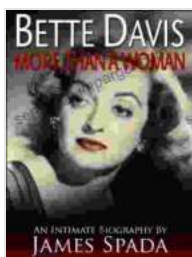


Bette Davis: More Than a Woman



Bette Davis: More Than a Woman by James Spada

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 11332 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
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Bette Davis was one of the greatest actresses of all time. She starred in over 100 films, and won two Academy Awards for Best Actress. She was known for her strong personality and her fearless performances. Davis was a pioneer for women in Hollywood, and she helped to break down barriers for other actresses.

Davis was born in Lowell, Massachusetts, in 1908. She began her acting career in the early 1930s, and quickly became a star. She starred in a number of classic films, including Jezebel (1938), All About Eve (1950), and What Ever Happened to Baby Jane? (1962). Davis was also a successful stage actress, and she won a Tony Award for her performance in the play "The Night of the Iguana" in 1961.

Davis was a complex and fascinating woman. She was known for her strong personality and her outspoken views. She was also a survivor, and

she overcame many challenges in her life. Davis died in 1989, but her legacy lives on. She is still considered one of the greatest actresses of all time, and her films continue to be enjoyed by audiences around the world.

Early life and career

Bette Davis was born Bette Davis Newell on April 5, 1908, in Lowell, Massachusetts. Her parents, Ruth Augusta (née Favor) and Harlow Morrell Davis, were both from New England. Her father was a patent attorney, and her mother was a schoolteacher. Davis had two older sisters, Ruth Elizabeth and Barbara Harriet.

Davis's parents divorced when she was seven years old, and she and her sisters were raised by their mother. Davis attended Cushing Academy in Ashburnham, Massachusetts, and then the John Murray Anderson School for the Dramatic Arts in New York City. She made her Broadway debut in 1929, and her film debut in 1930.

Davis quickly became a star, and she starred in a number of classic films in the 1930s and 1940s. These films include *Of Human Bondage* (1934), *Jezebel* (1938), *All About Eve* (1950), and *What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?* (1962). Davis won two Academy Awards for Best Actress, for her performances in *Jezebel* and *All About Eve*.

Personal life

Davis was married four times. Her first marriage was to Harmon Oscar Nelson Jr. in 1932. They divorced in 1938. Her second marriage was to Arthur Farnsworth in 1940. They divorced in 1943. Her third marriage was to William Grant Sherry in 1945. They divorced in 1950. Her fourth marriage was to Gary Merrill in 1950. They divorced in 1960.

Davis had three children. Her first child, Barbara Davis Hyman, was born in 1935. Her second child, Michael Merrill Davis, was born in 1947. Her third child, Margot Merrill Davis, was born in 1949.

Later career

Davis continued to act in films and on television throughout the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s. She starred in a number of successful films, including *Hush...Hush*, *Sweet Charlotte* (1964), *The Anniversary* (1968), and *Death on the Nile* (1978). She also appeared in a number of television shows, including *The Virginian* (1962), *The Name of the Game* (1968), and *Hotel* (1983).

Davis died of breast cancer on October 6, 1989, at the age of 81.

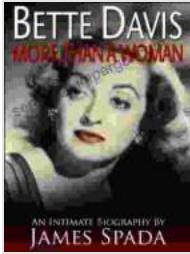
Legacy

Bette Davis is considered one of the greatest actresses of all time. She was known for her strong personality and her fearless performances. She was a pioneer for women in Hollywood, and she helped to break down barriers for other actresses.

Davis's films continue to be enjoyed by audiences around the world. She is an inspiration to actors and actresses, and her legacy will continue to live on for generations to come.

Further reading

- *Bette Davis: A Biography* by Michael Feinstein
- *Bette Davis: The Essential Films* by Leonard Maltin
- *Bette Davis: The Divine Miss D* by Barbara Leaming



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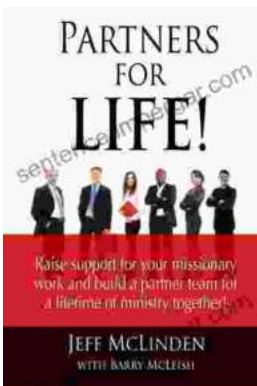
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