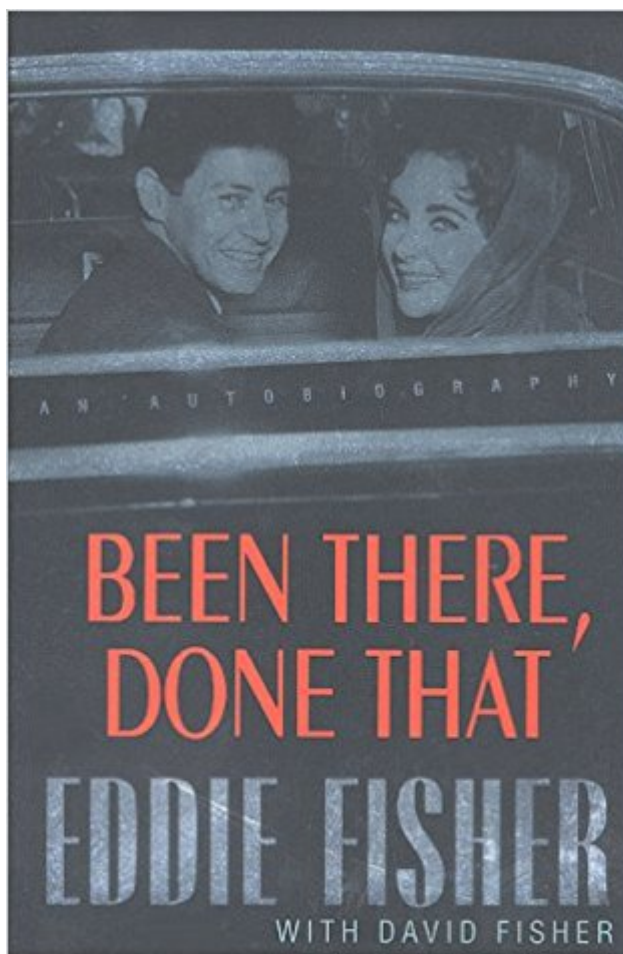


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# Been There, Done That: An Autobiography



## Synopsis

This work tells the story of Eddie Fisher's life. He married Debbie Reynolds, and then left her for Elizabeth Taylor. He watched his marriage fall apart when she got together with Richard Burton. There were wild parties with Sinatra and the Rat Pack, and lots of sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Who would've thought that Eddie Fisher, cheesy pop singer, pipsqueak Mouseketeer to the Rat Pack, speed freak and coke fool, AWOL daddy, discarded Liz Taylor boy toy, and husband from hell could pen a memoir as entertaining as his talented daughter Carrie's? Granted, he has the help of autobiographer to the stars David Fisher (no relation), but still, it's startling how sleekly readable Fisher's misadventures are, and shocking that he comes off with raffish charm and a sense of humor. Don't worry, there's not too much about Eddie's dull, madly successful singing career--he wasn't that interested in it either. He preferred women. Warning: as is the case with Robert Evans's comparably entertaining sex-and-drugs tell-all, *The Kid Stays in the Picture*, we can't know whether it's all true. Some of Eddie's alleged women have denied dalliance. Did he really get naked with Joan Collins ("the British Open") in Dean Martin's pool, screaming along with Dino and Brando until the cops came? Did he share Sue Lyon with Richard Burton and Judy Campbell with Sinatra, JFK, and Sam Giancana? (Eddie doubts Campbell's story that she passed documents from JFK to mobster Sam.) Did Jackie turn JFK onto amphetamine fiend Max Jacobson, the famed "Dr. Feelgood" who destroyed his own life and 30 years of Eddie's? Were Bob Hope's military-base

shows really "sex tours"? His bitterness makes one doubt he gives first wife Debbie Reynolds ("the Iron Butterfly") a fair shake. Did Liz Taylor drive away, naked and hysterical, in her Cadillac when Eddie suggested she see a psychiatrist? Did Burton beat her, and did she try to steal *My Fair Lady* from her friend Audrey Hepburn? In a Munich suite once used by Mussolini to entertain Hitler, did Liz bite Eddie as he dug pills out of her mouth to save her life? Did Liz bed Rock Hudson and Montgomery Clift? Read Fisher and see what you believe. --Tim Appelo

Teen idol Fisher tells the story of his rise from poverty to 1950s crooner stardom and beyond in this alternately self-delighted and repentant new memoir (his second, following *Eddie: My Life, My Loves*, Harper & Row, 1981). Born in Philadelphia in 1928, Fisher was a star by age 21, launching his own TV show, *Coke Time*, in 1953, with such hits as "Outside of Heaven" and "Oh, My Papa": "I had more consecutive hit records than the Beatles or Elvis Presley," Fisher writes. But, he says, with characteristic melodrama, "the music simply became a means to the drugs and the women." Despite warnings from friends (and from the Coca-Cola company, which informed Fisher that he was "married" to them), he wed movie star Debbie Reynolds, and here one reads of the various conflicts of the couple who were widely hailed as "America's Sweethearts." The death of his friend Mike Todd and Fisher's passion for Elizabeth Taylor created a dilemma: "I had to figure out how to announce to the world that I was leaving sweet little Debbie for my best friend's widow without destroying Elizabeth's and my careers." The backlash brought 7000 pieces of hate mail weekly and fans organized an "Eddie-Liz boycott." Fisher was "madly in love" with Taylor, and the book offers an intimate glimpse into his anguish after her *Cleopatra* costar, Richard Burton, intervened. In the final chapters, Fisher recalls his battle to get off drugs, his numerous affairs with a lengthy parade of beautiful women, his desperate efforts to keep his career afloat, his relationships with his famous children Carrie and Joely Fisher and his 1993 marriage to Betty Linn. The title of this memoir seems to suit the autobiography of a has-been. But Fisher offers his regrets, insights and anecdotes with so much verve, wit and candor that one can see that the crooner of yesteryear is still very much alive. 16 pages of b&w photos unseen by PW. Author tour, excerpt booklets. (Sept.) FYI: Dove's abridged audiobook features Eddie Fisher as the reader. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

excellent, very entertaining

I thought this was a good book. I was reluctant to read initially because I am a big fan of Debbie

Reynolds. It was very interesting about his childhood and his life.

Sure Eddie's latest book is shocking... but also very humorous... He doesn't lack for modesty but no one else is tooting his horn... He probably shouldn't have spilled the beans on Ann-Margaret, Debbie, Liz, Marlene, Connie, et al but it's kind of refreshing to hear what happened in Hollywood in the 50s. I've read many autobiographies that seem to be edited... this one isn't! Even though he hasn't much decency, this was an easy read and I'd recommend it.

Great book

I liked this book. There is a lot in it. Not just gossip from one side but how life was during that time period for people in Hollywood. It was not a boring book. A real page turner and well written. While I might not agree that everything in the book happened exactly as accounted... it is Eddie Fishers story and his perception of how it occurred and how he felt about it.

Awesome book. I love Hollywood stories.

Never cared for anything about Eddie Fisher, till I read this book. It's humorous, it has the ring of truth, and it's certainly interesting if you like inside Hollywood stuff. I still don't like Eddie Fisher, but it's okay now that I know he doesn't either.

Enjoyed the read. Delivered quickly and in as promised condition. Thanks!(I've now read Debbie's autobiography too to compare the two stories. Debbie's was a much better read.)

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