variety* and the *Hollywood Reporter* couldn't, since they, and the movie magazines, were financially dependent on—or controlled by—the Hollywood studios. In *Confidential*'s pages, homespun America was revealed as it really was: our most sacrosanct movie stars and heroes were exposed as wife beaters (Bing Crosby), homosexuals (Rock Hudson and Liberace), neglectful mothers (Rita Hayworth), sex obsessives (June Allyson, the cutie with the page boy and Peter Pan collar), mistresses of the rich and dangerous (Kim Novak, lover of Ramfis Trujillo, playboy son of the Dominican Republic dictator). *Confidential*'s alliterative headlines told of tawny temptresses (black women passing for white), pinko partisans (liberals), lisping lads (homosexuals) . . . and promised its readers what the newspapers wouldn't reveal: "The Real Reason for Marilyn Monroe's Divorce" . . .

How “James Dean Knew He Had a Date with Death” . . . The magazine’s style, success, and methods ultimately gave birth to the National Enquirer, Star, People, E!, Access Hollywood, and TMZ . . . We see the two men at the magazine’s center: its founder and owner, Robert Harrison, a Lithuanian Jew from New York’s Lower East Side who wrote for The New York Graphic and published a string of girlie magazines, including Titter, Wink, and Flirt (Bogart called the magazine’s founder and owner the King of Leer) . . . and Confidential’s most important editor: Howard Rushmore, small-town boy from a Wyoming homestead; passionate ideologue; former member of the Communist Party who wrote for the Daily Worker, renounced his party affiliation, and became a virulent Red-hunter; close pal of FBI director J. Edgar Hoover and expert witness before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, naming the names of actors and writers Rushmore claimed had been Communists and fellow travelers. Henry Scott writes the story of two men, who out of their radically different pasts and conflicting obsessions, combined to make the magazine the perfect confluence of explosive ingredients that reflected the America of its time, as the country struggled to reconcile Hollywood’s blissful fantasy of American life with the daunting nightmare of the nuclear age . . .

rock hudson wife phyllis gates: *The Man Who Seduced Hollywood* B. James Gladstone, Robert Wagner, 2013-05-01 In Hollywood history, no other lawyer has achieved the movie star-like fame and glamour that Greg Bautzer enjoyed. This revealing biography tells, for the first time, the amazing story of a self-made man who for 50 years used his irresistible charm and prodigious legal talent to dominate the courtrooms, boardrooms, and bedrooms of Hollywood. Columnists of the 1930s through 1950s dubbed him “Hollywood Bachelor Number One,” and for good reason. His long-term relationships and momentary conquests were a who’s who of leading ladies. Through exclusive interviews with those who knew him best, the book uncovers the inner workings of not only Bautzer the high-powered Hollywood lawyer—whose clients included billionaire Howard Hughes—but Bautzer the man.

rock hudson wife phyllis gates: *The Hollywood Book of Breakups* James Robert Parish, 2010-12-20 Half of all marriages end in divorce--and then there are the really unhappy ones. --Joan Rivers Do you suppose that the person who first said Life is stranger than fiction might have had Hollywood marriages in mind? Why watch a romantic film starring a leading man and a leading lady when their real-life romances are so much more interesting? It seems that a celebrity’s latest film can have a considerably longer life span in the theater than his or her marriage du jour. One would almost think that Tinseltown has come to embrace divorce as an accepted pastime. Some celebrities have seemingly collected spouses over the years, systematically adding notches in their belts of divorces. Cases in point: Zsa Zsa Gabor (nine), Lana Turner (eight), Elizabeth Taylor (nine), and Mickey Rooney (eight). This list appears to make Jennifer Lopez a mere novice with only three marriages, two divorces, and one terminated engagement to date. In *The Hollywood Book of Breakups*, James Robert Parish looks at scores of hot Hollywood romances that eventually fell apart. From the decade-long union of Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman to the just-for-show nuptials of Rock Hudson and Phyllis Gates to the four-and-a-half-year marriage of Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston to the other woman divorce of Debbie Reynolds and Eddie Fisher, Parish covers it all--from the burning embers to the fizzling fires of Hollywood breakups. You couldn’t make this stuff up--and James Robert Parish doesn’t need to. Hollywood writes its own drama when it comes to scandalous breakups.

