



 Get Print Book

The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography

By Jay David



Download



Read Online

The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography By Jay David

Ever since his days as "Mork" on *Mork and Mindy*, Robin Williams has captivated the hearts and funny bones of audiences everywhere. No one will forget his performances in such classics as *Good Morning Vietnam*, *Awakenings*, and *Dead Poets Society*, or his hilarious roles as the nanny in *Mrs. Doubtfire* and as the zany doctor in *Patch Adams*.

The Life and Humor of Robin Williams offers his millions of fans a lively, thorough account of Robin Williams's life and career. Chronicling the early years, from his supportive Chicago childhood to his first college improv class, the book goes on to describe the actor's rapid descent into Hollywood's fast lane. But Williams cleaned up his life and made a breakthrough into serious acting with his extraordinary performance in *The World According to Garp* and the steady climb ever since to his more recent, Oscar-winning triumph in *Good Will Hunting*.

For the countless fans of Robin Williams, this biography is a fascinating and comprehensive look at the star's inspiring history.



[Download The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography ...pdf](#)



[Read Online The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biograph ...pdf](#)

The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography

By Jay David

The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography By Jay David

Ever since his days as "Mork" on Mork and Mindy, Robin Williams has captivated the hearts and funny bones of audiences everywhere. No one will forget his performances in such classics as *Good Morning Vietnam*, *Awakenings*, and *Dead Poets Society*, or his hilarious roles as the nanny in *Mrs. Doubtfire* and as the zany doctor in *Patch Adams*.

The Life and Humor of Robin Williams offers his millions of fans a lively, thorough account of Robin Williams's life and career. Chronicling the early years, from his supportive Chicago childhood to his first college improv class, the book goes on to describe the actor's rapid descent into Hollywood's fast lane. But Williams cleaned up his life and made a breakthrough into serious acting with his extraordinary performance in *The World According to Garp* and the steady climb ever since to his more recent, Oscar-winning triumph in *Good Will Hunting*.

For the countless fans of Robin Williams, this biography is a fascinating and comprehensive look at the star's inspiring history.

The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography By Jay David Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1456128 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Harper Perennial
- Published on: 1999-09-22
- Released on: 1999-09-22
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.25" h x .56" w x 5.50" l,
- Binding: Paperback
- 224 pages

 [Download The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biograph ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

From Kirkus Reviews

The thinnest of ``clip" jobs, David's biography amounts to a rehash of profiles from mass-market magazines, not even arranged interestingly or spiced up in any way. Fans of the manic comedian craving information about his life would find it more entertaining to tune into an interview segment on a morning television talk show at least than they'd get the all-important cadence to Williams's punch lines. When David quotes the man in action, he gets down just a jumble of words. It's impossible to discern the pattern of the free associations Williams is known for, and that misses all the fun. Williams's life, luckily for David, is an above average Hollywood story. Williams had one of those mythic lonely childhoods that turned him into an artist, craving attention and not ever knowing how to control himself when he got it. He sped through the 70s crossing paths with all the legends of the comedy world, spinning out of control on cocaine and producing some inventive comedy (and also *Mork and Mindy*). Then, suddenly, the goofball emerged as a serious actor, garnering Academy Award nominations and box-office billions in films like *Dead Poets Society*, *Mrs. Doubtfire*, and *Good Will Hunting*. Yet David can't make anything of these details. He jumps from one story to another, merely quoting from news sources, and never gets into a narrative structure. He even makes Williams's final encounter with John Belushi Williams was perhaps the last person to see the comedian alive before his drug overdose seem bland. And that's not the worst of it. David adds his own analysis of Williams's comic style and his take on Williams's movies throughout the biography, which are neither astute nor pertinent. (8 b&w photos) -- Copyright ©1999, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.

About the Author

Jay David is the author of *Growing Up Black: From Slave Days to the Present--Twenty-Five African Americans Reveal the Trials and Triumphs of Their Childhoods* and *Growing Up Jewish: An Anthology*. He lives in New York City.

Excerpt. © Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.

In spite of his love for an occasional raunchy, off-color routine, and in spite of the fact that most comedians seem to come from the wrong side of the tracks, Robin Williams was born to affluence and gentility. He had no bruising struggle to better himself economically; he faced no arduous climb up the ladder to fame and fortune. He was born the quintessential WASP--white, Anglo-Saxon, and Protestant from the get-go.

How this offbeat, contradictory man became one of the great twentieth-century improvisationists is a story that breaks all the molds and challenges all the clichés about the typical performer's blood, sweat, and tears.

