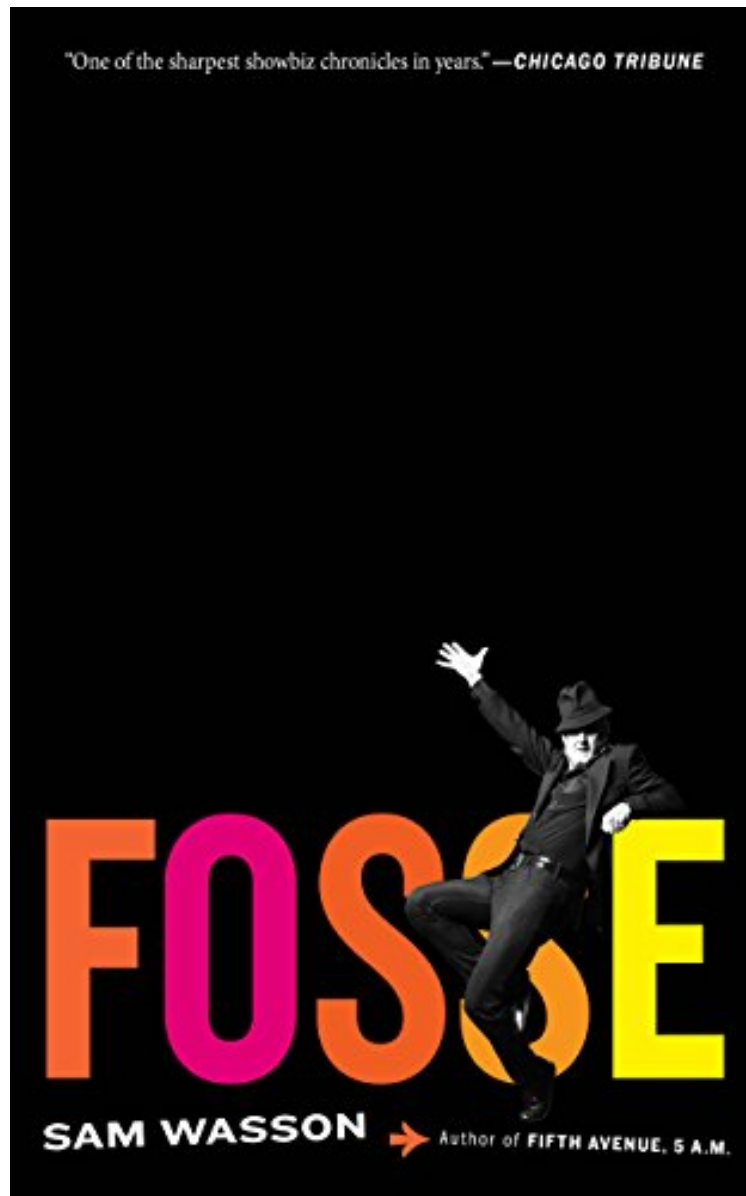


(Mobile ebook) Fosse

# Fosse

*Sam Wasson*

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**Sam Wasson : Fosse** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fosse:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic Insight Into What Made Fosse Who He WasBy Dirk DrudglerA wonderfully researched and compelling biography of an incredibly complex showman. Bob Fosse revolutionized modern musical theater and was the perfect example of the bright light who burned too hot.This

biography effectively goes into Fosse's head and fully reveals why he was such a perfectionist, control freak and self-destructive madman. His friendship with Paddy Chayefsky was absolutely fascinating as was his relationships with all the NY showbiz Illuminati, some who were friends and many who were competitors. The author does an excellent job centering the story around Fosse's death with each chapter counting down the years toward his final embrace with Angelique, his angel of death. A bonus is great insight into the lives of the main women in his life (other than his mother) Gwen Verdon, Anne Reinking and of course, the intensely influential burlesque strippers of his showbiz youth. Great, highly readable biography. Highly recommended 9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Brilliant literary pas de deux By Kindle Customer This is possibly the best book about American Musical Theater I have ever read. Sam Wasson manages to pull off a literary pas de deux writing exactly like Bob Fosse danced and choreographed. Reading this book is like watching a Fosse show. Wasson slides, glides and shuffles through this story of a tortured and talented man. From the curious detachment of his parents while he endured sexual abuse as a young man to the utter disregard for his various health issues Fosse changed American musical Theater and danced it into the 20th century. Somehow he partnered with his demons to create brilliant theater. His relationship with Gwen Verdon is the stuff of theatrical legend. She was his lover, wife, muse and friend who understood him in spite of him. In addition to finding Fosse's life fascinating, I was awed by Sam Wasson's writing. His sentence crafting employs the same genius and quirky energy that Bob Fosse's dances did. Somehow he manages to tell the story, warts and all, without resorting to tawdry tales that usually inform these biographies. And Bob Fosse definitely had some tawdry! If you love and miss the Golden age of American Musical theater read this book. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. AMPHETAMINES, CIGARETTES, COFFEE : Bob Fosse's Three Basic Food Groups By ByrdMan A Great read about a seminal figure in the popular culture of the 20th Century --- a brilliant but completely neurotic ego-maniac with no impulse control. But what a brilliant dancer, choreographer, director, film-maker bon-vivant whose personal demons were responsible for his early death. It helped me understand my own personal obsessions as a visual artist, and the book's melancholy tale of the theatre world stays with me even now. Alas, he considered himself a complete fraud and an artistic failure, even when he became a legend of Theatre, Dance Film.

