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The Brothers Warner



Synopsis

The BROTHERS WARNER, formerly titled "Hollywood Be Thy Name: The Warner Brothers Story", is the definitive family biography and intimate portrait of the four legendary Warner brothers. It unfolds and is told through the eyes of Harry Warner's granddaughter, Cass Warner Sperling and in the voices of others who knew them.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As a member of the Warner family, though generationally removed from the brothers Warner, Cass Sperling has done a wonderful job on this book. Fortunately, for readers such as myself, she fulfilled a long ago promise to her grandfather Harry Warner and took it upon herself to dig deep and chronicle the history of Warner Bros.(the studio) and the brothers Warner. Like many families, the Warners had their roots in eastern Europe (presumably Poland, but let's face it.....boundaries in those countries changed all the time). Jewish and poor, they landed in this country with not much more than the clothes on their backs. Pulling together, they got by on a variety of low paying jobs until they pieced together enough money to buy a small movie theater/nickolodeon. Because syndicates controlled what films were available to small operators, the Warners came up with their own solution: make movies. By the seats of their pants more than real money, the Warners managed to hold things together and stay one step ahead of their creditors. Unlike their counterparts who were larger, more prestigious, and financially solvent, the Warners had chutzpah and ideas. Throwing themselves into the idea of pioneering sound films when other studios viewed

the move as insanity, their bet paid off with the release of Don Juan and The Jazz Singer. However, it was a move that was not without a cost. Brother Sam Warner died from a compromised immune system (among other things) on the cusp of the theatrical release of The Jazz Singer. The remaining brothers.....Harry, Al, and Jack carried on with the shared vision and became fabulously successful and Warner Brothers emerged as one of the premier Hollywood studios that was later categorized as having its own style.

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