



SAMMY

An Autobiography

Sammy Davis Jr. and Jane and Burt Boyar



The great American hipster, bon vivant,
and consummate entertainer—in his own words

Sammy Davis Jr Autobiography

Ensheng Dong



Sammy Davis Jr Autobiography:

Sammy: An Autobiography Sammy Davis,2000 *Sammy* Sammy Davis (Jr.),Jane Boyar,Burt Boyar,2000 Co writer
Burt Boyar has revised Davis s memoirs incorporating unpublished material and has added a new Introduction and Epilogue
The result is a testament to an under acknowledged and often uncomfortable leader in the struggle for racial equality of
photos **Why Me?** Sammy Davis,Jane Boyar,Burt Boyar,1990-05 *Why Me?* Sammy Davis, Jr.,1990-05-17 *Why Me?*

Sammy Davis,1993 **Why Me?** Sammy Davis, Jr.,Jane Boyar,Burt Boyar,2013-03-04 *Why Me* is the self portrait of one of
the extraordinary men of our time who became a figure of controversy because he dared to live his life not as a Negro but as
a man I ve got to be a star like another man has to breathe write Sammy Davis I ve got to get so big so powerful so famous
that the day will come when they ll look at me and see a man and then somewhere along the way they ll notice he s a Negro

Yes I Can Sammy Davis (Jr.),Jane Boyar,Burt Boyar,1965 *Gonna Do Great Things* Gary Fishgall,2010-06-15 A major
reappraisal of the life of legendary entertainer Sammy Davis Jr *Gonna Do Great Things* is at once an intimate portrait and an
exuberant celebration of a wholly American icon Through his multifaceted talent and personality Sammy became one of the
most magnetic and contentious figures in modern entertainment history His outstanding talents as a dancer singer actor
impressionist and comedian combined with his close association with megastars and his interracial marriage made him a
celebrity in the truest sense Born in Harlem in 1925 Sammy debuted onstage with Will Mastin s vaudeville troupe when he
was only three years old He was an instant hit and his talent propelled him into one of the most luminous entertainment
careers of his generation No one could please a crowd like Sammy whose overwhelming energy and infectious humor
exhilarated audiences for sixty years However Sammy s life was not without hardship and his high spirited attitude often
masked a fragile ego From an impoverished broken home he lacked even a single day of formal education and the rigors of
his blossoming show business career denied him the traditional pleasures of childhood Racism constantly affected his life
particularly when he joined the army in 1943 Because he refused to acknowledge any race related restrictions his very
existence became a political statement An active member of the Civil Rights movement and America s first African American
superstar Sammy paved the way for other black entertainers As a charter member of the Rat Pack Sammy spent the 1950s
and 1960s basking in an image of cool and endearing himself to the public But by the 1970s he was relying on cocaine and
alcohol flirting with Satanism indulging in scandalous sexual behavior and becoming the punchline of jokes on Saturday
Night Live Though his fans still adored him his performances suffered A four pack a day smoker Sammy succumbed to cancer
when he was sixty four shortly after celebrating six decades in the spotlight Renowned biographer of Hollywood giants Jimmy
Stewart Burt Lancaster and Gregory Peck Gary Fishgall brings an actor s and director s understanding of the entertainment
industry to Sammy s complicated existence Meticulously researched and filled with insights gathered from interviews with
those who knew Sammy best *Gonna Do Great Things* reveals the fascinating and controversial life of this beloved entertainer

Why Me? Sammy Davis Jr., 1989 The Sammy Davis, Jr. Reader Gerald Lyn Early, 2001 The great entertainer comes alive in this anthology of writings about him from the 1966 Playboy interview by Alex Haley and New Yorker profiles to the 1983 autobiography of porn star Linda Lovelace Original

Yes I Can Sammy Davis (Jr.), 1970 **Yes I Can** Sammy Davis Jr., Burt Boyar, 2012-08-03 YES I CAN is the self portrait of one of the extraordinary men of our time who became a figure of controversy because he dared to live his life not as a Negro but as a man I've got to be a star like another man has to breathe write Sammy Davis I've got to get so big so powerful so famous that the day will come when they'll look at me and see a man and then somewhere along the way they'll notice he's a Negro YES I CAN is one of the most candid engrossing and important American autobiographies of our time wrote the N Y Herald Tribune Book Editor and Critic Maurice Dolbier One of the really great autobiographies ever written Brother Judd Audible.com

Sammy Davis Jr. Tracey Davis, Nina Bunche Pierce, 2014-04-22 Based on conversations between Sammy Davis Jr and his daughter this intimate portrait of Mr Show Business recounts his adventures through the Rat Pack era and the extraordinary obstacles he overcame to become a huge legend and one of the greatest pop culture icons of the 20th century

