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Mandela

2012-01-11

nelson mandela who emerged from twenty six years of political imprisonment to lead south africa out of apartheid and into democracy is perhaps the world s most admired leader a man whose life has been led with exemplary courage and inspired conviction now anthony sampson who has known mandela since 1951 and has been a close observer of south africa s political life for the last fifty years has produced the first authorized biography the most informed and comprehensive portrait to date of a man whose dazzling image has been difficult to penetrate with unprecedented access to mandela s private papers including his prison memoir long thought to have been lost meticulous research and hundreds of interviews from mandela himself to prison warders on robben island from walter sisulu and oliver tambo to winnie mandela and f w de klerk and many others intimately connected to mandela s story sampson has composed an enlightening and necessary story of the man behind the myth

Me

2009-06-25

byron rogers biographies of the maverick literary figures j l carr and r s thomas drew dazzling critical acclaim from both fans and reviewers his singular insight into the lives of these men was undoubtedly derived from rogers own bizarre whimsical disposition for such a wildcard as byron rogers the search to deliver a suitable encore could only lead one place himself the story of me the authorised biography begins several years ago when the author started receiving letters forwarded to him by his then employer the daily telegraph magazine but these weren t the usual readers letters these were passionate erotic love letters they were also from women he d never met but they seemed to know all about him the illustrious journalist rogers quest to find out about this other mr rogers not your normal kind of imposter but one who did you the double edged favour of spreading far and wide your undeserved reputation as a sexual voyageur is what sets off this strange and hilarious memoir with seemingly nothing else for it byron embarks on a journey to track down this talented imposter and learn his startling fate the result is this uncategorisable and wonderful book part hilarious wistful and outrageous memoir part detective story me is one of the most charming and certainly one of the oddest memoirs you ll ever read

Orwell

1996

jack reacher is only the second of jim grant s great fictional characters the first is lee child himself heather martin s biography tells the story of all three lee child is the enigmatic powerhouse behind the bestselling jack reacher novels with millions of devoted fans across the globe and over a hundred million copies of his books sold in more than forty languages he is that rarity a writer who is lauded by critics and revered by readers and yet

curiously little has been written about the man himself the reacher guy is a compelling and authoritative portrait of the artist as a young man refracted through the life of his fictional avatar jack reacher through parallels drawn between child and his literary creation it tells the story of how a boy from birmingham with a ferocious appetite for reading grew up to become a high flying tv executive before coming full circle and establishing himself as the strongest brand in publishing heather martin explores child s lifelong fascination with america and shows how the reacher novels fed and fuelled this obsession shedding light on the opaque process of publishing a novel along the way drawing on her conversations and correspondence with child over a number of years as well as interviews with his friends teachers and colleagues she forensically pieces together his life traversing back through the generations to northern ireland and county durham and following the trajectory of his extraordinary career via new york and hollywood until the climactic moment when in 2020 having written a continuous series of twenty four books he finally breaks free of his fictional creation

The Reacher Guy

2020-09-29

traces the development of the music of the rock and roll band yes and portrays the lives of its members

Bing

1975

twenty years after his death david niven is remembered with warmth and affection as one of the funniest and most lovable men who ever lived much the same off screen as the characters he portrayed he enchanted people with his charisma humor and joie de vivre yet behind those twinkling eyes niven s life was punctuated by tragedy written with the full cooperation of niven s children niv is the authorized account of his remarkable life

Yes

1981

since their humble beginnings in the folk clubs and bars of ireland in the early 60s the chieftains have built a worldwide reputation and following based on their brilliant musicianship their rediscovery and reinvention of traditional irish music and their own original music and oscar winning soundtracks based on exclusive interviews with all the band s members their families and friends this is the intimate and comprehensive history of one of the most acclaimed irish bands of all time photos

Niv

2005

sir ronald harwood 1934 2020 was one of the most prolific playwrights and screenwriters of his generation his acclaimed play the dresser has been constantly revived since its premiere in 1980 and has been adapted for both cinema and television most recently the 2015 bbc production starring sir anthony hopkins and sir ian mckellen harwood s other notable film adaptations included roman polanski s haunting depiction of life in the warsaw ghetto the pianist 2002 baz luhrmann s frontier epic australia 2008 and dustin hoffman s poignant celebration of old age quartet 2012 his many awards included an oscar for the pianist and a bafta for the diving bell and the butterfly 2007 speak well of me turns the focus onto harwood himself based on extensive interviews with the playwright during his final years the biography recounts harwood s gradual transformation from lacklustre south african schoolboy to doyen of theatreland and hollywood while dissecting each of his major works the book candidly explores harwood s friendships with the likes of harold pinter j b priestley andré previn sir donald wolfit who inspired the dresser and most controversially roman polanski the result is a biography as gripping and morally complex as one of harwood s own dramas this new paperback edition includes memoirs and assessments of harwood by gyles brandreth sir tom courtenay lady antonia fraser frederic raphael sir antony sher and the playwright s oldest friend gerald masters

