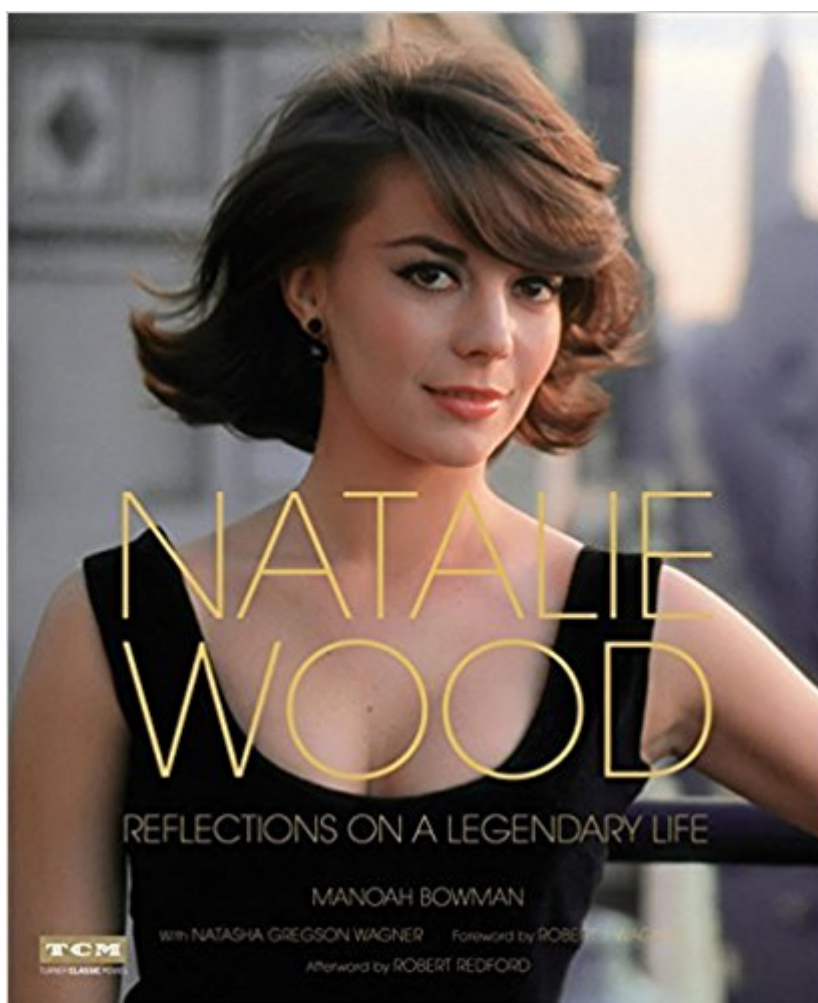


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Natalie Wood (Turner Classic Movies): Reflections On A Legendary Life



Synopsis

As a child actor who smoothly transitioned to adult stardom, Natalie Wood made an unforgettable impact on the world with her sensitive performances and her spectacular beauty. In a span of less than twenty years, her talent graced a dozen classics, including *Miracle on 34th Street*, *The Searchers*, *Rebel Without a Cause*, *Splendor in the Grass*, *West Side Story*, and *Gypsy*, earning her three Oscar nominations and two Golden Globes. Few actresses in Hollywood history have carved out careers as diverse and rich as Natalie Wood's, and few have touched as many hearts in a tragically short lifetime. *Natalie Wood: Reflections on a Legendary Life* boldly redefines Natalie not by her tragic death, but by her extraordinary life. This is the first family-authorized photographic study of Natalie Wood, and the first book to examine her glamorous film career as well as her private off-screen life as a wife and mother. Highlights include a special section on the making of *West Side Story*, a foreword by her husband Robert Wagner, a family album with never-before-seen snapshots captioned by daughter Courtney Wagner, an unpublished article written by Natalie in her own words, and an afterword by friend and costar Robert Redford. *Natalie Wood: Reflections on a Legendary Life* will change the way the world remembers a Hollywood legend.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Manoah Bowman is the author of *Fellini: The Sixties*. He maintains the Independent Visions photographic archives, a collection featuring more than a million unique images that details the

history of cinema and television. He has contributed material to many publications, movie studios, and museums, including Eastman House, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, Paramount, and Disney. His work as a photo editor includes the books *Chaplin: Genius of the Cinema* and *Buster Keaton Remembered*. He resides in Los Angeles, CA. Natasha Gregson Wagner has led an unorthodox career for the descendent of Hollywood royalty. Since making her film debut in 1992's *Fathers and Sons*, the actress established her place in the indie film world with titles such as *Another Day in Paradise*, *High Fidelity*, *Two Girls and a Guy*, and *David Lynch's Lost Highway*, and she has received acclaim for her stage work and television appearances in *Ally McBeal*, *House MD*, and *Chicago Hope*. She recently completed work on the independent film *Anesthesia*. Wagner resides in Los Angeles.

