



Montgomery Clift: A Biography

By Patricia Bosworth

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“The definitive work on the gifted, haunted actor” (*Los Angeles Times*) and “the best film star biography in years” (*Newsweek*).

From the moment he leapt to stardom with the films *Red River* and *A Place in the Sun*, Montgomery Clift was acclaimed by critics and loved by fans. Elegant, moody, and strikingly handsome, he became one of the most definitive actors of the 1950s, the first of Hollywood’s “loner heroes,” a group that includes Marlon Brando and James Dean. In this affecting biography, Patricia Bosworth explores the complex inner life and desires of the renowned actor. She traces a poignant trajectory: Clift’s childhood was dominated by a controlling, class-obsessed mother who never left him alone. He developed passionate friendships with Marilyn Monroe and Elizabeth Taylor in spite of his closeted homosexuality. Then his face was destroyed after a traumatic car crash outside Taylor’s house. He continued to make films, but the loss of his beauty and subsequent addictions finally brought the curtain down on his career.

Stunning and heartrending, *Montgomery Clift* is a remarkable tribute to one of Hollywood’s most gifted—and tormented—actors.

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Editorial Review

Review

“An amazing excursion into a life.” —*The New York Times Book Review*

“The definitive work on the gifted, haunted actor.” —*Los Angeles Times*

“The best film star biography in years.” —*Newsweek*

“Here it is—the real thing—inside Montgomery Clift. I’ve known other actors as well, but none with such a harrowing tale. I kept wondering, could Patricia Bosworth have been there? Everywhere? The book is that vivid and intimate.” —Elia Kazan

About the Author

Patricia Bosworth (b. 1933) is a bestselling journalist and biographer. She is a contributing editor for *Vanity Fair* and a contributor to the *New York Times* and the *Nation*. She was also a Broadway actor for nearly a decade, and now runs the Playwrights/Directors Unit at the Actors Studio. Bosworth has taught nonfiction writing at Columbia University as senior fellow at the National Arts Journalism Program, and has lectured at Barnard, Yale University, and the New School. Her books include *Montgomery Clift* (1978), *Diane Arbus* (1984), *Marlon Brando* (2000), and *Jane Fonda: The Private Life of a Public Woman* (2011).

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