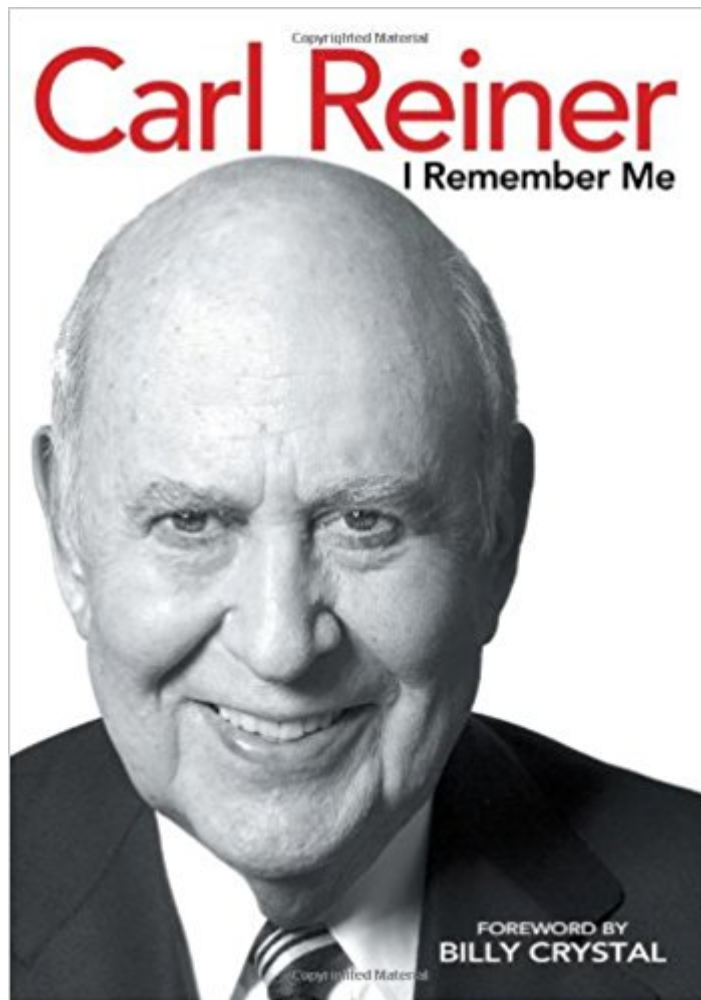


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# I Remember Me



## Synopsis

I Remember Me weaves an American tapestry of colorful tales, beginning with the timid musings of a young boy on the verge of becoming a man in the Jewish section of New York's Bronx neighborhood, and bringing us up to date with the mature insight of a man whose remarkable trajectory has sent him to the top of Hollywood's elite and sparked the careers of dozens of household-name entertainers. Along the way, Reiner treats his loyal readers to everything from the ordinary to the truly unforgettable: a family trip to a nude beach, French lessons with Mel Brooks, a chapter dedicated to Rinnie the dog who unfortunately mistakes a skunk for a cat, a surprise early-morning visit from the McCarthy era FBI, a heart wrenching story of loss describing the day of his wife's passing, and then in a revealing chapter of Reiner's character, he describes "the most theatrically triumphant day" of his young career. Through his memoir, we meet the man behind the success in roles rarely seen before: son to Romanian immigrant Irving Reiner, husband to fellow Bronx native and renowned singer Estelle Reiner, father to the prolific filmmaker Rob Reiner, Dr. Annie Reiner psychoanalyst & gifted singer, and Lucas Reiner, a globally recognized fine artist. Written with the same combination of playful jest and modest humility that has garnered the love and respect of fans for generations, I Remember Me remembers the creative and inspiring journey of one of the most revered comedic icons of the past hundred years.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Carl Reiner is at that wonderful point in life where he knows absolutely everything. Especially, how

to tell a wonderful story. I just love being in his world and this book is the Grand Tour." --Jerry Seinfeld"Great stories from the great Carl Reiner. I liked Chapter 29 the best." --Albert Brooks"At a time when so much of comedy can be cruel and mean spirited... Carl Reiner is a perfect example of comedy and kindness mixed with just the right amount of biting wit to make for a really satisfying read." --Jay Leno"Crime and Punishment has always been my favorite book... Until Now!" --Mel Brooks

For over half a century, millions have appreciated Carl Reiner's work as comedian, actor, director, TV writer and author. Winner of numerous accolades, including twelve Emmy wins and one Grammy award, Carl Reiner once again brandishes his literary talents to tell the story of his life in *I Remember Me*. Reiner reminisces on ninety years of love and laughter, highs and lows, mistakes and triumphs. Told with a warm heart and an occasional touch of nostalgia, Reiner draws from decades of family, friends and fun to illuminate his life and career as one of America's most loved and memorable figures.

