



The Disney Version: The Life, Times, Art and Commerce of Walt Disney

By Richard Schickel



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This classic history of Walt Disney's life and works takes us from his wandering youth through the desperate gamble of opening his own animation studio, his daring decision to crash Hollywood, the sudden and inspired invention of Mickey Mouse?and on to the creation of a multimillion-dollar international entertainment empire. Throughout Richard Schickel asks penetrating questions about Disney's achievements and shortcomings, and the enormous popularity of the "Disney version."

"The story of how Disney built an empire on corrupt popular culture...becomes a revealing part of American cultural history."?Pauline Kael.

"One of the best studies ever done on American popular culture...unfailingly, consistently intelligent, and eminently readable."?Stephen J. Whitfield, Brandeis University.

"Richard Schickel's unauthorized biography of Walt Disney...may be the single most illuminating work on America and the movies."?Robert W. Butler, *Kansas City Star*.

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Editorial Review

Review

The Disney Version is a model of good judgment, exemplary in balance and impeccable in tone. (Joseph Epstein *COMMENTARY*)

The single most illuminating work on America and the movies. (Robert W. Butler *Kansas City Star*)

One of the best studies ever done on American popular culture...unfailingly, consistently intelligent, and eminently readable. (Stephen J. Whitfield *Brandeis University*)

The story of how Disney built an empire on corrupt popular culture...becomes a revealing part of American cultural history. (Pauline Kael)

Established the terms of interpretation and debate about Disney...Schickel's [version] remains the most analytically and aesthetically penetrating portrait. (Benjamin Schwarz *Atlantic*)

A classic history: the first to look behind the man's image. Enjoy a new introduction which reflects Disney's lasting influences. (*Midwest Book Review*)

From the Back Cover

Richard Schickel's classic history of Walt Disney's life and times was the first to look behind the carefully nurtured avuncular image of the man. Some howled in protest at this criticism of their hero, but they failed to see that Mr. Schickel's book acknowledged Disney's profound influence on American popular culture. The Disney Version takes us from Walt's wandering youth through the desperate gamble of opening his own animation studio, his daring decision to crash Hollywood, the sudden and inspired invention of Mickey Mouse - and on to the creation of a multimillion-dollar international entertainment empire. Throughout, Mr. Schickel asks penetrating questions about Disney's achievements and shortcomings, and about the enormous popularity of the "Disney version".

About the Author

Richard Schickel is a film critic for *Time* magazine and author of many books, including *D. W. Griffith and the Birth of Film*; *The Men Who Made the Movies*; and *Intimate Strangers*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

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