



Paul Newman: A Life

By Shawn Levy

Download now

Read Online →

Paul Newman: A Life By Shawn Levy

Paul Newman, the Oscar-winning actor with the legendary blue eyes, achieved superstar status by playing charismatic renegades, broken heroes, and winsome antiheroes in such revered films as *The Hustler*, *Cool Hand Luke*, *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*, *The Verdict*, *The Color of Money*, and *Nobody's Fool*. But Newman was also an oddity in Hollywood: the rare box-office titan who cared about the craft of acting, the sexy leading man known for the staying power of his marriage, and the humble celebrity who made philanthropy his calling card long before it was cool.

The son of a successful entrepreneur, Newman grew up in a prosperous Cleveland suburb. Despite fears that he would fail to live up to his father's expectations, Newman bypassed the family sporting goods business to pursue an acting career. After struggling as a theater and television actor, Newman saw his star rise in a tragic twist of fate, landing the role of boxer Rocky Graziano in *Somebody Up There Likes Me* when James Dean was killed in a car accident. Though he would joke about instances of "Newman's luck" throughout his career, he refused to coast on his stunning boyish looks and impish charm. Part of the original Actors Studio generation, Newman demanded a high level of rigor and clarity from every project. The artistic battles that nearly derailed his early movie career would pay off handsomely at the box office and earn him critical acclaim.

He applied that tenacity to every endeavor both on and off the set. The outspoken Newman used his celebrity to call attention to political causes dear to his heart, including civil rights and nuclear proliferation. Taking up auto racing in midlife, Newman became the oldest driver to ever win a major professional auto race. A food enthusiast who would dress his own salads in restaurants, he launched the Newman's Own brand dedicated to fresh ingredients, a nonprofit juggernaut that has generated more than \$250 million for charity.

In *Paul Newman: A Life*, film critic and pop culture historian Shawn Levy gives readers the ultimate behind-the-scenes examination of the actor's life, from his merry pranks on the set to his lasting romance with Joanne Woodward to the devastating impact of his son's death from a drug overdose. This definitive biography is a fascinating portrait of an extraordinarily gifted man who gave back as much as he got out of life and just happened to be one of the most

celebrated movie stars of the twentieth century.

From the Hardcover edition.

 [Download Paul Newman: A Life ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Paul Newman: A Life ...pdf](#)

Paul Newman: A Life

By Shawn Levy

Paul Newman: A Life By Shawn Levy

Paul Newman, the Oscar-winning actor with the legendary blue eyes, achieved superstar status by playing charismatic renegades, broken heroes, and winsome antiheroes in such revered films as *The Hustler*, *Cool Hand Luke*, *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*, *The Verdict*, *The Color of Money*, and *Nobody's Fool*. But Newman was also an oddity in Hollywood: the rare box-office titan who cared about the craft of acting, the sexy leading man known for the staying power of his marriage, and the humble celebrity who made philanthropy his calling card long before it was cool.

The son of a successful entrepreneur, Newman grew up in a prosperous Cleveland suburb. Despite fears that he would fail to live up to his father's expectations, Newman bypassed the family sporting goods business to pursue an acting career. After struggling as a theater and television actor, Newman saw his star rise in a tragic twist of fate, landing the role of boxer Rocky Graziano in *Somebody Up There Likes Me* when James Dean was killed in a car accident. Though he would joke about instances of "Newman's luck" throughout his career, he refused to coast on his stunning boyish looks and impish charm. Part of the original Actors Studio generation, Newman demanded a high level of rigor and clarity from every project. The artistic battles that nearly derailed his early movie career would pay off handsomely at the box office and earn him critical acclaim.

He applied that tenacity to every endeavor both on and off the set. The outspoken Newman used his celebrity to call attention to political causes dear to his heart, including civil rights and nuclear proliferation. Taking up auto racing in midlife, Newman became the oldest driver to ever win a major professional auto race. A food enthusiast who would dress his own salads in restaurants, he launched the Newman's Own brand dedicated to fresh ingredients, a nonprofit juggernaut that has generated more than \$250 million for charity.

