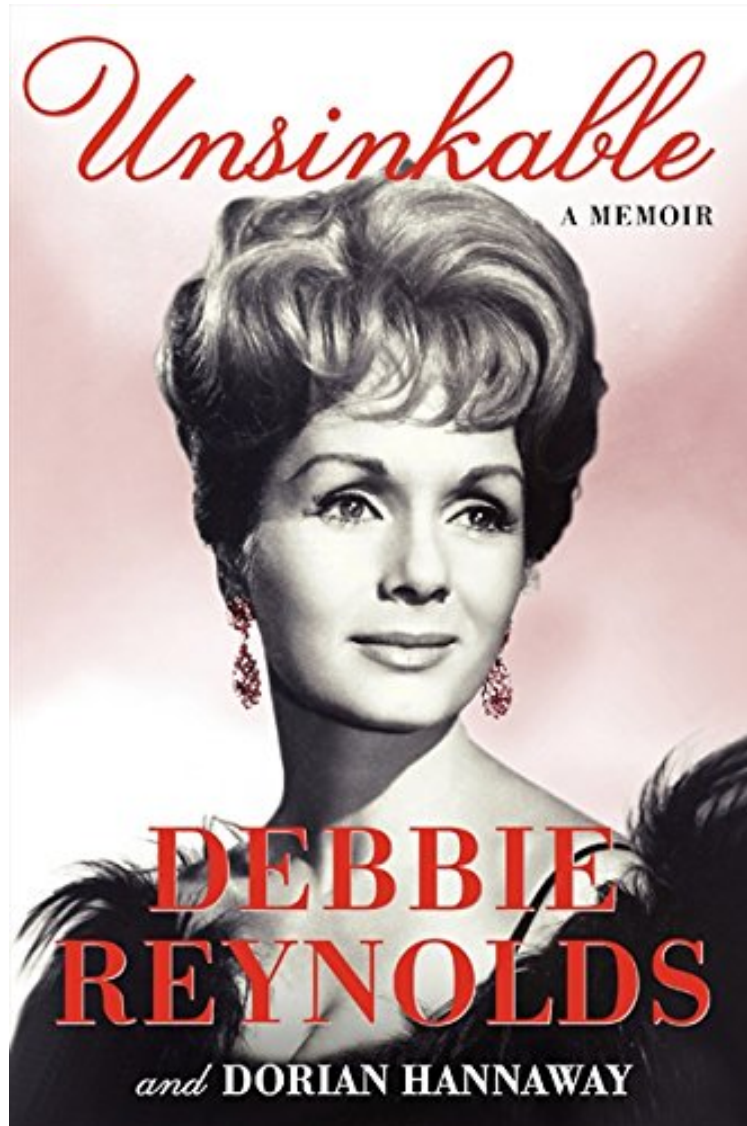


[Get free] Unsinkable: A Memoir

## Unsinkable: A Memoir

*Debbie Reynolds, Dorian Hannaway*

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**Debbie Reynolds, Dorian Hannaway : Unsinkable: A Memoir** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Unsinkable: A Memoir:

85 of 86 people found the following review helpful. Unsinkable and Unstoppable: The Resilient Debbie Reynolds By R PRIUS Anyone who has had an encounter with Debbie Reynolds (and to my way of thinking that is probably half of the population of the United States) can tell you one distinct thing....she is a powerhouse of energy that loves her fans and is enthusiastic and just plain nice. I've met her three times. She'll answer questions, talk about the good old days when MGM was still the top studio before it was cut up, pose for pictures and signs autographs. She is an atypical

