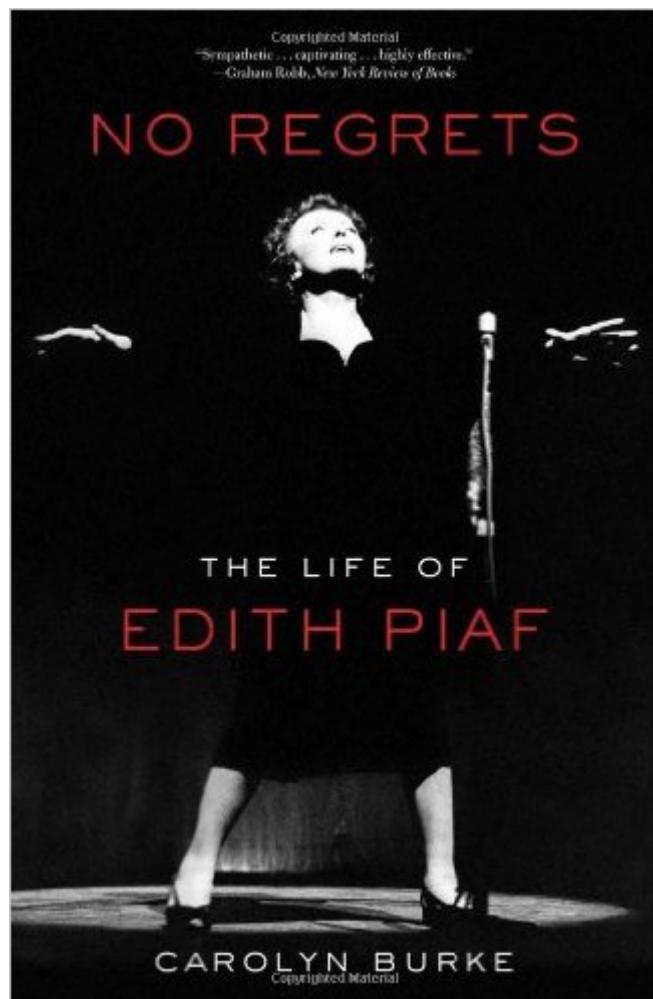


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# No Regrets: The Life Of Edith Piaf



## Synopsis

The iconic French singer comes to life in this biography, which captures Edith Piaf's immense charisma along with the time and place that gave rise to her international career. Raised by turns in a brothel, a circus caravan, and a working-class Parisian neighborhood, Piaf began singing on the city's streets, where she was discovered by a Champs Elysées cabaret owner. She became a star almost overnight, seducing all of Paris with her passionate voice, and *No Regrets* explores her meteoric rise; her tumultuous love affairs; and her struggles with drugs, alcohol, and illness. Piaf was an unlikely student of poetry and philosophy who aided Resistance efforts in World War II, wrote the lyrics for nearly 100 songs, including "La vie en rose," and was a crucial mentor to younger singers such as Yves Montand and Charles Aznavour. Burke demonstrates how, with her courage, her incomparable art, and her universal appeal, "the little sparrow" endures as a symbol of France and a source of inspiration to entertainers the world over.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I had hoped. Edith Piaf's voice and interpretive abilities were so extraordinary. I always find I want to read everything I can about her in order to better understand the foundation of her interpretation of a lyric. My French is grade school at best, yet I always feel as though I understand what she is trying to tell me when she sings.

Okay and factual, if by-the-numbers biography of France's beloved "Little Sparrow," with much more

on her early life. However, the story never quite comes alive and very little is written about her last, much younger husband Theo Serapo, the last in a long line of Piaf protégés (Charles Azanour, Yves Montand)..

Edith Piaf's voice was called the soul of France during the WWII years. Her voice was truly exceptional, as was her improbable climb out of the slums of Paris. She was abandoned by her mother, raised by her grandparents in a brothel, was singing in the streets at the age of eight and became an phenomenon during the WWII years. She was secretly part of the resistance movement during the Nazi occupation. I admired that she always wore the "same" simple black dress and used only a few meaningful gestures. Her voice was ALL that was on display. ...No need to embellish her performance with glitzy clothes, proactive gyrations, strobe lights and a backup chorus....like so many so-called star singers do today. I can't think of another singer with such emotional depth to their music. I loved the pictures in the book and the details about how/when and with whom her most famous songs were written. I was able to get on YouTube and actually listen to each song. I even remember seeing her on the Ed Sullivan show when I was a teenager and didn't know what to think of her; she was so unique. Her music and voice are timeless.

Purchased as gift in conjunction with Je Ne Regrette Rien CD then bought for myself. Fascinating story of an amazing artist.

Not as interesting as I thought it would be. Worth reading if you are really interested in the subject matter.

I am still reading it, it is excellent, I will review it in full when I have finished Brian Harper

I gave this book to my husband for his Birthday and he loves it! It is very well written and the print is just right! thank you RB

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