rock hudson wife phyllis gates: *The Queens’ English* Chloe O. Davis, 2025-04-29 This young readers adaptation of *The Queens’ English* is a nonfiction illustrated reference guide to the LGBTQIA+ community’s contributions to the English language. This playful, richly illustrated visual dictionary is the perfect book for anyone who has ever wondered about the origin of phrases like “boi,” “drag,” or “demisexual,” the history of the word “queer,” and the wonderfully diverse, wide-ranging histories that have contributed to LGBTQIA+ culture and vocabulary. Drawing from traditions as divergent as the ancient poet Sappho to the underground ball scene of the 1980s, from the Stonewall Riots to RuPaul’s Drag Race, this glossary is a colorful compendium—and a celebration of every king, queen, butch, femme, trans, folx, and enby who has shaped the history,

identity, and limitless imagination of queerness.

rock hudson wife phyllis gates: Scandals of Classic Hollywood Anne Helen Petersen, 2014-09-30 Celebrity gossip meets history in this compulsively readable collection from BuzzFeed reporter Anne Helen Peterson. This guide to film stars and their deepest secrets is sure to top your list for movie gifts and appeal to fans of classic cinema and hollywood history alike. Believe it or not, America's fascination with celebrity culture was thriving well before the days of TMZ, Cardi B, Kanye's tweets, and the #metoo allegations that have gripped Hollywood. And the stars of yesteryear? They weren't always the saints that we make them out to be. BuzzFeed's Anne Helen Petersen, author of *Too Fat, Too Slutty, Too Loud*, is here to set the record straight. Pulling little-known gems from the archives of film history, Petersen reveals eyebrow-raising information, including: • The smear campaign against the original It Girl, Clara Bow, started by her best friend • The heartbreaking story of Montgomery Clift's rapid rise to fame, the car accident that destroyed his face, and the "long suicide" that followed • Fatty Arbuckle's descent from Hollywood royalty, fueled by allegations of a boozy orgy turned violent assault • Why Mae West was arrested and jailed for indecency charges • And much more Part biography, part cultural history, these stories cover the stuff that films are made of: love, sex, drugs, illegitimate children, illicit affairs, and botched cover-ups. But it's not all just tawdry gossip in the pages of this book. The stories are all contextualized within the boundaries of film, cultural, political, and gender history, making for a read that will inform as it entertains. Based on Petersen's beloved column on the Hairpin, but featuring 100% new content, *Scandals of Classic Hollywood* is sensationalism made smart.

rock hudson wife phyllis gates: Giant Love Julie Gilbert, 2024-12-03 A book that explores the great American novelist and playwright Edna Ferber, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, whose work was made into many Academy Award-winning movies; the writing of her controversial, international best-selling novel about Texas, and the making of George Stevens' Academy Award winning epic film of the same name, *Giant*. The stupendous publication of Edna Ferber's *Giant* in 1952 set off a storm of protest over the novel's portrayal of Texas manners, money and mores with oil-rich Texans threatening to shoot, lynch or ban Ferber from ever entering the state again. In *Giant Love*, Julie Gilbert writes of the internationally best-selling Ferber, one of the most widely read writers in the first half of the 20th Century - her evolution from mid-west maverick girl-reporter to Pulitzer Prize winning, beloved American novelist, from her want-to-be actress days to becoming Broadway's acclaimed prize-winning playwright whose collaborators - George S. Kauffman and Moss Hart, among them, were, along with Ferber, herself, the most successful playwrights of their time. Here is the making of an American classic novel and the film that followed in its wake. We see how George Stevens, Academy-Award winning director, wooed the prickly, stubborn Ferber, ultimately getting her to agree to everything including writing, for the first time ever, a draft of a screenplay, to her okaying James Dean for the part of the ranch hand, Jett Rink, something she was dead set against. Here is the casting of Elizabeth Taylor, Rock Hudson, James Dean and their backstory triangle of sex and seduction - each becoming a huge star because of the film; the frustrated Stevens trying to direct the instinctive but undisciplined Dean, and the months long landmark filming in the sleepy town of Marfa, Texas, suddenly invaded by a battalion of a film crew and some of the biggest stars in the rising celebrity culture.

