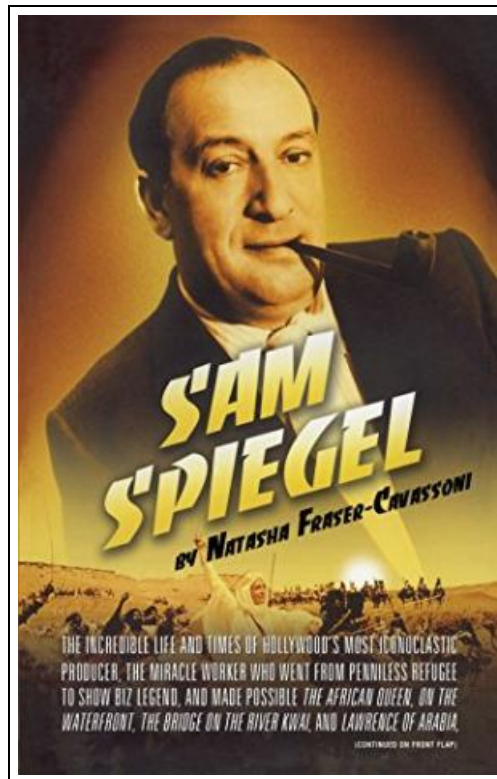


Sam Spiegel: The Incredible Life and Times of Hollywoods Most Iconoclastic Producer, the Miracle Worker Who Went from Penniless Re



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Reviews

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SAM SPIEGEL: THE INCREDIBLE LIFE AND TIMES OF HOLLYWOODS MOST ICONOCLASTIC PRODUCER, THE MIRACLE WORKER WHO WENT FROM PENNILESS RE



Simon & Schuster. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 504 pages. Dimensions: 8.8in. x 6.1in. x 1.4in. The incredible life and times of Hollywoods most iconoclastic producer, the miracle worker who went from penniless refugee to show biz legend, and made possible The African Queen, On the Waterfront, The Bridge on the River Kwai and Lawrence of Arabia, not to speak of many more, including movies as distinct as Suddenly, Last Summer; Nicholas and Alexandra; The Last Tycoon; and Betrayal; all of them sharing the unique vision that earned Spiegel twenty-five Oscars: star-filled, bigger-than-life, conceived on a vast scale, intensely dramatic, and overwhelmingly ambitious. In this rich and brilliant biography, Natasha Fraser-Cavassoni, who had the advantage of knowing and working for Spiegel, brings into sharp focus a Hollywood legend who was at once crafty, unscrupulous, mendacious, and equally capable of great charm and petty meanness, who was sentimental and ruthless, a shrewd judge of talent, a gambler on a colossal scale, a man of almost unique artistic vision and courage who was, in the final analysis, that most elusive and rare of movie producers, a genius. The story of a how a Jewish refugee without a penny to his name managed to produce several of the greatest films of all time is alone worth telling, but Natasha Fraser-Cavassoni has done more; she has drawn the definitive portrait of the man himself -- the elusive, witty, cynical adventurer who, like so many refugees, was able to live, succeed, and raise money everywhere, but who was at home nowhere. Spiegel surrounded himself with luxury and beautiful women but remained a loner despite his countless friends. Spiegel was mysterious about his origins, prompting Arthur Miller to refer to him as The Great Gatsby. In reality, he was born of middle-class Jewish parents in the last...



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