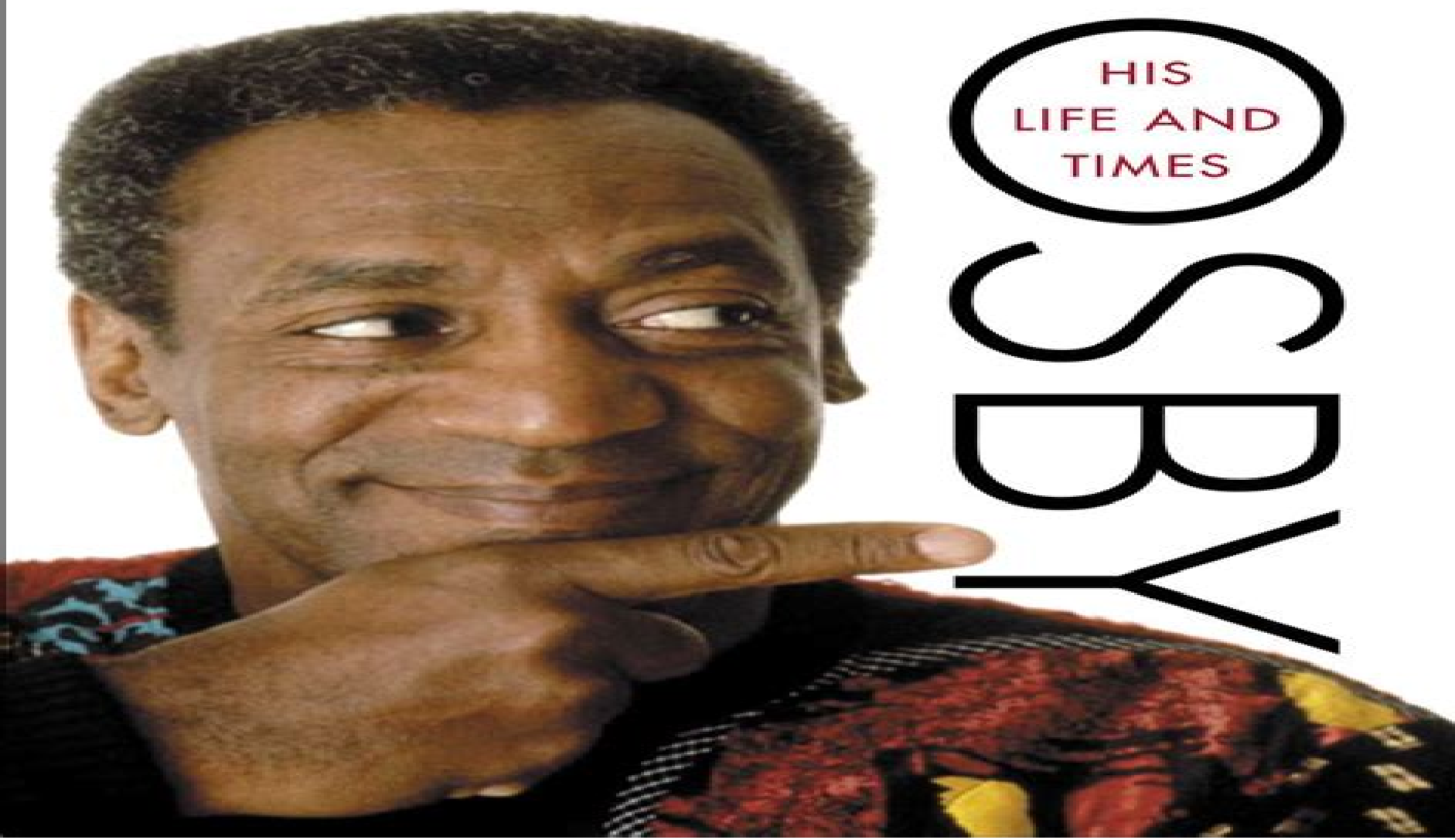


Mark Whitaker

COSBY

HIS
LIFE AND
TIMES



Cosby His Life And Times

Mark Whitaker



Cosby His Life And Times:

