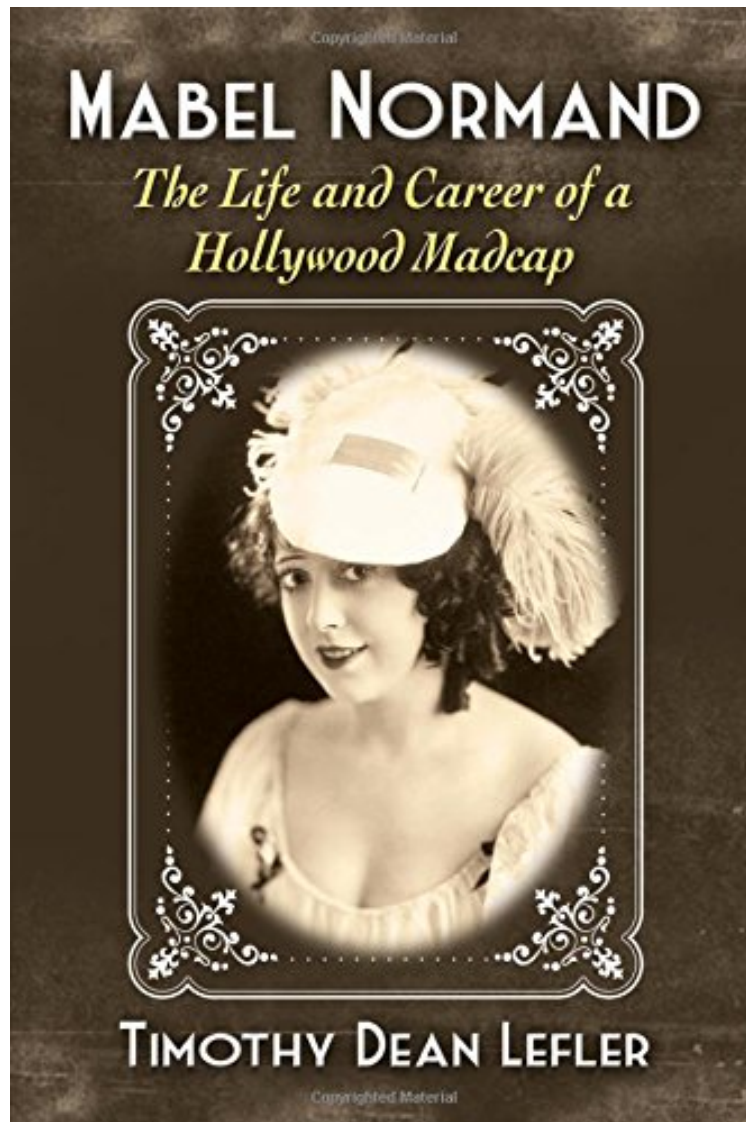


(Free pdf) Mabel Normand: The Life and Career of a Hollywood Madcap

Mabel Normand: The Life and Career of a Hollywood Madcap

Timothy Dean Lefler

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#982945 in Books Timothy Dean Lefler 2016-03-23 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x 6.00 x .751, 6.00 #File Name: 0786478675260 pages Mabel Normand The Life and Career of a Hollywood Madcap | File size: 52.Mb

Timothy Dean Lefler : Mabel Normand: The Life and Career of a Hollywood Madcap before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mabel Normand: The Life and Career of a Hollywood Madcap:

15 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Devil or Angel? By Loves to Read Mabel Normand was due for a definitive book on her life and career. The problem for writing one is a lack of sources as her friends and co-workers

have long passed. The author relied on information from Marilyn Slater's excellent blog, Looking for Mabel Normand, it should be noted that Ms. Slater was the ward of Mabel's nurse Julia Benson, who was devoted but over-protective of Mabel and her memory. The author also relied on an interview with Minta Dufree that I do question because she was near senility at the time and there are no backup sources for the story of how Mabel was injured by a vase throwing May Busch. Mr. Lefler did show respect for the marriage of Mabel and Lew Cody which is opposite of Ms. Benson's (she clearly despised Cody) theory on the marriage. In Betty Fussell's book on Mabel she discloses a premature baby born to Mabel with Sam Goldwyn possibly being the father, for some reason the author did not touch on this story. The great points in the book are the appreciation for the career of Mabel Normand which if anyone has seen her films will agree. Mabel was a handful, willful, spoiled, and prone to temper tantrums at a perceived snub or an actress encroaching in her domain. She was also kind, funny, generous, and loyal to those she loved. I have read many remarks in other books by her friends and they all seem to have loved and wanted to protect her. I suppose I should touch on her part in the William Desmond Taylor scandal. Mabel was treated horribly and unfairly by the public just because she was the last to see Taylor alive. At no time was she ever a suspect. She was judged guilty by association. Mabel's great-nephew has a great deal of memorabilia and journals of Ms Normands and it is my hope that someday he will write his own book on her using those journals. 10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. The Prefect Book for Fans of Miss Normand By William F. Jannke III defy anyone who has ever seen a Mabel Normand film, or even just her photograph, not to fall in love with her. So I was excited to read this new biography of her. It didn't disappoint--well, let me rephrase that: it disappointed me inasmuch as I wished her life had turned out happier, but the author could do little to remedy that! No, the book was well written, well documented, and its subject was treated in a very fair and even-handed manner. It really is one of the best books on her life I have read since the Fussell book so many years ago (which, frankly, left me with an oddly unsatisfied feeling). 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. A pleasure to read! By Lorraine I found this book to be a refreshingly uniquely written biography of a famous person. I am not an avid Mabel Normand fan, or at least I wasn't, but I am a fan of the Edwardian and World War I time periods and of silent films. I am also avidly interested in microhistory, the history of the everyday life of regular people. Obviously, this book is not a study in microhistory, as it is a biography of a famous person, but it does incorporate the microhistory of the period well enough to give the reader a decent sense of the context of Mabel's actions. Also, this book is written in a series of vignettes, rather than a continuous monotony of names, dates, and places that seem to be so ubiquitous in biographies. Remarkably, this style does not take from the chronology of Mabel's life, but rather adds interest to it as each event of her life becomes a short story rather than an impersonal rattling off of facts. I do not mean to imply that this book has a lack of facts: on the contrary, it is well researched and well cited throughout. It gives the dates, names, and places, but gives them in such a way that they do not detract from the overall story of Mabel, which is the main thing that I personally care about. I find the language used to be succinct and well written. As an avid reader of many types of books, I can say that I am rather an expert on good writing. This book pulls you in and gets your attention. Many books that focus on non-fiction subjects can easily remind the reader that they are indeed reading. I prefer to get lost in a good story, even if that story is true! This is the type of book that you can get wrapped up in and forget the time, and to me, that is always a good book.

American silent film star Mabel Normand (1892-1930) appeared in a string of popular movies opposite the likes of Charlie Chaplin and Fatty Arbuckle during the 1910s and 1920s, before dying of tuberculosis at age 37. Her brief but remarkable career, which included director and writer credits as well as heading her own studio and production company, was marred by scandal--police connected her to the unsolved 1922 murder of director William Desmond Taylor--that defined her legacy. This book highlights Normand's substantial yet long overlooked contributions to film history and popular culture, tracing her life from humble beginnings on Staten Island to the heights of world superstardom.

"Offers a great deal of insight, understanding, and appreciation to one of cinema's most significant pioneers. Lefler's book is deep, enlightening, informative, and fulfilling. One of the finest books ever written on an actor or filmmaker...most passionately recommended" --Examiner "Very welcome...[this book] has set a new standard" --Silent-ology About the Author Timothy Dean Lefler is an author, artist, teacher and co-designer of The Beach Boys Historic Monument in Hawthorne, California. He lives in Rancho Cucamonga.