In *Paul Newman: A Life*, film critic and pop culture historian Shawn Levy gives readers the ultimate behind-the-scenes examination of the actor's life, from his merry pranks on the set to his lasting romance with Joanne Woodward to the devastating impact of his son's death from a drug overdose. This definitive biography is a fascinating portrait of an extraordinarily gifted man who gave back as much as he got out of life and just happened to be one of the most celebrated movie stars of the twentieth century.

From the Hardcover edition.

Paul Newman: A Life By Shawn Levy Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #165766 in Books
- Published on: 2010-05-04
- Released on: 2010-05-04
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.99" h x 1.11" w x 5.19" l, .81 pounds

- Binding: Paperback
- 512 pages

 [Download Paul Newman: A Life ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Paul Newman: A Life ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Film critic and biographer Levy (*Rat Pack Confidential*) embarks on a respectful, thoroughgoing survey of Newman's long life (1925–2008) and massive film career without lingering on emotional and psychological factors. A kind of accidental hero, Newman recognized that his blue-eyed good looks would open doors for him, but by sheer determination and work ethic he muscled his way to the Olympian heights of America's finest actors. Born to middle-class Jewish parents in Shaker Heights, Ohio, he eventually enlisted in the navy then attended Kenyon College on the GI Bill; his early first marriage and dabbling in theater seemed to be a way to avoid having to return home and take over his father's sporting-goods store. He enrolled in Yale's drama department, then in 1952 gave himself a year in New York to prove himself: he hustled small, paying parts and gradually became a part of the Actors Studio, where he claimed to have learned everything he knew about acting. From then on, using his connections shrewdly, he moved from success on Broadway (*Picnic*, where he met Joanne Woodward, whom he married in 1958) to TV (*Our Town*) and Hollywood (*Somebody Up There Likes Me*). From there, the professional accolades began piling up, while Levy also chronicles Newman's stunning success as a race-car driver, entrepreneur and philanthropist. Levy doesn't shy from discussing Newman's shortcomings as a father and husband, yet he leaves a glowing assessment of this legend's career. (May)

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From [Booklist](#)

As many diverse roles as Paul Newman played on the silver screen, he occupied nearly as many roles in his real life. Levy, in this for-the-record biography, shows us Newman as the hungry New York actor, the guilt-ridden divorcé, the matinee idol, the grieving father, the business philanthropist—and many more. Newman thought of himself as essentially two people: the public actor and the private man. Levy shows us that, in fact, Newman had many different identities within those two primary delineations. As the public performer, he was a consummate professional (and, of course, glamorous beyond compare). In this context, he wore not only the hat of leading man but also those of director, fund-raiser, promoter, and stage performer. In his private life, Newman proved just as supple, inhabiting the roles of loyal son and brother, supportive husband (to actress Joanne Woodward) and responsible provider for his six children. But he had his faults. Levy delicately documents Newman's extramarital dalliances as well as his fatherly failings. Ultimately, the author reveals how Newman was able to blend his many components and become a man of great integrity who was successful at almost everything he tried—including his charitable pursuits. Levy's representation of the many Newmans will leave readers feeling that they have somehow slipped through the security gate and gotten to know a movie star who was famously guarded about his private life. --Jerry Eberle

Review

Praise for *Paul Newman*

“Shawn Levy’s absorbing, affectionate portrait manages to bring [Newman] back to us.... PAUL NEWMAN: A LIFE leaves readers with a suprisingly cheering message. If the rest of us can’t aspire to having Newman’s life, we can at least take inspiration from the way he lived his. We can play the cards we’re dealt—with guts, grace and generosity.”

—*The Washington Post*

“Eloquent and perceptive....Levy’s meticulously researched biography is as revealing a portrait as one could hope for....By the time Levy details Newman’s last recorded words, you may find yourself blotting the ink

on the final page.”

