

Crook County Library

That's Entertainment!

Books

Abbott, Karen

American Rose: A Nation Laid Bare (2010)

Sisters June and Louise Hovick chose different paths to fame – June as a "legit" actress, while Louise became Gypsy Rose Lee, a strutting, bawdy, erudite stripper who understood how to sell sex without actually showing sex. Using exclusive interviews and never-before-published material, author Karen Abbott delves into Gypsy's world, including her intensely dramatic triangle relationship with her sister, June Havoc, and their formidable mother Rose. (*Biography; Nonfiction*) JFS

Alda, Alan

Never Have Your Dog Stuffed: And Other Things I've Learned (2005)

The son of a popular actor and a loving but mentally ill mother, he spent his early childhood backstage in the erotic and comic world of burlesque and went on, after early struggles, to achieve extraordinary success in his profession. Yet this is not a memoir of show-business ups and downs. It is a story of a boy growing into a man who then realizes he has only just begun to grow. Alda learns the hard way that change, uncertainty, and transformation are what life is made of, and true happiness is found in embracing them. (*Memoir*) AS

Andrews, Julie

Home: A Memoir of My Early Years (2008)

A personal account of the iconic actress's pre-fame life traces the time between her birth in 1935 and her discovery by Walt Disney during her 1962 Broadway performance in Camelot, a period marked by her relationships with a vaudevillian mother and teacher father, the World War II London Blitz, and her work as a Royal Command Performance child soloist. (*Memoir*) JFS

Applegate, Katherine

The One and Only Ivan (2012)

When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life. (*Juvenile; Newbery Winner*) MR

Armstrong, Jennifer Keishin

Mary and Lou and Rhoda and Ted and All the Brilliant Minds Who Made *The Mary Tyler Moore Show* a Classic (2013)

Tells the stories behind the making of this popular classic, introducing the groundbreaking female writers who lent real-life stories to their TV scripts; the men who created the indelible characters; the lone woman network executive who cast the legendary ensemble—and advocated for this provocative show—and the colorful cast of actors who made it all work. (*Nonfiction; Behind-the-Scenes*) JFS

Elwes, Cary

As You Wish: Inconceivable Tales From the Making of *The Princess Bride* (2015)

From actor Cary Elwes, who played the iconic role of Westley in *The Princess Bride*, comes a first-person account and behind-the-scenes look at the making of the cult classic film filled with never-before-told stories, exclusive photographs, and interviews with co-stars. (*Memoir; Making-Of*) JFS

Engvall, Bill

Just a Guy: Notes from a Blue Collar Life (2007)

Bill Engvall talks about the rollicking ride of his life, beginning with his childhood in Texas and adolescence in Arizona to his days in the 'Blue Collar Comedy Tour.' (*Comedy, Biography*) MR

Gordon, Kim

Girl in a Band (2008)

Bassist Kim Gordon and her band Sonic Youth helped build a vocabulary of music, paving the way for Nirvana, Hole, Smashing Pumpkins and many other acts. But at its core, *Girl in a Band* examines the route from girl to woman in uncharted territory, music, art career, what partnership means – and what happens when that identity dissolves. (*Memoir*) JFS

Kandel, Susan

Shamus in the Green Room (2006)

Los Angeles writer Cece Caruso is thrilled that her biography of the legendary Dashiell Hammett is headed for the big screen. In a tale of thrills, suspense, and surprising twists that would confound even the best P.I., Cece sets out to find justice for a dead woman, even if it means pulling the plug on the movie – assuming someone doesn't pull the plug on Cece first. (*Mystery*) JK

Leonard, Elmore

Get Shorty (1990)

Chili Palmer is a small-time loan shark with big-time style. Following a bad debt from Miami to Las Vegas and on to Beverly Hills, Chili hooks up with Harry Zimm, once a leading director of grade-B horror flicks, now trying to make a comeback. While succumbing to the siren call of celluloid, Chili also narrows in on the bad debt, in the process running up against a sharp-dressing hood with whose money Harry has played too loose. (*Crime Fiction; Capers; Suspense*) JFS

Manzano, Sonia

Becoming Maria : Love and Chaos in the South Bronx (2015)

Get to Know 'Maria' from Sesame Street in this beautifully wrought coming-of-age memoir. Set in the 1970s in the Bronx, this is the story of a girl with a dream. Emmy award-winning actress and writer Sonia Manzano plunges us into the daily lives of a Latino family that is loving – and troubled. This is Sonia's own story rendered with an unforgettable narrative power. (*Memoir; Pura Belpré Honor Winner*) MR

Olivier, Laurence

On Acting (1986)

In this extraordinary and revealing book, the greatest actor of our century shares his innermost thoughts about the craft he has mastered and the profession he passionately loves. A unique guided tour of the techniques of acting. (*Nonfiction; Memoir; How-To*) JFS

Orlean, Susan

Rin Tin Tin: The Life and the Legend (2011)

He believed the dog was immortal. So begins Susan Orlean's sweeping, powerfully moving account of Rin Tin Tin's journey from orphaned puppy to movie star and international icon. Orlean, a staff writer at The New Yorker who has been hailed as "a national treasure" by The Washington Post, spent nearly ten years researching and reporting her most captivating book to date: the story of a dog who was born in 1918 and never died. (*Biography; Nonfiction*) AS

Patchett, Ann

Bel Canto (2001)

When terrorists seize hostages at an embassy party, an unlikely assortment of people are thrown together, including American opera star Roxane Coss, and Mr. Hosokawa, a Japanese CEO and her biggest fan. Two couples, complete opposites, fall in love; sexual identities become confused; and a horrific imprisonment is transformed into an unexpected heaven on earth. (*Literary Fiction*) JFS