Robin Williams was born in Chicago on July 21, 1952. He was a late arrival for his mother and father, who each had been married before; this was the second marriage for both of them. Almost fifty years old at the time of his son's birth, Robert Williams played from the beginning a rather remote role in the young boy's life.

Robin had two half-brothers, but they were grown and had left home by the time of his arrival, so he was virtually an only child--the only child in the house, at any rate. The half-brother on his father's side was named Todd Williams; the half-brother on his mother's side was named McLaurin Smith, or sometimes Smith-Williams.

His father was vice president and midwestern regional manager of the Lincoln-Mercury Division of the Ford Motor Company--an imposing figure, and one to be treated with the utmost respect by any small fry in the

thirty-room house where the Williamses lived. That was a hard and fast rule: Robin addressed his father as "sir" most of the time. Later on, he would describe his father as "a very elegant man, like Lord Stokesbury, the viceroy of India."

Robin's mother was quite a different kind of person. A southerner, she was bubbling over with laughter, was full of fun, and led a very casual, almost totally carefree life. Laurie Williams has said that she and her son Robin were always close. As she put it: "His dad was a disciplinarian; I was the pal."

Funny though she was, she was not the only one who started Robin on his way toward being a comedian. Actually, she quoted him once as complaining that he had to leave home to get an honest laugh. Evidently, she was not completely attuned to his wacky humor. But she knew he was a very funny person.

For his part, Robin understood her humor and laughed at it, frequently calling her a "crazy southern belle." She spent some time with him; but when she was on her own, she socialized with her friends. In the evenings she went out to other peoples' homes and to parties. There weren't many hours that she spent with Robin.

When she was with him, though, "she was always funny," he recalled. "She had the jokes and the poems. Besides that, she played jokes on people.

She herself reminisced about an invitational dance she attended once at the Lake Forest-Lake Bluff (Illinois) Bath and Tennis Club. She wore a very stylish dress, every fold and crease in place, but she had obscured her two front teeth with Black Jack chewing gum, in the manner of a vaudeville comic. She remembered: "All the women were saying, You'd think someone who could afford clothes like that could afford to get her teeth fixed." Her motto in life was, "Man was put on earth to know great joy." And she was determined to support that idea in everything she did.

But, to repeat, she was not always around. Robin grew up lonely. Here he was, plopped down in a thirty-room house with a nanny to care for him, trying to be a little boybut with no other children anywhere in sight: "I was living on this huge estate. It was miles to the next kid."

What he did was agitate for toys, and the toys soon came. He had at least two thousand soldiers and a battlefield in the basement where he could stage wars and make one army overcome the other.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lisa McCann:

Book is usually written, printed, or highlighted for everything. You can recognize everything you want by a e-book. Book has a different type. As you may know that book is important point to bring us around the world. Alongside that you can your reading ability was fluently. A e-book The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography will make you to possibly be smarter. You can feel more confidence if you can know about every little thing. But some of you think this open or reading a new book make you bored. It isn't make you fun. Why they could be thought like that? Have you searching for best book or suited book with you?

Nelson Wyatt:

The book The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography will bring you to the new experience of

reading some sort of book. The author style to describe the idea is very unique. When you try to find new book to read, this book very suited to you. The book The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography is much recommended to you you just read. You can also get the e-book from the official web site, so you can quickly to read the book.

John Champlin:

Playing with family inside a park, coming to see the coastal world or hanging out with close friends is thing that usually you may have done when you have spare time, subsequently why you don't try point that really opposite from that. One particular activity that make you not experiencing tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition of knowledge. Even you love The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography, it is possible to enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still desire to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout people. What? Still don't obtain it, oh come on its identified as reading friends.

Tim Andrus:

In this time globalization it is important to someone to get information. The information will make anyone to understand the condition of the world. The health of the world makes the information simpler to share. You can find a lot of recommendations to get information example: internet, magazine, book, and soon. You will see that now, a lot of publisher that print many kinds of book. The actual book that recommended for your requirements is The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography this guide consist a lot of the information on the condition of this world now. That book was represented how do the world has grown up. The words styles that writer use to explain it is easy to understand. Often the writer made some investigation when he makes this book. Here is why this book ideal all of you.

Download and Read Online The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography By Jay David #GI3MA4CP0EZ

Read The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography By Jay David for online ebook

The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography By Jay David Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography By Jay David books to read online.

Online The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography By Jay David ebook PDF download

The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography By Jay David Doc

The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography By Jay David Mobipocket

The Life and Humor of Robin Williams: A Biography By Jay David EPub