—*Christian Science Monitor*

“[A] sweeping tribute to Newman....Levy offers reportage as impressive as his critical analysis. PAUL NEWMAN: A LIFE is a layered and absorbing portrait.”

—Time.com

“A graceful tribute to a one-of-a-kind man.”

—*Seattle Times*

“A rich, serious, yet thoroughly readable biography of a major American movie icon....Fascinating.”

—*Portland Oregonian*

“[A] very readable accounting of Newman’s life. Levy reveals the chinks...while still deeply appreciating the man.”

—*People* (featured review, 3 ½ stars)

“[R]ichly researched....Shawn Levy, a film critic at Portland's *Oregonian*, has done his homework....Being able to bask in Newman's Own insights is enough to bring this one-of-a-kind star back to life, however briefly. And to miss him terribly again when the final page is turned.”

—*USA Today*

“An illuminating look at one of the true greats, full of humor and intelligent analysis—highly recommended.”

—*Kirkus*, starred review

“Levy’s unique representation...will leave readers feeling that they have somehow slipped through the security gate and gotten to know a movie star who was famously guarded about his private life.”

—*Booklist*

“Respectful, thoroughgoing....Levy doesn’t shy from discussing Newman’s shortcomings as a father and husband, yet he leaves a glowing assessment of this legend’s career.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

Praise for Shawn Levy

The Last Playboy

“[Levy is] a bulldog researcher, and many of his judgments are astute...an entertaining, informative book.”

—Jonathan Yardley, *Washington Post*

Ready, Steady, Go!

“Nimble and exciting . . . Levy’s writing is more smashing than an Austin Powers movie.”

—*Entertainment Weekly*

Rat Pack Confidential

“An excellent book, not only in its depictions of the Pack’s carryings-on but in its portrayal of the dark turns each life took.”

—*Boston Sunday Globe*

From the Hardcover edition.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Christopher Slowik:

The book Paul Newman: A Life make you feel enjoy for your spare time. You can use to make your capable much more increase. Book can to be your best friend when you getting anxiety or having big problem with the subject. If you can make reading through a book Paul Newman: A Life for being your habit, you can get a lot more advantages, like add your own personal capable, increase your knowledge about some or all subjects. You can know everything if you like wide open and read a e-book Paul Newman: A Life. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science e-book or encyclopedia or others. So , how do you think about this reserve?

Maxine Elam:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, going to beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you wish to something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Might be reading a book can be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the publication untitled Paul Newman: A Life can be good book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

Stanley Roman:

Reading can called thoughts hangout, why? Because if you are reading a book specifically book entitled Paul Newman: A Life your thoughts will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every aspect that maybe unknown for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging each and every word written in a reserve then become one form conclusion and explanation that maybe you never get just before. The Paul Newman: A Life giving you another experience more than blown away your brain but also giving you useful data for your better life on this era. So now let us teach you the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind will be pleased when you are finished reading through it, like winning a game. Do you want to try this extraordinary investing spare time activity?

Harry Fulford:

Is it a person who having spare time after that spend it whole day by means of watching television programs or just lying down on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This Paul Newman: A Life can be the solution, oh how comes? A book you know. You are therefore out of date, spending your extra time by reading in this brand-new era is common not a nerd activity. So what these guides have than the others?

**Download and Read Online Paul Newman: A Life By Shawn Levy
#QHY6MC31TEK**

Read Paul Newman: A Life By Shawn Levy for online ebook

Paul Newman: A Life By Shawn Levy Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Paul Newman: A Life By Shawn Levy books to read online.

Online Paul Newman: A Life By Shawn Levy ebook PDF download

Paul Newman: A Life By Shawn Levy Doc

Paul Newman: A Life By Shawn Levy Mobipocket

Paul Newman: A Life By Shawn Levy EPub

QHY6MC31TEK: Paul Newman: A Life By Shawn Levy