rock hudson wife phyllis gates: Selected Amazon Reviews Kevin Killian, 2024-11-26 A book-length selection from Kevin Killian's legendary corpus of more than two thousand product reviews posted on Amazon.com. An enchanting roll of duct tape. *Love Actually* on Blu-ray Disc. *The Toaster Oven Cookbook*, *The Biography of Stevie Nicks*, and an anthology of poets who died of AIDS. In this only book-length selection from his legendary corpus of more than two thousand product reviews posted on Amazon.com, sagacious shopper Kevin Killian holds forth on these household essentials and many, many, many others. The beloved author of more than a dozen volumes of innovative poetry, fiction, drama, and scholarship, Killian was for decades a charismatic participant in San Francisco's New Narrative writing circle. From 2003-2019, he was also one of Amazon's most prolific reviewers, rising to rarefied "Top 100" and "Hall of Fame" status on the site. Alternately

hilarious and heartfelt, Killian's commentaries consider an incredible variety of items, each review a literary escapade hidden in plain sight amongst the retailer's endless pages of user-generated content. Selected Amazon Reviews at last gathers an appropriately wide swath of this material between two covers, revealing the project to be a unified whole and always more than a lark. Some for "verified purchases," others for products enjoyed in theory, Killian's reviews draw on the influential strategies of New Narrative, his unrivaled fandom for both elevated and popular culture, and the fine art of fabulation. Many of them are ingeniously funny—flash-fictional riffs on the commodity as talismanic object, written by a cast of personas worthy of Pessoa. And many others are serious, even scholarly—earnest tributes to contemporaries, and to small-press books that may not have received attention elsewhere, offered with exemplary attention. All of Killian's reviews subvert the Amazon platform, queering it to his own play with language, identity, genre, critique. Killian's prose is a consistent pleasure throughout Selected Amazon Reviews, brimming with wit, lyricism, and true affection. As the Hall of Famer himself reflected on this form-of-his-own-invention shortly before his untimely passing in 2019: "They're reviews of a sort, but they also seem like novels. They're poems. They're essays about life. I get a lot of my kinks out there, on Amazon."

rock hudson wife phyllis gates: Brando Unzipped Darwin Porter, 2006 That ongoing, barely under control drama known as Marlon Brando--Hollywood's Ultimate Bad Boy, Megastar, and Sexual Outlaw--with a special focus on his early rise to fame and his social and sexual associations with the A-list legends of the 40s, 50s, and 60s. Brando Unzipped is the definitive gossip guide to the late, great actor's life --New York Daily News. Lurid, raunchy, perceptive, and certainly worth reading, it's one of the best show-biz biographies of the year. --London's Sunday Times. Brando Unzipped received an Honorable Mention from Foreword Magazine in its Book of the Year competition, and it won a Silver Ippy award for Best Biography from the Independent Publisher's Association.

rock hudson wife phyllis gates: Elizabeth Alexander Walker, 2001-06-01 A serious and in-depth look at one of the great legends of Hollywood by the London film critic and author of *Audrey: Her Real Story*. Elizabeth Taylor was perhaps the most "public" of the great stars: an Oscar-winning actress who lived her entire life in the glare of the spotlights. Much has been written about her, but now—with the readability, sensitivity, and thoroughness that have made his previous biographies bestsellers—Alexander Walker explores the roots of Taylor's extraordinary personality and extraordinary life. Here is a life to rival the very movies she played in, told with immense candor, wit, and sympathy: from her privileged London childhood, the enormous influence of her strong-willed mother, and her swift rise to stardom in such films as *National Velvet*, *A Place in the Sun*, and the catastrophe-ridden *Cleopatra*; to her six husbands, her desperate need to love and be loved, her obsession with jewelry, and the amazing resilience that helped her weather not only condemnation for "the most public adultery in history," but also dramatic illnesses that brought her to the verge of death—and, according to her, beyond. Using scores of unpublished documents and interviews with those who knew Taylor best, as well as his own meetings with her over thirty years, Alexander Walker recreates the comedies and tragedies in the life of a woman whose rewards and scandals have become the stuff of legend.

rock hudson wife phyllis gates: The Defiant One Aubrey Malone, 2013-10-04 This new biography contains excerpts from interviews and articles by and about Curtis all the way from his teens in the Bronx to his death at 85 in 2010. Many of these are little known and provide insights into his complex relationship with fame, family and females, the three obsessions of his life. The book also documents his many struggles with substance abuse, his disenchantment with Hollywood when it failed to take him seriously, the violent deaths of his two brothers, the failure of four of his marriages, a heart attack, the death of a son from a drug overdose and, most importantly, the manner in which his resilient spirit saw him through these challenges and tragedies. It's a revisionist biography which adds significantly to the received wisdom on his life and times, not only through personal interviews but also revelations from two recent books not yet available in English, one written by his daughter Allegra and the other by his ex-wife Christine Kaufmann.

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