“Wasson is a smart and savvy reporter, and his book abounds with colorful firsthand tales.” — Janet Maslin, New York Times “Fascinating . . . Wasson has taken complete control of his subject.” — Wall Street Journal The only person ever to win Oscar, Emmy, and Tony awards in the same year, Bob Fosse revolutionized nearly every facet of American entertainment. His signature style would influence generations of performing artists. Yet in spite of Fosse's innumerable—including Cabaret, Pippin, All That Jazz, and Chicago, one of the longest-running Broadway musicals ever—his offstage life was shadowed by deep wounds and insatiable appetites. To craft this richly detailed account, best-selling author Sam Wasson has drawn on a wealth of unpublished material and hundreds of sources: friends, enemies, lovers, and collaborators, many of them speaking publicly about Fosse for the first time. With propulsive energy and stylish prose, Fosse is the definitive biography of one of Broadway and Hollywood's most complex and dynamic icons. “Spellbinding.” — Entertainment Weekly “Impeccably researched.” — Vanity Fair An NPR Best Book of the Year

From Booklist \*Starred\* Here's something you can't say about many celebrity biographies: at nearly 750 pages, it feels like it ends too soon. Wasson is such a lively, engaging writer that, as he takes us through the life and career of the multi-award-winning choreographer and director Bob Fosse, we scarcely notice we're turning the pages—until there are no more to turn. Fosse is a fascinating subject: a perfectionist who seemed determined to drive himself into an early grave. He won numerous Tony awards for his stage work before segueing to the big screen, where—in a shocking surprise—he, not the favored Francis Ford Coppola, won the Academy Award for best director in 1973 (for Cabaret). Combining keen analysis of Fosse's stage and screen works (Wasson rightly approaches Fosse's 1979 film All That Jazz not so much as an autobiographical story as a fantasy) with a compassionate look at Fosse's often-tumultuous personal life, the book is everything you could want in a celebrity bio, without any of the gossipy, trashy, third-hand-rumory rubbish that makes too many biographies so painful to read. This one's a pure joy to read, cover to cover; you read it not merely for Fosse's story, but also for Wasson's inventive way of telling it. If this book doesn't turn up on some literary-awards lists, it'll be a serious crime. —David Pitt “Scintillating . . . There's an enormous amount of scholarship here, yet the story never drags, so adroitly does [Wasson] blend his material into a fluent narrative around evocative scenes where character emerges novelistically.” —Publishers Weekly (starred review) “Deep inside this comprehensive study, Sam Wasson uses a phrase to describe the movie Cabaret: 'the bejeweling of horror.' Bob Fosse's whole life was something like that, a man who created magnificent, bejeweled art at personal cost. It's an American story, powerfully told.” —Paul Hendrickson, author of Hemingway's Boat: Everything He Loved in Life, and Lost “I tore through this masterful biography, loving it from beginning to end. Wasson writes with a verve ideally tuned to his subject, sparkling with wit and fresh insight. . . . This is a life lived large and dangerously amid cultural currents that propelled and inspired Fosse as a dancer, choreographer, and director. In Fosse, Sam Wasson energetically and authoritatively brings it all into

sharp focus, with uncanny depth and perception." --Sally Bedell Smith, author of *Elizabeth the Queen*"Hard work is evident in the intricate depiction of a complicated, brilliant man...A thoroughly researched and fascinating look at Fosse, viewed through the relationships and work that defined him. Highly recommended for theater or movie aficionados, aspiring performers, and fans of engrossing biography." --Library Journal (starred review)"Here's something you can't say about many celebrity biographies: at nearly 750 pages, it feels like it ends too soon. Wasson is such a lively, engaging writer that, as he takes us through the life and career of the multi-award-winning choreographer and director Bob Fosse, we scarcely notice we're turning the pages -- until there are no more to turn . . . Combining keen analysis of Fosse's stage and screen works with a compassionate look at Fosse's often-tumultuous personal life, the book is everything you could want in a celebrity bio, without any of the gossipy, trashy, third-hand rumory rubbish that makes too many biographies so painful to read. This one's a pure joy to read, cover to cover; you read it not merely for Fosse's story but also for Wasson's inventive way of telling it. If this book doesn't turn up on some literary-awards lists, it'll be a serious crime." --Booklist (starred review)"The lushly researched life of celebrated dancer, choreographer, and director (stage, films, TV) Bob Fosse. Film critic and biographer Wasson has amassed a mountain of data about Fosse but has sculpted it into something moving and memorable . . . Graceful prose creates a richly detailed and poignant portrait." --Kirkus (starred review)From the Inside FlapMore than a quarter-century after his death, Bob Fosse's fingerprints on popular culture remain indelible. The only person ever to win Oscar, Emmy, and Tony awards in the same year, Fosse revolutionized nearly every facet of American entertainment, forever marking Broadway and Hollywood with his iconic style -- hat tilted, fingers splayed -- that would influence generations of performing artists. Yet in spite of Fosse's innumerable achievements, no accomplishment ever seemed to satisfy him, and offstage his life was shadowed in turmoil and anxiety. Now, bestselling author Sam Wasson unveils the man behind the swaggering sex appeal, tracing Fosse's untold reinventions of himself over a career that would spawn *The Pajama Game*, *Cabaret*, *Pippin*, *All That Jazz*, and *Chicago*, one of the longest-running Broadway musicals ever. Drawing on a wealth of unpublished material and hundreds of sources -- friends, enemies, lovers, and collaborators, many of whom have never spoken publicly about Fosse before -- Wasson illuminates not only Fosse's prodigious professional life, but also his close and conflicted relationships with everyone from Liza Minnelli to Ann Reinking to Jessica Lange and Dustin Hoffman. Wasson also uncovers the deep wounds that propelled Fosse's insatiable appetites -- for spotlights, women, and life itself. In this sweeping, richly detailed account, Wasson's stylish, effervescent prose proves the ideal vehicle for revealing Bob Fosse as he truly was -- after hours, close up, and in vibrant color.