Cosby Mark Whitaker, 2014-09-16 The first major biography of an American icon comedian Bill Cosby Based on extensive research and in depth interviews with Cosby and more than sixty of his closest friends and associates it is a frank fun and fascinating account of his life and historic legacy Far from the gentle worlds of his routines or TV shows Cosby grew up in a Philadelphia housing project the son of an alcoholic largely absent father and a loving but overworked mother With novelistic detail award winning journalist Mark Whitaker tells the story of how after dropping out of high school Cosby turned his life around by joining the Navy talking his way into college and seizing his first breaks as a stand up comedian Published on the 30th anniversary of The Cosby Show the book reveals the behind the scenes story of that groundbreaking sitcom as well as Cosby's bestselling albums breakout role on I Spy and pioneering place in children's TV But it also deals with professional setbacks and personal dramas from an affair that sparked public scandal to the murder of his only son and the private influence of his wife of fifty years Camille Cosby Whitaker explores the roots of Cosby's controversial stands on race as well as the Cosby effect that helped pave the way for a black president For any fan of Bill Cosby's work and any student of American television comedy or social history Cosby His Life and Times is an essential read

The Queer Fantasies of the American Family Sitcom Tison Pugh, 2018-02-27 The Queer Fantasies of the American Family Sitcom examines the evasive depictions of sexuality in domestic and family friendly sitcoms Tison Pugh charts the history of increasing sexual depiction in this genre while also unpacking how sitcoms use sexuality as a source of power as a kind of camouflage and as a foundation for family building The book examines how queerness at first latent became a vibrant yet continually conflicted part of the family sitcom tradition Taking into account elements such as the casting of child actors the use of and experimentation with plot traditions the contradictory interpretive valences of comedy and the subtle subversions of moral standards by writers and directors Pugh points out how innocence and sexuality conflict on television As older sitcoms often sit on a pedestal of nostalgia as representative of the Golden Age of the American Family television history reveals a deeper queerer vision of family bonds

Television: A Biography David Thomson, 2017-03-28 The invention or the quaint piece of furniture wandered into our lives in the 1940s as a primitive plaything a clever if awkward addition to the household It was expensive unreliable and a bit of an invalid Television A Biography In just a few years what used to be an immobile piece of living room furniture which one had to sit in front of at appointed times in order to watch sponsored programming on a finite number of channels morphed into a glowing cloud of screens with access to a near endless supply of content available when and how viewers want it With this phenomenon now a common cultural theme a writer of David Thomson's stature delivering a critical history or biography of the six decade television era will be a significant event which could not be more timely With Television the critic and film historian who wrote what Sight and Sound's readers called the most important film book of the last 50 years has finally turned his unique powers of observation to the medium that has swallowed film whole Over twenty two

thematically organized chapters Thomson brings his provocatively insightful and unique voice to the life of what was television David Thomson surveying a Boschian landscape illuminated by that singular glow always on and peopled by everyone from Donna Reed to Dennis Potter will be the first complete history of the defining medium of our time

Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Gina Robertiello, 2021-08-09 This authoritative reference work informs readers about the scope nature and prevalence of sexual harassment and misconduct in all walks of American life and how changes in policy law and traditional gender dynamics can address the problem As revelations of sexual harassment and misconduct roil Hollywood Washington D C and workplaces across the country these problems are being examined more closely than ever before This encyclopedia provides interested readers with a comprehensive and authoritative resource to help them understand not only the specific scandals that have erupted across U S society but the historical factors and events that have led to this moment in American history The book features entries that illuminate various types of sexual harassment and misconduct e g quid pro quo hostile environment explain different classifications of harassers e g territorial predatory survey how sexual harassment and misconduct manifest themselves in different settings e g workplace school military politics home detail the major cases that have been publicized since the MeToo Movement gained momentum and explain various reforms and responses that are being crafted to address deeply entrenched problems of sexism and harassment in American culture

Shapers of American Childhood Kathy Merlock Jackson, Mark I. West, 2018-10-08 The experience of growing up in the U S is shaped by many forces Relationships with parents and teachers are deeply personal and definitive Social and economic contexts are broader and harder to quantify Key individuals in public life have also had a marked impact on American childhood These 18 new essays examine the influence of pivotal figures in the culture of 20th and 21st century childhood and child rearing from Benjamin Spock and Walt Disney to Ruth Handler Barbie s inventor and Ernest Thompson Seton founder of the Boy Scouts of America