James Bond: the Authorised Biography

2023-10

the magisterial official life of britain s complex and misunderstood former prime minister which offers a fundamental reassessment of his reputation edward heath arguably changed the lives of the british people more than any prime minister since winston churchill by securing britain s entry into europe he reversed almost a thousand years of history and embarked on a course that would lead to the legal political economic and social transformation of this country by abolishing the resale price maintenance he cleared the way for the all conquering march of the supermarket and revolutionised every high street in the country he forced through both reforms by a combination of determination patience and persuasive powers against the inertia or active hostility of a large part of the british population including many in his own party yet heath today is a largely forgotten figure completely eclipsed by his more famous successor his working class origins and suspect accent made him an unlikely tory leader but he was a trail blazer and without him it is unlikely that mrs thatcher would ever have risen to prominence with exclusive access to the huge collection of heath s personal papers distinguished biographer philip ziegler reassesses the contribution of one of the most resolute and forceful politicians in recent british history

The Chieftains

2015-12-01

this authoritative biography tells the rags to riches story of a young girl from charlemagne quebec who became the 1 selling recording artist in the

world

Speak Well of Me

2021-10-07

the original edition of this revered and authorised queen biography explored every aspect of the legendary group s career from inception to 1992 newly revised and updated with cooperation and insight from brian may and roger taylor and drawing on exclusive interviews with the bandmembers this book completes the story of the mercury era and the immediate years after his death with numerous extra photographs and a new foreword from brian may queen as it began revised and authorised is an informative and authoritative portrait of queen s most fundamental period

James Bond

2011-09

this official biography documents siouxsie and the banshees unsteady birth through their creative height with 1993 s superstition album and their split in 1996 now reformed they are launching their best of album in 2002 the book features exclusive interviews and photos and is written by personal friend and journalist paul mather from london

Edward Heath

1998-09

roman

Céline

2022-03

sir alec guinness was one of the greatest actors of the twentieth century with a talent recognised by discerning critics from his very first appearance on the stage he gained a world wide reputation playing roles on the screen such as fagin in oliver twist and sidney stratton in the man in the white suit his performance as colonel nicholson in the bridge on the river kwai won him an oscar and in his later years he captivated a new generation of admirers as george smiley in tinker tailor soldier spy and obi wan kenobi in star wars guinness was a man who vigorously guarded his privacy and despite publishing an autobiography and two volumes of his diaries he remained an enigma to the general public and a mystery even to his family and closest friends after his death in august 2000 his widow merula asked the author piers paul read who had been a friend of her husband to write his authorised biography given full co operation by the guinness family and free access to sir alec s papers including his private and unpublished diaries read has written an enjoyable yet penetrating and perceptive account of an intriguing and complex man read shows how guinness s quirks of character and genius had

roots in the circumstances of his early life his marriage to merula salaman a young actress of great promise is chronicled by the many hundred letters guinness wrote to her when serving in the navy during world war ii while his post war diaries reveal that readjustment to civilian life was traumatic with doubts about his talent and a confusion about his sexual nature leading to bouts of severe depression guinness s conversion to catholicism in 1956 partly exorcised his demons but he never wholly escaped the contradictions of his life his domestic ties vying with wayward passions a yearning for holiness with an intolerance of constraint a raw sensitivity to the feelings of others with an irascible and domineering nature yet from the diaries and letters to his friends quoted extensively in this biography there emerges a man of great compassion generosity wit and charm intellectually curious a talented writer a great gossip bon viveur and munificent host

Queen As It Began

2003

written with the full consent and collaboration of ronnie barker himself this biography is full of interviews and unseen personal illustrations from his own collection

Siouxsie & the Banshees

1973

the exploits of t e lawrence as british liaison officer in the arab revolt recounted in his work seven pillars of wisdom made him one of the most famous englishmen of his generation this biography explores his life and career including his correspondence with writers artists and politicians

James Bond

1973

provides an incisive portrait of the complex and contradictory peter sellers based on the reminiscences of friends colleagues and family members detailing his personal life relationships personality and career

James Bond

2011-06-11

joe cocker is a rock legend a gas fitter who went from playing sheffield pubs to the stadiums of the world he was the man who no one not even himself expected to survive the age of 30 now approaching his 60s and having recovered his life and career he has co operated with the full and frank biography to tell of all the highs and lows of his remarkable journey