Poehler, Amy

Yes, Please (2014)

The actress best known for her work on "Parks and Recreation" and "Saturday Night Live" reveals personal stories and offers her humorous take on such topics as love, friendship, parenthood, and her relationship with Tina Fey. (*Autobiography*) AS

Rennison, Louise

Withering Tights (2011)

Self-conscious about her knobby knees but confident in her acting ability, fourteen-year-old Tallulah spends the summer at a Yorkshire performing arts camp that, she is surprised to learn, is for girls only. (*Humor*) AS

Robertson, Phil

unPhiltered: The Way I See It (2014)

The controversial patriarch of A&E's Duck Dynasty series outlines his decidedly opinionated philosophy on life, sharing his views on faith, family, work and a range of modern-day issues, including gun control, prayer in school and the government. (*Biography, Christian Faith*) MR

Sacks, Mike

Poking a Dead Frog: Conversations with Today's Top Comedy Writers (2014)

Amy Poehler, Mel Brooks, Adam McKay, Bill Hader, Patton Oswalt, and many more take us deep inside the mysterious world of comedy. Packed with behind-the-scenes stories – from a day in the writers' room at The Onion to why a sketch does or doesn't make it onto Saturday Night Live to how the BBC nearly erased the entire first season of Monty Python's Flying Circus. (*Nonfiction; Biography; Careers*) JFS

Selznick, Brian

The Invention of Hugo Cabret (2007)

When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toy seller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized. (*Graphic Novel; Young Adult; Film History*) JK

Sitton, Robert

Lady in the Dark: Iris Barry and the Art of Film (2014)

Iris Barry (1895-1969) was a pivotal modern figure and one of the first intellectuals to treat film as an art form, appreciating its far-reaching, transformative power. This is the fascinating story of the first motion picture critic, Iris Barry, who began the MOMA Film Collection. (*Biography*) JK

Smith, Brad

Shoot the Dog: A Novel (2013)

Murder on a movie set in upstate New York. Virgil Cain meant to mind his own business, which is horse training, but his team of Percherons is tied up in the movie as well. (*Mystery*) JK

West, Nathanael

The Day of the Locust (1939)

The Day of the Locust is a novel about Hollywood and its corrupting touch, about the American dream turned into a sun-drenched California nightmare. Nathaniel West's Hollywood is a seedy world of little people, some hopeful, some despairing, all twisted by their by their own desires – from the ironically romantic artist narrator to a macho movie cowboy, a middle-aged innocent from America's heartland, and the hard-as-nails call girl would-be-star whom they all lust after. (*Classics*) JFS

Movies

All About Eve (1950)

From the moment she glimpses her idol at the stage door, Eve Harrington moves relentlessly towards her goal: taking the reins of power from the great actress Margo Channing. The cunning Eve maneuvers her way into Margo's Broadway role, becomes a sensation and even causes turmoil in the lives of Margo's director boyfriend, her playwright and his wife. Only the cynical drama critics see through Eve, admiring her audacity and perfect pattern of deceit. (*Feature Film; Academy Award Winner*) AS

Inside Llewyn Davis (2013)

In 1961 New York City, folk singer Llewyn Davis (Oscar Isaac) is at a crossroads. Guitar in hand, he struggles against seemingly insurmountable obstacles to make a name for himself in the music world, but so far, success remains elusive. Relying on the kindness of both friends and strangers, Llewyn embarks on an odyssey that takes him from the streets of Greenwich Village to a Chicago club, where awaits a music mogul who could give him the big break that he desperately needs. (*Drama*) JFS

Life Itself (2015)

The legacy of Roger Ebert's life, recounts the inspiring and entertaining life of the world-renowned film critic and social commentator, from his Pulitzer Prize-winning film criticism at the Chicago Sun-Times to becoming one of the most influential cultural voices in America. (*Documentary; Biography*) JK

Searching for Sugar Man (2013)

In the early 1970s, Sixto Rodriguez was a Detroit folksinger who had a short-lived recording career. Unknown to him, his musical story continued in South Africa where he became a pop music icon. Long rumored there to be dead, two fans decided to seek out the truth of his fate. (*Documentary*) JFS

The Sunshine Boys (1975)

Al Lewis (George Burns) and Willy Clark (Walter Matthau) are a pair of feuding vaudeville comedians who performed together for 47 years before finally calling it quits. A network genius has the brilliant idea of reuniting the duo for a TV special about the history of comedy. Can Lewis and Clark put aside their differences long enough to collect one last paycheck? (*Comedy*) JFS

To Be or Not to Be (1942)

Acting couple Joseph (Jack Benny) and Maria Tura (Carole Lombard) are managing a theatrical troupe when the Nazis invade Poland. Maria is having an affair with Lieutenant Sobinski (Robert Stack), who suspects Professor Siletsky (Stanley Ridges) is a Nazi spy. With Siletsky in possession of a list of members of the Polish resistance, the Turas' company takes action. Using their skill for impersonation, Joseph and company must confuse the Nazis and stop Siletsky from handing over the list. (*Comedy; Classic*) JFS

What Ever Happened to Baby Jane? (1962)

Jane Hudson (Bette Davis) is an aging child star left to care for her wheelchair-bound sister Blanche (Joan Crawford), also a former child actress. Jane is desperate to keep Blanche imprisoned as she plans a new rise to fame, and tries to hide Blanche's existence from doctors, visitors and neighbors while she devises a way to get rid of her sister. (*Drama; Thriller; Cult Classic*) JFS

White Christmas (1954)

Two talented song-and-dance men team up after the war to become one of the hottest acts in show business. Joined by two sisters, they travel to Vermont for a white Christmas. (*Musical, Classic*) MR