Yes I Can, by Sammy Davis, Jr., and Jane and Burt Boyar Sammy Davis (Jr.), 1965

Sammy Davis Jr Pamela Sherrod, 2016-02-03 Sammy Davis Jr The Writer Who Saved His Estate recounts the stormy journey of a Christian author who teamed up with the widow of a Rat Pack legend to create musical films for children only to be caught up in one of Hollywood's longest and most vicious battles over an estate In this exclusive account Pamela Sherrod delivers the untold story of the shocking events that took place behind the scenes and the personal triumphs and tragedies that led to the final outcome of the Sammy Davis Jr estate This book with its unusual spiritual viewpoint is the result of three unlikely stories that not only collided but significantly changed history that of the late Sammy Davis Jr his widow Altovise and the writer Breaking her silence Pamela documents the experiences that would haunt her for years Overcoming the fear and repercussions of writing about famous figures she takes on an even more formidable challenge the paralyzing and deep sense of guilt she carried for years over the tragic deaths of Altovise Davis and her fiance Pamela was initially introduced to Mrs Davis to help write her autobiography Altovise who inherited over 5 million of debt after Sammy's death was struggling to harness the ravages of alcoholism financial destitution and legal battles that were complicated still further by the manipulation of partners who nearly took over Sammy's estate Hoping to give Altovise a sense of independence and accomplishment Pamela partnered with her in a common goal to impact young people's lives Altovise wanted to fulfill a request made by her late husband Sammy had never attended school and couldn't read or write until he was an adult This had plagued his life and left him vulnerable to unscrupulous partners and the mismanagement of his estate Sammy had asked Altovise to reach out to kids and urge them to get an education Pamela who was looking for ministry work wanted to inspire and encourage young people with stories of miracles Together the two women created a screenplay for a musical that would fulfill their mutual goals The story itself was about a talented family of traveling

musicians who had a message of their own to deliver Their journey however was filled with unexpected challenges Unfortunately like the very characters that they created Pamela and Altovise were headed toward a misadventure one full of tragedies that would test their own resolve With the release of her book Pamela shares the revelations that would finally give her the courage to finish the work that they began In retracing her steps she d realize that her actions hadn t led to the losses that they experienced but to the final outcome of the Sammy Davis Jr estate *In Black and White* Wil

Haygood,2014-05-28 The untold story of Sammy Davis Jr This incisive biography and sweeping cultural history conjures the many worlds Davis Jr traversed and shows how the issue of race in his own mind and in the minds of his fans and detractors shaped his career and life The New York Times For decades one of America s most recognizable stars the real Sammy Davis Jr has long remained hidden behind the persona the performer so vigorously generated and so fiercely protected Here Wil Haygood brings Davis s life into full relief against the backdrop of an America in the throes of racial change He made his living entertaining white people but was often denied service in the very venues he played and in his broad and varied friendships not to mention his romances Davis crossed racial lines in ways few others had In Black and White vividly draws on painstaking research and more than two hundred and fifty interviews to trace Davis Jr s journey from the vaudeville stage to Broadway Hollywood and of course Las Vegas It is an important record of a vanished America and of one of its greatest entertainers **Sammy** Sammy Davis,Burt Boyer,2001 Sammy Davis Jr rose from childhood stardom to become one of the

most famous African American entertainers of the 1950s and 1960s At the same time he spent most of his career surrounded by controversy and ridicule over his affairs with white film stars his 1960 marriage to Swedish actress May Britt his conversion to Judaism his closeness to the Kennedys and his problems with alcohol and drugs **Sammy Davis, Jr** Arthur Silber,2003-01 This is the story of a colossal talent s gutsy rise from the Black ghetto to the top ranks of show business and society on two continents Experience the glamour and the glitz the tears and tantrums as Sammy s best friend Silber relives 22 years of their intimate journey together **Deconstructing Sammy** Matt Birkbeck,2009 Sammy Davis Jr lived a storied

life Adored by millions over a six decade long career he was considered an entertainment icon and a national treasure But despite lifetime earnings that topped 50 million Sammy died in 1990 near bankruptcy his estate was declared insolvent and there was no possibility of ever using Sammy s name or likeness again It was as if Sammy had never existed Years later his wife Altovise was living in poverty when she turned to a former federal prosecutor Albert Sonny Murray to make one last attempt to resolve Sammy s debts restore his estate and revive his legacy For seven years Sonny probed Sammy s life to understand how someone of great notoriety and wealth could have lost everything and in the process he came to understand Davis a man whose complexity makes for a riveting work of celebrity biography as cultural history Publisher description

A History of African American Autobiography Joycelyn Moody,2021-07-22 This History explores innovations in African American autobiography since its inception examining the literary and cultural history of Black self representation

amid life writing studies By analyzing the different forms of autobiography including pictorial and personal essays editorials oral histories testimonials diaries personal and open letters and even poetry performance media of autobiographies this book extends the definition of African American autobiography revealing how people of African descent have created and defined the Black self in diverse print cultures and literary genres since their arrival in the Americas It illustrates ways African Americans use life writing and autobiography to address personal and collective Black experiences of identity family memory fulfillment racism and white supremacy Individual chapters examine scrapbooks as a source of self documentation African American autobiography for children readings of African American persona poems mixed race life writing after the Civil Rights Movement and autobiographies by African American LGBTQ writers

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