The Dark Side of Stand-Up Comedy Patrice A. Oppliger, Eric Shouse, 2020-04-10 This book focuses on the dark side of stand up comedy initially inspired by speculations surrounding the death of comedian Robin Williams Contributors those who study humor as well as those who perform comedy join together to contemplate the paradoxical relationship between tragedy and comedy and expose over generalizations about comic performers troubled childhoods addictions and mental illnesses The book is divided into two sections First scholars from a variety of disciplines explore comedians onstage performances their offstage lives and the relationship between the two The second half of the book focuses on amateur and lesser known professional comedians who reveal the struggles they face as they attempt to hone successful comedy acts and likable comic personae The goal of this collection is to move beyond the hackneyed stereotype of the sad clown in order to reveal how stand up comedy can transform both personal and collective tragedies by providing catharsis through humor

Behind the Laughs Michael P. Jeffries, 2017-08-15 Comedy is a brutal business When comedians define success they don t talk about money they talk about not quitting They work in a business where even

big names work for free and the inequalities of race class and gender create real barriers But they also work in a business where people still believe that hard work and talent lead to the big time How do people working in comedy sustain these contradictions and keep laughing In *Behind the Laughs* Michael P Jeffries brings readers into the world of comedy to reveal its dark corners and share its buoyant lifeblood He draws on conversations with comedians as well as club owners bookers and managers to show the extraordinary social connections professional humor demands Not only do comedians have to read their audience night after night but they must also create lasting bonds across the profession to get gigs in the first place Comedy is not a meritocracy and its rewards are not often fame and fortune Only performers who know the rules of their community are able to make it a career

Biographical Dictionary of African Americans, Revised Edition Rachel Kranz,2021-01-01 For centuries African Americans have made important contributions to American culture From Crispus Attucks whose death marked the start of the Revolutionary War to Oprah Winfrey perhaps the most recognizable and influential TV personality today black men and women have played an integral part in American history This greatly expanded and updated edition of our best selling volume *The Biographical Dictionary of Black Americans Revised Edition* profiles more than 250 of America's important influential and fascinating black figures past and present in all fields including the arts entertainment politics science sports the military literature education the media religion and many more

Sitcommentary Mark A. Robinson,2019-10-15 From *I Love Lucy* to *Black-ish* sitcoms have often paved the way for social change Television comedy has long been on the frontline in how America evolves on social issues There is something about comedy that makes difficult issues more palatable with humor an effective device for presenting ideas that lead to social change From *I Love Lucy* which introduced the first television pregnancy to *Will Grace* which normalized gay characters the situation comedy has challenged the public to revisit social mores and reshape how we think about the world in which we live In *Sitcommentary: Television Comedies That Changed America* Mark A Robinson looks at more than three dozen programs that have tackled social issues from the 1940s to the present The author examines shows that frequently addressed hot button topics throughout their runs such as *All in the Family* *Maude* and *Black-ish* as well as programs with special episodes that grappled with a societal concern like ageism class gender race or sexual orientation Among the important sitcoms discussed in this volume are such beloved shows as *The Brady Bunch* *A Different World* *The Facts of Life* *The Golden Girls* *Good Times* *The Jeffersons* *The Mary Tyler Moore Show* *M.A.S.H.* *Modern Family* *Murphy Brown* *One Day at a Time* *Roseanne* and *Soap* Each has broken down barriers and facilitated discussion debate and social evolution in America Arranged in chronological order these TV shows have influenced the masses by tackling tough topics or shining a spotlight on taboo subjects With discussions of some of the most popular shows of all time *Sitcommentary* will appeal to fans of these shows as well as anyone interested in the cultural history of America and American television

Beatlemania in America Andrew Hunt,2023-09-07 When The Beatles arrived in postwar America Beatlemania swept the nation as hysterical girls flocked to

the band and young men grew out their hair In this book Andrew Hunt explores this wildly enthusiastic fandom from the bottom up Showcasing oral histories fan magazines club newsletters newspapers and personal memoirs he uncovers The Beatles fan culture from the perspective of Beatlemaniacs Beatlephobes and ordinary Americans to understand the impact it had on society at large Offering a cultural history from below Beatlemania in America highlights previously neglected voices of fans critics parents teachers and politicians It contextualises the Beatles fandom against a wider global perspective of changing cultures and shows how this band was part of a wider shift of social change It delves into who Beatles fans were and shows how their collective voice gave them power Exploring themes of gender and race in this turbulent and tumultuous era of American history it highlights the social issues and debates provoked by this subculture which foreshadowed the arrival of an increasingly polarized society

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Cosby His Life And Times Introduction

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