celebrity who comes across like a normal human being. This book is an interesting read from beginning to end. It starts with the breakup of her last marriage which was the one that got the least coverage. It was a pretty rough experience once she realized #3 was robbing her blind and sending her into a mountain of debt much like #2 millionaire shoe magnet Harry Karl did. The tenacious Reynolds is willing to admit that she was blinded by trust, but she fought the good fight trying to reclaim what was rightfully hers. It was nice to know that she was mad but she was also someone who didn't let that anger consume her. She got back up, went back to work, and bailed herself out of debt to resume her career and jump start it at a time when most people would kick back poolside and down pitchers of margaritas. The reality is that Reynolds has had a long and productive career that wasn't going to necessarily be either. She came to Burbank CA by way of El Paso TX during the Depression. Her family wasn't rich in the conventional sense, but they were loving, close, hard working, and honest. Debbie got into show business by way of a beauty contest that had a talent component. She saw movies as her way to make some money so she could go to college and become a Physical Education teacher. The rest just sort of fell her way. She loved to perform and audiences loved her and still do. This book is crammed with anecdotes about Debbie's career and her friends (famous and non-famous) that she has met along the way, as well as her family which include her daughter Carrie, son Todd, and granddaughter Billie. She talks about Carrie with a mother's deep concern but also intense pride. Ditto for her son and the rest of the family. Ava Gardner, Gene Kelly, Carleton Carpenter and Liz Taylor are among those included. Surprisingly after an estrangement of several years mended fences with Taylor pretty easily. This part had me laughing because they both seemed bonded by friendship and their misfortune to have been married to the less than stellar Eddie Fisher. There was so much in this book that I found interesting. Reynolds has never lost the capacity to be a fan and her stories of life at MGM are amazing. I also loved her description of how she doggedly tracked down old Hollywood artifacts and scoured the studio auctions for costumes and other pieces of Hollywood history. One thing she clarified was the shady history of trying to find a permanent home for her collections. I found myself wondering why so many people dropped the ball on this one and her explanation of all the false starts was sad but true. By the end, what you get is a frank, no frills look into the life of a woman who is a force of nature unto herself. 25 of 26 people found the following review helpful. A delightful and classy read. By Customer I've been slowly reading this memoir for the last month or so. Last week, I read Debbie Reynold's thoughts about her daughter's mental illness, how brave Carrie is and how much Debbie feared outliving her daughter. So, when Carrie Fisher died, my first thought was, "Poor Debbie! I can't imagine how hard this is on her." Yesterday, I read a story where Debbie went to great lengths to spread a friend's ashes in the desired location, but kept a little bit to be buried with her. And then I heard that Debbie died, too. I usually don't get upset by celebrity deaths, but this has been a surreal experience. I've admired both of these actresses for a long time and I'm grateful for their work and the honorable way they tried to live their lives. 210 of 217 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating, heartbreaking. By Jeff Hanna Although hugely entertaining and full of laughs, I didn't find this autobiography the light fluffy romp that some readers did. It's almost hard to believe that Debbie Reynolds has survived so much disappointment and heartbreak - with humor and energy fully intact. It says a lot that Debbie is so incredibly close to her bright and very talented children. Amazing that she has had such awful luck with men. Eddie Fisher was a supremely selfish man who virtually abandoned his children, Harry Karl a "nice guy" hopelessly addicted to gambling and prostitutes, and her last husband, a handsome charmer from Virginia, is a truly dreadful human being. Remember that Doris Day, Esther Williams, and Shirley MacLaine also married pathetic excuses for husbands who wiped out all or much of their wife's fortunes. Otherwise, Debbie has little bad to say about anyone. She comes across as a person of real substance and spiritual maturity. What she says has the ring of truth. The book's final section includes fascinating gossip and tidbits about every movie she has made. Hard to believe that she is currently appearing on HBO with giant fake snoz and harlequin glasses as Liberace's mother. Debbie is indeed a national treasure. Bless her. GREATLY recommended.

Unsinkable is the definitive memoir by film legend and Hollywood icon Debbie Reynolds. In *Unsinkable*, the late great actress, comedienne, singer, and dancer Debbie Reynolds shares the highs and lows of her life as an actress during Hollywood's Golden Age, anecdotes about her lifelong friendship with Elizabeth Taylor, her experiences as the foremost collector of Hollywood memorabilia, and intimate details of her marriages and family life with her children, Carrie and Todd Fisher. A story of heartbreak, hope, and survival, America's Sweetheart Debbie Reynolds picks up where she left off in her first memoir, *Debbie: My Life*, and is illustrated with previously unpublished photos from Reynolds's personal collection. Debbie Reynolds died on December 28, 2016, at the age of 84, just one day after the death of her daughter, actress and author Carrie Fisher.

Anyone who loves Hollywood and movies is bound to enjoy this lively, funny book, filled with candid recollections. Debbie was a movie-struck kid who experienced the last days of Hollywood's Golden Age, and I love her clear-eyed memories. (Leonard Maltin) [Reynolds is] indisputably a grand dame of show business. (NPR on *UNSINKABLE*) Lively. (People on *UNSINKABLE*) Debbie Reynolds knows exactly how to steal the scene, wring tears, and most important, how to leave the audience feeling thoroughly entertained. (New York Journal of Books on

UNSINKABLE)Nothing could sink this lady. (New York Post on UNSINKABLE)From the Back CoverThe definitive memoir by legendary actress and performer Debbie Reynolds that offers a deeply personal perspective on Hollywood and its elite, from the glory days of MGM to the presentUnsinkable shines a spotlight on the resilient woman whose talent and passion for her work have endured for more than six decades. In her engaging, down-to-earth voice, Debbie shares private details about her man and money troubles. She invites us into the close circle of her family, speaking with deep affection and honesty about her relationships with her children, Carrie and Todd Fisher. She looks back at her life as an actress during Hollywood's Golden Age, including her lifelong friendship with (and years-long estrangement from) the legendary Elizabeth Taylor.Here, too, are stories about numerous celebrities, such as Ava Gardner, Clark Gable, Frank Sinatra, Mick Jagger, Gene Kelly, and many more. Debbie also takes us on a guided tour through her movies with delightful, often hilarious behind-the-scenes anecdotes.Frank and forthright, and featuring dozens of previously unseen photos from Debbie's personal collection, Unsinkable is a revealing portrait of a woman whose determination is an inspiration.About the AuthorDebbie Reynolds was an actress, comedienne, singer, dancer, and author best known for her leading roles in *Singin' in the Rain* and *The Unsinkable Molly Brown*, and on TV as Bobbi Adler in *Will Grace*. After more than sixty years in the entertainment industry, she was a trueHollywood icon, beloved by millions of fans of all ages around the world. Debbie Reynolds died on December 28, 2016, at the age of 84, just one day after the death of her daughter, actress and author Carrie Fisher.Dorian Hannaway was the director of late-night programming at CBS-TV for more than fifteen years, supervising the production of *The Late Show* with David Letterman; *The Kids in the Hall*; and *The Late, Late Show*. She has known Debbie for more than thirty years, and has written and produced many projects with her.