"*I Remember Me*" is a collection of personal memories from Carl Reiner. My memory of Reiner goes back to his days with Sid Caesar. I admire the man, but like the various sketches on "Your Show Of Shows," some of Reiner's remembrances are interesting and funny, and others are not. Nevertheless, I came away with a better understanding of the man... his love of life... his politics... his religious views... and his appreciation of family and friends. I was somewhat disappointed that he didn't write more about his involvement with "The Dick Van Dyke Show" and his encounters with its cast. In fact, he mentioned Van Dyke (the show and the person) only briefly. I did find the tales of his childhood and parents quite interesting, however. Most often his thoughts then turn to his wife and family, his days in the army, and a few show business friends. Carl Reiner has been around for a long time and continues to have a wonderful appreciation for the humor in life. And that's a good thing.

I loved Carl's book. I was very young when the Dick Van Dyke show was on - I can only remember a few things about sitting in the living room and watching our black and white TV. But of course, since then I think I've seen every episode 5 times in reruns! His creation of that show based on his life was genius. His book shares a lot of his stories about his career and friends. I mean, a writer for Your Show of Shows?!?! What about his friendship with Mel Brooks. You know, it's just two comic legends hangin' out together? What a fabulous life! He mentions his wife and his love for her several

times, along with his kids and grandkids. He basically a family guy, a grandpa who happens to have a comic mind like a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. So much fun to read, fun to take a look back, fun to hear about his childhood in NYC. I loved this book so much, that about two weeks later, we got a puppy and named him Reiner. Yeah, that's what I said. And he's a very funny puppy!

I read this book over a the month period. I could pick it to and start another story about the many people Mr. Reiner knew, worked with, or just a story in general, this guy makes it hilarious! He brings up so many people it watched on television, their back stories were wonderful. I hope Mr. Reiner writes more books in the future!

First, this is not an autobiography. It is a series of vignettes, reminiscences of a comedy icon who has seen a thing or two in his 90 years. Carl Reiner is a national treasure. Yes, some of his stories border on the self-indulgent. Considering his long list of accolades and accomplishments, we can grant him a bit of leeway in that regard. The individual stories are short, as are the chapters, which is how he fit so many into this modest volume. Does he leave out some of my favorite stories, such as some about the Dick Van Dyke Show as some reviewers have complained? Of course! I'd also like to have seen more about his relationship with his close friends, like Mel Brooks and Anne Bancroft, and so many others. I suspect that every reader familiar with Reiner's work knows a few favorite stories that he neglects to tell here. If he included every story that deserves telling, he wouldn't live long enough to write the book. Carl Reiner is a national treasure. I don't appreciate everything he has done, but his true genius is in the striving. To achieve what he has achieved demands that he risk failing also. Who but he and Larry Gelbart could have written and directed "Oh, God"? Who but he and Mel Brooks could have created and presented the 2000-year-old man? His list of accomplishments is almost as long as the book itself. So stop lamenting about what isn't here, and enjoy what is. You won't be sorry.

I saw Mr. Reiner promoting this book on The Tonight Show and was going to pre-order it. I was pleasantly surprised to find it's already available for the Kindle. At this point, I'm only about 1/3 through the book but I thought I'd write a few lines if it will help generate sales and make others realize it's available. And I'm obviously not being paid to do this or I never would've written that last sentence! THE DICK VAN DYKE SHOW is my all-time favorite show. And I once got to hear Mr. Reiner speak at a WGA seminar. He walked right past me but I was too in awe to say anything to him. Anyway, I loved MY ANECDOTAL LIFE. I REMEMBER ME is more anecdotal than a true

biography--which suits this reader just fine. Anyone would be privileged to be able to hang out with Mr. Reiner for an afternoon, listening to him tell stories. Both books offer that opportunity. It's a light read from a very warm heart.

Carl Reiner is a renaissance man in the entertainment field. Those of us who grew up watching TV in the 1950s and 1960s were under his spell early on. I missed his work on Sid Caesar's show, but watched Dick Van Dyke re-runs religiously. Years later I was surprised to learn that "Alan Brady" was not only the creator and first writer for the show, but also the role model for the character. With the collaborations with Mel Brooks, the movies with Steve Martin, the paternity to Rob Reiner, it is clear that Carl Reiner practically created much of the life-based humor we know today. Plus he is still writing about it in a clear, thoughtful, heartfelt and engaging way. If you want the experience of a casual, informative and highly entertaining chat with Carl Reiner I recommend this memoir.

Carl Reiner's name alone deserves two stars. He is a deserved comedy legend. This book, however, is disappointing. If you're looking for a memoir, this one is not for you. Instead it's a random collection of stories that has the feel of being half-told. You never feel satisfied after reading a chapter. The one exception is a well-written chapter about his dog, but it too ends unfeelingly. A great many pages are spent on slanted political rants, which is shamefully off base and not what anyone purchased this comedic genius' book for. There are also a number of printing errors where text does not carry over and is omitted. That doesn't help its readability.

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