

## Rewrites: A Memoir *by* Neil Simon



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**Author:** Neil Simon

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A renowned playwright presents a charming personal memoir that contains reflections and anecdotes about his experiences in show business and its big names, as well as his feelings about the writing lifestyle. Reprint. 35,000 first printing.



## Reviews of the *Rewrites: A Memoir* by Neil Simon

ndup

Having just started on our Ensemble Theatre production of *The Last Of The Red Hot Lovers* this autobiog was crucial reading - and it doesn't disappoint. Neil Simon's prose is as cutting and hilarious -and moving - as his plays. His direct no nonsense approach to his life story is refreshing, insightful and moving. Neil Simon working life captures one of the most important times in theatrical history. I would recommend to anyone interested in being a writer, a successful playwright, but mostly - being human.

LØVE YØÛ

Where his monologues were funny and insightful this is a terrific memoir of his life and times. I grew

up on Neil Simon plays, and "Barefoot in the Park" and "Star Spangled Girl" are what got me writing for the stage and later the screen which is what I do now. His thoughtful, touching and funny style let you peek inside an amazing Broadway career. But more importantly, the real human being (with all his foibles, anecdotes and insecurities) laid out as I had not understood until I read this book. Highly recommended.

Xisyaco

This book is really part one of the Neil Simon autobiography. It documents his early life and his first big job as a TV gagwriter, and goes on to his early struggles and then success as a playwright. The bulk of this book details how he became the most successful U.S. playwright of all time.

The title comes from his skill at doing rapid re-writes of plays found to be in trouble during the try-out stages. Through flashbacks we learn of his personal life and his love for his wife who passed away towards the end of this memoir. I found this book to be a delight from start to finish.

Zainian

Definitely on the short list of the best books I've ever read. Mr. Simon shows himself to be not just a wonderful author of plays, but of books also. He tells his story in the most entertaining way, giving tremendous insights into the production of plays and what it takes to present them. His family story is wonderful also. Difficult to put down, I would recommend this book to anyone with even the slightest interest in Broadway and plays. Thank you Neil, you continue to succeed.

Grotilar

This should be required reading for budding writers, especially playwrights and screenwriters but also writers of fiction, memoirs, editorials, reviews, perhaps even painting and sculpture ... anything where heart and opinion are essential to the expression of work. Fans will also find this book moving, personal and fascinating.

ChallengeMine

Shame on Neil Simon. One would expect a great playwright to know how to author a consistent book. Or maybe because he is a playwright- not!

The first act- one third of the book, is written like a special piece of art hinting at the future anguish he will feel with the loss of his first wife at an early age to cancer.

The middle part of the book is written like an amateur jumping all over the place with unfinished thoughts on anecdotes.

The very last part of the book in which he goes into more detail of the events leading up to his wife's death is very poignant.

He ends the story of his life, written more than 10 years ago in the mid 1970's. So, don't expect to learn anything about his battles with his second wife Marsha Mason vis a vis how he made her a short term star, etc.

It is not ironic he titles the book Rewrites because this one sure needs it.

Геракл

A winner of a memoir, Simon writes as though the reader is an intimate to his life, a life that is so interesting that one is drawn in

from the beginning to the end. Both his books are must reads.

Perhaps producing plays is what keeps Neil Simon in the pink. Just keep those plays coming, Neil.

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