Alec Guinness

2004

cecil beaton was one of britain s greatest cultural icons not just as a photographer capturing some of the most celebrated portraits of the 20th century but also as designer of the iconic sets and costumes for the films my fair lady and gigi in 1980 beaton personally chose hugo vickers to be his biographer entrusting him with his diaries and the entire body of letters he had written both personally and professionally over the course of his life drawing on five years of intensive research and interviews with the likes of audrey hepburn truman capote princess grace of monaco and sir john gielgud vickers biography was an instant bestseller upon its publication in 1985 exploring beaton s metamorphosis from being the child of a staid middle class family to an international figure mingling with the glittering stars of his age the biography also details his great love for greta garbo and reveals his private sense of failure that the success he always wanted as a playwright eluded him republished in a new paperback edition in time for bright young things a major exhibition at the national portrait gallery in 2020 cecil beaton is the definitive and authorised biography of one of the world s most fascinating famous and admired photographers

The Authorised Biography of Ronnie Barker

1989

until the arrival on the political stage of lady thatcher castle was the most vivid the most successful and the most controversial woman in british politics a labour activist from her childhood she became active in party politics in her early twenties whilst at the same time breaking into political journalism thirty years later she was the unexpected success of harold wilson s first administration rising from a junior position to the inner cabinet in less than five years but her radicalism her flamboyant style and ultimately perhaps her gender caught up with her and she was frozen out since her death at the age of ninety one she has been rightly regarded as a woman who could have achieved even greater power had the boys club cabal running the labour party not prevented her from doing so

Lawrence of Arabia

1981

a great celebration of one of our most loved national treasures felicity kendal the term national treasure has seldom been more appropriate richard briers was not only the nation s favourite next door neighbour thanks to his work in the iconic bbc sitcom the good life he was an actor you felt like you really knew despite having only seen him on stage or screen while his role as tom good might be considered the pinnacle of richard s sixty year career it sits atop a mountain of roles that combined represent one of the most productive and varied careers in british entertainment history indeed richard s television work alone makes up a not insignificant portion of our country s

best endeavours on the small screen from jackanory and the anarchic roobarb and custard through to dr who inspector morse ever decreasing circles extras and the long running comedy drama monarch of the glen on the big screen richard appeared alongside raquel welch robert de niro denzel washington kathy bates and michael keaton and he even taught keanu reeves how to act like sir henry irving but it was on the stage where richard felt most at home as in addition to testing him as an actor it would often satisfy his passion for taking risks appearances in the west end were often interspersed with pantomime seasons or a world tour playing king lear alongside kenneth branagh and emma thompson he was as he always described himself just a jobbing actor anecdote rich this revealing but celebratory book will also lift the lid on the stories behind the shows films and plays that made up this extraordinarily prolific career not to mention richard s working and personal relationships with many of his best known collaborators and co stars

Peter Sellers, the Authorized Biography

2003

masterly biography of the greatest commander of the 20th century field marshal slim is less well known than other second world war generals but is now widely regarded as the best to the men under his command he was uncle bill probably the most respected and loved military leader since the duke of marlborough born into an impoverished family in bristol in 1891 and brought up in the black country he was commissioned as a temporary second lieutenant on the outbreak of the first world war twice seriously wounded in gallipoli and mesopotamia he was awarded the military cross in 1918 after the war he was unable to remain an officer in the class ridden british army without private means and transferred to the indian army where he developed an enduring affection for the ghurkhas and began writing short stories to supplement his income slim s career stalled between the wars but during this time he developed the leadership techniques that would make him a national hero within a decade and which are still taught today at sandhurst promotion came rapidly with the second world war and in march 1942 he was sent to burma to take command of the british indian first burma corps then in full flight from the advancing japanese through the force of his leadership slim turned disorderly panic into a controlled military withdrawal across the border into india two years later having raised and retrained the largest army ever assembled by britain slim drove the enemy out of burma and shattered the myth of japanese invincibility which had hamstrung the allied operations in the east for so long slim returned to britain laden with awards and honours he became a popular governor general of australia in 1953 was raised to the peerage and died in london in 1970 this important biography will be written with the full cooperation of the slim family and russell miller has had access to all their papers

Joe Cocker

2020-03-05

olivier is an unexpected portrait of the twentieth century s greatest actor

his was a fairytale story the clergyman s son who on the strength of one season at the old vic became a great shakespearean actor and went on to conquer hollywood yet olivier struggled with the dark side of his genius abandoning his first wife he married vivien leigh a manic depressive she dominated his life for twenty years when he finally wrenched himself away he was plagued by a guilt that only incessant work could expiate he married joan plowright had a new young family and was the founding director of the national theatre yet even the nt he felt ended in betrayal drawing on his unlimited and uncensored access to olivier s personal papers love letters and diaries terry coleman has written a landmark biography

Cecil Beaton

2003

the author describes his experiences trying to track down the real james bond and presents an account of the notorious agent s life and exploits