This book is absolutely fantastic! It is a treasure trove of photos and remembrances and an amazing tribute to this great actress! From her early childhood and days as a child star, through her years as an ingenue and leading lady, to her life as wife and mother, this richly illustrated book touches on virtually every aspect of her life. Especially touching are the segments contributed by her family: a foreword by her husband Robert Wagner, a beautiful essay penned by daughter Natasha Gregson Wagner, and the personal photos and captions contributed by daughter Courtney Wagner. This is the wonderful tribute to Natalie Wood's life that diehard fans, such as myself, have been waiting for. Honestly, 5 stars are not enough to describe how marvelous this book is!!! Highly recommended!!!

Breathtaking and essential for Natalie Wood fans. Section after section of never before seen photos and well researched text. My favorite period of Natalie's is her child star stage and there is a whopping 15 page essay just about those years including an incredible scrapbook with all kinds of goodies (report card, telegrams, personal photos, magazine covers etc.) In a life as full as hers the childhood years often get the shrift in other books so it was an extra special treat to read the essay 'Becoming Natalie' by Sloan DeForest. I learned an incredible amount about her early years in Hollywood and the road that led her to superstardom. Also of note is an interview section with photographer, Michael Childers who seems to give uncensored insight into Natalie. At one point he says "There weren't enough therapists in Beverly Hills to deal with all of her demons!" This definitely does not sound like the family whitewashed Natalie for this book. Natalie herself talks about her relationship with Warren Beatty. Her daughter Natasha talks about her mother's funeral. Her other daughter Courtney narrates a family album revealing a different side to Natalie I had not thought about before. She seems to have invested herself into mothering as much as she did her career. Robert

Redford's contribution is a short piece detailing how he came to know Natalie in high school. All her major films are covered. I believe there is at least one photo for every single one. A difficult task as a lot of the childhood films are hard to find and rarely play on TV. ***** stars!!!

For Natalie Wood Fans or just fans of the old Hollywood stars, you will love every page in this book. Manoah Bowman and Natasha Gregson Wagner have covered Natalie's life in the most breathtakingly beautiful photos I have ever seen of Natalie. I have quite a collection of Movie Books, but nothing like this TCM book. There are photos upon photos that I have never seen anywhere. Even though this is a huge coffee table book full of gorgeous large photos, there is just enough reading material inside to answer some questions about Natalie's wonderful life. There is a Foreword by Robert Wagner and an Afterword by Robert Redford. From childhood photos, family photos, personal photos to photos from her childhood career to photos covering her many movies- every photo is a true gem. Like so many of the newer books of recent years (like Sharon Tate, Audrey Hepburn, Elizabeth Taylor) covering the beautiful stars of the 50's and 60's Hollywood, you see that these breathtakingly beautiful stars were born this way. The baby Natasha takes your breath away with such a perfect face. I have a love of all 60's movies and seeing some photos from Penelope and Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice was a real joy. I personally have always thought that Natalie never looked more beautiful than in her 60's films and she is over 30 in these. If you only buy one book on Natalie- this is the one- every photo is a 5 STAR treasure!

Newly published last fall this is a spectacularly gorgeous book chronicling the life and career of Natalie Wood; Natalie Wood Reflections on a Legendary Life by Manoah Bowman (Running Press). Let me reiterate, it's gorgeous. The subject is gorgeous and the book itself, laid out beautifully is stunning eye candy. Natalie Wood a child star, you might say child actress prodigy, who managed to successfully pass through puberty and become an even bigger star as an adult. Wood died at the tragically young age of 43. Her accidental drowning morphed into a tabloid story filled with ridiculous speculation and innuendo that almost instantaneously dwarfed and completely overshadowed Wood's life and career. Much like Christina Crawford's book Mommie Dearest had overshadowed and upended the legacy of Joan Crawford's life and career, Wood's life and death were tarnished by seemingly endless tabloid speculation. Crawford's reputation has gradually recovered and her screen work is being reevaluated, as it should be. Now, the time has come for Natalie Wood to be remembered and her life and career reevaluated. Manoah Bowman's thoughtful book does just

that. His book reclaims her legacy to make Natalie Wood once again a human being and secondly a tribute a great star. This book is a very personal project, it is a unique project because Bowman had at his fingertips Natalie Wood's personal papers, her vast archive that was maintained from day one of her film career. This book is also a project with Natalie's family blessing, Robert Wagner and her daughters Natasha and Courtney. If you love photographic books, and I certainly do, this book is chockablock with rare glimpses into an extraordinary and ordinary life. A huge star who also embraced life off screen. If you are a fan of Wood, or any of her films, you will find this beautiful book enhances your opinion of Wood, her career, her life and how tragically brief it was. She shined then, and shines again in the pages of this gorgeous book. I think she would be very proud. This is a must have.

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