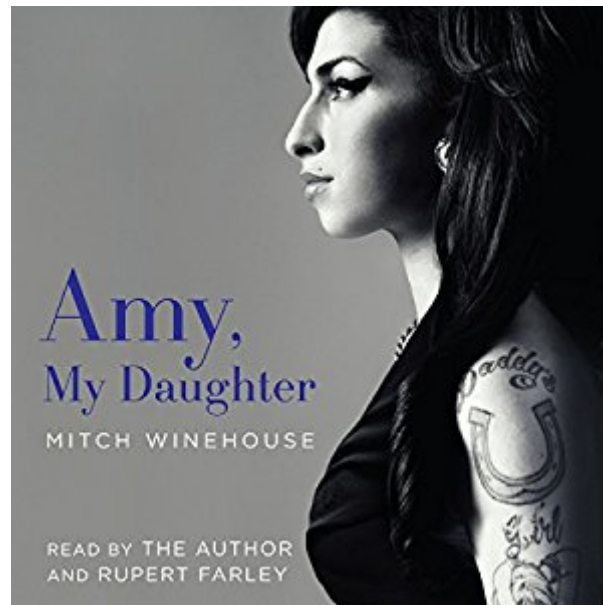


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# Amy, My Daughter



## Synopsis

Candid, compelling, and heartbreaking - a father's story of a talent taken too soon and a legacy that will live on for generations... On July 23, 2011, Amy Winehouse's family, friends, and fans around the world mourned the tragedy that this remarkable, talented, and extraordinarily generous young woman was now gone. A legion of dedicated fans had lost their idol; a devastated family had lost their Amy. With this difficult news came an outpouring of love and grief from her fans, along with troubling questions about Amy's very public struggles with drugs and alcohol, as people tried to understand how such a soulful singer had been silenced so young. Now, in this intimate and tender account, her father and confidant, Mitch, offers an inside view of Amy's life as she lived it, putting to rest once and for all the controversies that have long surrounded her. Sifting fact from fiction, he presents a portrait of Amy unlike any other, detailing the events and the people that shaped her youth - from her mischievous childhood to her grandmother's Jazz Age stories, to her father singing Frank Sinatra around the house. Shedding light on Amy's musical coming-of-age, Mitch explores how she honed her distinctive sound, created her unforgettable look, and channeled her own life into hits such as "You Know I'm No Good", "Rehab", and "Back to Black" - some of the most memorable and personal pop music in years. While her beehive hair, larger-than-life voice, and outrageous personality made her famous, her life offstage made her infamous. Here Mitch holds nothing back about Amy's addiction to drugs and alcohol, mixing the painful with the poignant as he describes the realities of her dependencies and the toll they took on the family and friends who refused to give up on her. Revealing the truth about Amy's substance abuse and dispelling many of the tabloid-fueled rumors about her tumultuous marriage to Blake Fielder-Civil, Mitch exposes the years of behind-the-scenes drama that consumed his life and explains how, for those who knew Amy in her last months, the greatest tragedy of all was that she finally appeared to be conquering her demons. Filled with insights into Amy Winehouse's music, photographs from her life, and stories of the real woman behind the headlines, *Amy, My Daughter* is an emotional journey into music, addiction, and the unbreakable bond between a daughter and her father.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

On her Frank B-side song, "Best Friends" Amy sings, "And it's easy to smoke it up, forget everything that's happened in between". And that lyric basically sums up her life between 2007 - 2011. This book is about Ms. Winehouse's struggle with addiction to alcohol, hard drugs and her "bad boy" husband. Amy's story here is told through the lens of her father, which is endearing but also leaves the reader wondering what exactly was going through Amy's mind (and it's a mystery that the elder Winehouse repeatedly admits to struggling with throughout the book). Mitch Winehouse does a great job of illustrating how powerful addiction is - think Requiem for a Dream -style tragedy but in biographical form. That is what it is like to read this book, but there is no artistic element, Mr. Winehouse is simply recounting his experiences in a linear and very matter-of-fact tone. I have both sympathy and respect for Mitch Winehouse -- handing out Amy's clothes to grieving fans was a remarkable gesture. But as I finished the book, I couldn't help but dwell on Amy. The book is really Mitch's story - not hers. It centers on what it's like to have an addict child who achieved international success at a young age, and what he did to try to save her. He seems liberated by her death but unsettled by the turn of events that led up to it. But even with month-by-month descriptions of her life, I still feel like I don't know her story. For that, her music is probably the closest I'll get. But this is a 4-star book nonetheless, simply because it's engaging and full of suspense and dramatic irony. And readers will definitely find themselves YouTubing clips of some of the events that happen in the book. And Mr.

I do feel bad for Mitch Winehouse. No matter what else you may say about him, he is a father who has had to bury a child, and that's an experience no one would wish on another. So it's hard for me to criticize him too harshly because, at the end of the day, he's a grieving father and he has a right to his own memories and his own side of the story. He did, however, translate those memories into a book for everyone to see. So I can't read the book without criticizing him just a little. Amy Winehouse was a troubled person with a serious addiction to drugs and alcohol. She was also a

singular talent with a voice that comes along only once in a long while. She made poor choices in her personal and romantic life and died far too young. These are all facts that the whole world could see. And unfortunately her story is not unique. From Etta James to Whitney Houston, her story is one that has been told before. Of course that doesn't make it any less tragic. Like many fans, I was curious to read her father's book, even if I was a little skeptical about his motives. Was he trying to show the world the "real" Amy? Was he exploiting her death to sell his own book? Or was he just using the whole thing as an opportunity to reiterate that Amy was fine and that the press was just exaggerating everything? Shockingly, it was the last one. Somehow, despite the fact that he knew his daughter had an addiction to alcohol and hard drugs--an addiction that eventually killed her--and despite the fact that he had tried to get her to go to rehab many times, Mitch Winehouse still managed to spin her life story as "not that bad."

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