Red Queen

2018-09-27

once hailed by john osborne as the greatest actor since brando latterly known as a ruined genius whose unpredictable hellraising behaviour was legendary nicol williamson always went his own way openly dismissive of technical actors or others who played the bard as if their finger was up their arse williamson tore up the rule book to deliver a fast talking canon of shakespearean heroes with portrayals marked by gut wrenching passion according to one co star williamson was like a tornado on stage he felt he was paddling for his life fiercely uncompromising choosy about the roles he accepted contemptuous of the suits who made money from artists and a perfectionist who never accepted second best from himself or others nicol sometimes alienated those around him but even his detractors still acknowledge his brilliance after an extraordinary career on both stage and screen williamson was burnt out as an actor by the age of 60 yet as gabriel hershman explains in this authorised biography a premature end was perhaps inevitable for an actor who always went the extra mile in every performance

More Than Just A Good Life

2013-08-08

one of the greatest white blues guitarists to ever come out of england peter green founded fleetwood mac with john mcvie and mick fleetwood considered an enigma as well as a great musician he quit the band in the early 1970s giving up fame and leaving behind original songs that have proved timeless this fully authorized biography by green s close associate reveals exactly why this happened

Uncle Bill

2006-08

condoleezza rice became the first black woman with the title us secretary of state in a government dominated by rich white republicans this is an authorised biography of condoleezza rice based on interviews with this powerful woman

Olivier

1986-04-01

meski dikungkung dalam penjara politik selama tiga dasawarsa nelson mandela telah memimpin afrika selatan keluar dari apartheid ke demokrasi seorang pria yang hidupnya dijalani dengan keberanian penuh keteladanan dan keyakinan yang menginspirasi kisah hidup mandela merepresentasikan sejarah bangsanya mandela dibesarkan dengan kisah masa lalu sebelum lahirnya bangsa afrika selatan mengenai suku yang dulu berjaya tetapi kemudian dipermalukan diinjak injak martabatnya dan dikucilkan dari proses demokrasi uni afrika selatan yang baru berdiri delapan tahun sebelum mandela lahir perjuangan mandela merupakan perlawanan terhadap rezim rasisme inferioritas kulit hitam versus kedigdayaan kulit putih tak hanya kebijakan apartheid pemerintah yang harus diberangusnya melainkan juga lemahnya kepercayaan diri masyarakat yang telah dikondisikan untuk selalu tunduk melalui biografi resmi ini anthony sampson jurnalis kawakan yang merupakan kawan karib mandela sejak 1951 sekaligus pengamat politik afrika selatan selama lima puluh tahun terakhir menghasilkan potret kaya informasi paling lengkap mengenai sang pemimpin dunia dengan akses terhadap surat surat pribadi yang belum terpublikasikan sebelumnya riset mendalam dan ratusan wawancara sampson telah meramu sebuah kisah penting dan mencerahkan tentang mandela sang jagoan kaum tertindas pemimpin pergerakan rakyat negosiator ulung yang mengesankan pemimpin dunia lainnya hingga kisah getir tentang bapak bangsa yang kesulitan memerankan posisi ayah bagi putra putrinya sendiri pencapaian mandela terletak pada kesuksesannya mendemitoskan sang tokoh tanpa mengecilkan perannya yang heroik karya anthony sampson yang akan menjadi monumen yang mengabadikan kehebatan mandela john carlin new york times book review sejarah politik yang kaya detail potret berwarna tentang seorang politikus berdedikasi dan sebuah profil mengenai keberanian sejati keberanian yang dahsyat sekaligus teramat langka kirkus reviews mizan bentang pustaka biografi nelson mandela dewasa indonesia

James Bond

2018-02-16

the hardback of this first and authorised biography received very good reviews and immediately reprinted it tells the story of one of the heroines of post war british comedy on radio film and tv hattie jacques is known as the billowing imposing matron in the carry on films as the star of such bbc radio classics as itma educating archie and hancock s half hour and as the fictional sister of eric sykes in his long running tv sitcom but the

formidable frumpy galleon in full sail screen persona could not have been more at odds with the real life woman as this biography reveals for the first time she had a tempestuous wartime affair with an american officer and then a strange marriage to the actor john le mesurier corporal wilson in dad s army whose dissatisfactions she circumnavigated by moving her lover a flashy cockney car dealer into the matrimonial home but as well as being warm and sexy and generous she was also owing to her lifelong struggle with her weight needy and melancholic and rueful that her size persistently typecast her and excluded her from many roles this biography has been written with full co operation from hattie s son and show business friends like barbara windsor clive dunn galton and simpson and ian carmichael

Black Sheep

2003

Peter Green

1995-02-01

Anthony Hopkins

2008-08-07

Condoleezza Rice

2018-05-30

Nelson Mandela

2011-11-01

Hattie

2004

70 Not Out

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