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## Legendary Motorcycles: The Stories and Bikes Made Famous by Elvis, Peter Fonda, Kenny Roberts, and Other Motorcycling Greats

*By Basem Wasef*



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**Legendary Motorcycles: The Stories and Bikes Made Famous by Elvis, Peter Fonda, Kenny Roberts, and Other Motorcycling Greats** By Basem Wasef

Motorcycles are mythic, far more than mere transportation, but some are in a class of their own, truly legendary machines. There are the Triumphs: James Dean's, Marlon Brando's in *The Wild Ones*, the one Steve McQueen took over the fence in *The Great Escape*. There are Evel Knievel's and Elvis's Harleys, the Easy Rider Stars 'n' Stripes bike, and T. E. Lawrence's Brough Superior SS100; Von Dutch's Condor, Craig Vetter's Mystery Ship, and Mike Hailwood's Honda RC162. These are just some of the machines that have made motorcycle history, and that make this book a feast for the eyes and a fact-filled odyssey for the motorcycle aficionado.

Illustrated with commissioned photographs and historical images, the book profiles the bikes--not just the models but the actual motorcycles--that have achieved legendary status in the last century. Their stories, told here in detail for the first time, make up the story of the motorcycle in American culture.

See Motorbooks author Basem Wasef interviewed by Jay Leno on JayLenosGarage.com:

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**Legendary Motorcycles: The Stories and Bikes Made Famous by Elvis, Peter Fonda, Kenny Roberts, and Other Motorcycling Greats** By Basem Wasef Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #830477 in Books
- Published on: 2007-10-15
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 10.88" h x .75" w x 9.25" l, 2.68 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 176 pages

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### **Editorial Review**

Review

**Detroit Free Press, Dec. 13, 2007**

**Detroitfreepress.com, Dec. 13, 2007**

"*Legendary Motorcycles: The Stories and Bikes Made Famous by Elvis, Peter Fonda, Kenny Roberts, and Other Motorcycling Greats*, by Basem Wasef. Available in bookstores or through [www.motorbooks.com](http://www.motorbooks.com)."

**SPEEDtv.com, review by**

"*Legendary Motorcycles* is a winner from Jay Leno's Foreword to the Timeline. Wasef's research reveals some interesting tidbits: James Dean stored his motorcycle at the Greenwich Village garage where Steve McQueen worked as a part-time motorcycle mechanic. The two would bond over their love of bikes. *Legendary Motorcycles* earns four out of five lug nuts. What a ride!"

**RoadRunner Magazine, December 2007**

"A good, nostalgic read that belongs in the collection of any enthusiast who knows why motorcycles are so much more than just machines."

**Gregg Leary, September 2007**

**The Antique Motorcycle, December 2007**

"*Legendary Motorcycles* is unique among motorcycling literature in its pursuit of the story behind the riders and their machines. The unforgettable stories are sure to please ... you won't be disappointed."

**Rep-am.com, November 2007**

"*Legendary Motorcycles* ... exquisite photography and concise storytelling ... offers something entertaining and worthwhile to longtime riders and to newbies."

**Cmgonline.com, Nov. 21, 2007**

"Good book. Buy it in time for Christmas and you'll have a happy motorcycling friend."

From the Inside Flap

Like many great concepts, the idea for *Legendary Motorcycles* developed from one simple question: What are the most historically significant bikes ever, the machines that made the legends? Long lists were compiled and revised, investigative phone calls were placed, and before long the book you hold in your hands began to take shape. Some bikes were easily found and readily available, while others appeared to be lost forever. The beauty of author Basem Wasef's hunt came not from the information he expected to receive, but from tangential clues and unexpected leads that emerged from the unlikeliest of sources. The end result is a collection of unforgettable stories and sumptuous photographs sure to delight all motorcyclists and enthusiasts.

Witness T. C. Christensen's Hogslayer dominate the drag strips. Relive Rollie Free's unconventional land speed record run atop the John Edgar Lightning. Watch Craig Vetter's Mystery Ship come to life.

Behold Colin Edwards' rise to success aboard his Yamaha TZ250D. Marvel at Evel Knievel's final stunt jump at the Chicago Amphitheater. Understand the inspiration behind Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance. Above all, explore and enjoy the pages of this book, and discover what has made these two-wheeled machines truly legendary.

From the Back Cover

It is rare for a motorcycle to transcend its role as mere transportation and become truly legendary: Burt Munro's record-setting streamlined Indian, James Dean's first and last bikes, the Easy Rider choppers, and Evel Knievel's high-flying Harley-Davidsons are a few of this exclusive list.

Author and photographer Basem Wasef traveled extensively, recording the stories of these unforgettable bikes firsthand. Within the pages of *Legendary Motorcycles*, you will relive the glory days and discover the personalities of the men that made them legends.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Annie Hendricks:**

Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important action, like looking for your favorite reserve and reading a book. Beside you can solve your long lasting problem; you can add your knowledge by the guide entitled *Legendary Motorcycles: The Stories and Bikes Made Famous* by Elvis, Peter Fonda, Kenny Roberts, and Other Motorcycling Greats. Try to make the book *Legendary Motorcycles: The Stories and Bikes Made Famous* by Elvis, Peter Fonda, Kenny Roberts, and Other Motorcycling Greats as your good friend. It means that it can being your friend when you sense alone and beside those of course make you smarter than previously. Yeah, it is very fortunated for yourself. The book makes you considerably more confidence because you can know every little thing by the book. So , let's make new experience and knowledge with this book.

#### **Susan Williams:**

What do you regarding book? It is not important along? Or just adding material if you want something to explain what you problem? How about your free time? Or are you busy particular person? If you don't have spare time to perform others business, it is make you feel bored faster. And you have extra time? What did you do? All people has many questions above. They should answer that question since just their can do that. It said that about book. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is appropriate. Because start from on pre-school until university need that *Legendary Motorcycles: The Stories and Bikes Made Famous* by Elvis, Peter Fonda, Kenny Roberts, and Other Motorcycling Greats to read.

#### **Ana Jara:**

The guide untitled *Legendary Motorcycles: The Stories and Bikes Made Famous* by Elvis, Peter Fonda, Kenny Roberts, and Other Motorcycling Greats is the reserve that recommended to you to learn. You can see the quality of the e-book content that will be shown to an individual. The language that publisher use to explained their ideas are easily to understand. The author was did a lot of research when write the book,

therefore the information that they share for you is absolutely accurate. You also might get the e-book of **Legendary Motorcycles: The Stories and Bikes Made Famous by Elvis, Peter Fonda, Kenny Roberts, and Other Motorcycling Greats** from the publisher to make you more enjoy free time.

**Jennifer Klein:**

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