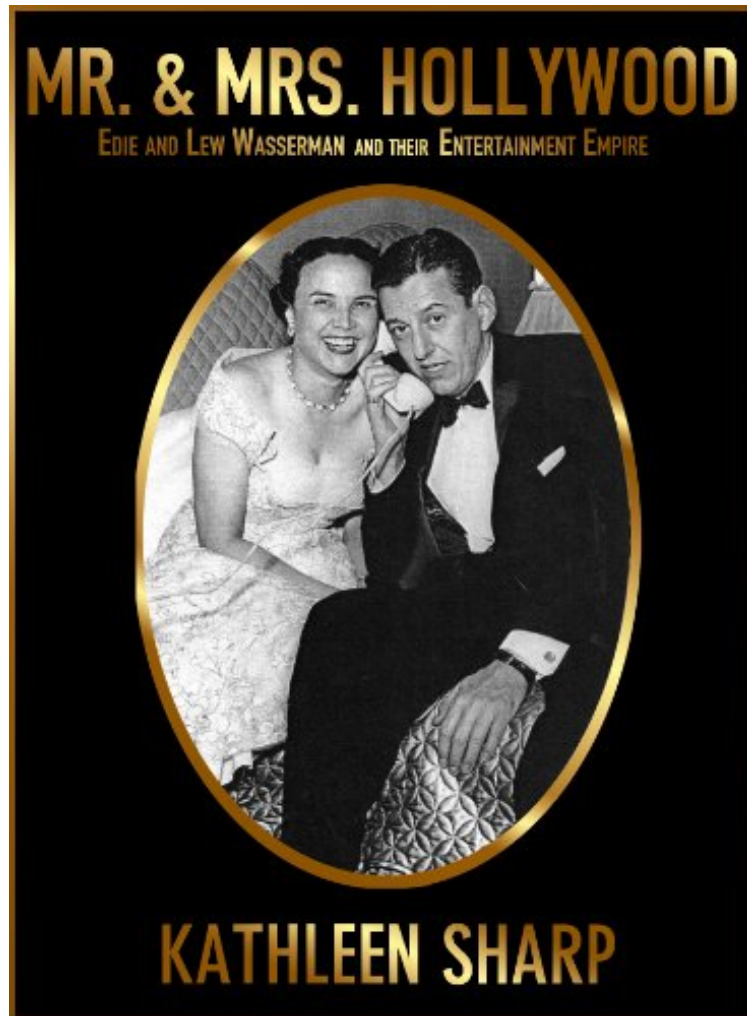


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Kathleen Sharp

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Kathleen Sharp : Mr. and Mrs. Hollywood: Edie and Lew Wasserman and Their Entertainment Empire before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mr. and Mrs. Hollywood: Edie and Lew Wasserman and Their Entertainment Empire:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book that is well written and detailed about America's first Hollywood powerhouse couple. Totally fascinatingBy GARY HYMANLoved the history of Hollywood movies/TV and how the Edie and Lew Wasserman carved a major empire that is Universal (NBC/Universal) today. The blazing trails, the creative moves and enemies they made to follow their vision. How they use Federal laws to their favor and use political muscle to change the laws that worked against them. The world famous celebrities they worked with in making classic movies that hold up today. How Lew jumped on Television in it's infancy when other studios ignored

it. How Edie was Hollywood's premier hostess for so many years for celebrities and their spouses and how that helped Lew on the business side of things. Just when you think you knew everything, you will learn something new, and so much more. Just overall a delightful well written and spoken book that I couldn't stop listening to. Anyone interested in the history of Hollywood, Universal, celebrities, or the way movies were/are made and end up in theaters, or how TV programming evolved.....this is a must read/listen book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I average a book a week and this is one of the best books I have read in a very long time!!! By James M. Patton One of the best books I have read in a very long time!!! I average a book a week and I listened to this on audio book (around 28 hours long if I recall) and I wish it was twice as long. After listening, I decided to buy a hard copy and lucked out with this first edition. Absolutely love the story telling and the history you learn that leads up to present day! 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Mr. Mrs. Hollywood -please it can only be THE KING QUEEN! By Graham Hill Once upon a time... they used to call Douglas Fairbanks and Mary Pickford Hollywood royalty. But from the 1940's through the 1990's, the crown was placed squarely on the heads of Lew and Edie Wasserman. And in Hollywood, there were no arguments over that! Kathleen Sharp has taken on the task of personally interviewing super-agent, super-mogul and super-powerful Lew Wasserman for this book. Sure he spoke to her, but let's face it he was never the type to REALLY disclose anything about himself or his dealings. So Kathleen has had to tread very carefully, threading together bits and pieces from close friends and associates. And they say behind every great man there's a woman, in this case the absolute power behind the throne was Edie. For those that were unfortunate enough to incur the displeasure of Lew, Edie could be much worse. Yet their good cop, bad cop roles were always inter-changeable. From Cleveland to Hollywood to Washington, their kingdom was no fairy tale. Together they were a team that could build a career or bury it, whether for actors or politicians -that is if there is a difference. They could be both charitable and ruthless, even at the same time. Always defensive of her MCA-UNIVERSAL husband, Edie was the power at home and on the Hollywood social circuit. It's a good book that concentrates as the title implies on the couple, over other books that have formerly detailed just Lew. Actually, it really compliments "The Last Mogul" dvd which is also available on . Alas, today's Hollywood is without their like. They're all too busy making money and running, to stand on any ceremony or tradition!

The Wassermans ruled over twentieth-century Hollywood by building MCA, the world's largest talent agency, which ultimately devoured the global multibillion-dollar conglomerate, Universal Studios. Hounded by antitrust prosecutors, attacked by lesser rivals, and betrayed by their own proteges, this supremely powerful couple vanquished their enemies while extending their influence beyond Sunset Strip, into governors' mansions, Senate chambers, the White House, and international boardrooms. Lew was uber-agent to legendary stars, a pioneering TV producer, and a film mogul with a Midas touch. He was a boss to sixty-two labor unions, a diplomat, political kingmaker, and cultural statesman. His wife and champion, Edie, was the daughter of a Cleveland mob attorney, the queen of Hollywood's social A-list, and Lew's secret agent who used her cunning and charm to help him. For more than sixty years, the couple played a central role in shaping the Golden Age of TV, the glamorization of Las Vegas, and the development of the blockbuster film (Psycho, Jaws, E.T). Based on hundreds of interviews, and featuring the likes of Jimmy Stewart, Ted Kennedy, Errol Flynn, Jane Wyman, the Reagans and Clinton, this fascinating dual biography uncovers how the Wassermans built the world's largest entertainment incorporation.

From Publishers Weekly As a top executive at MCA, Lew Wasserman was one of the biggest agents in the movie industry, then topped that by becoming one of the most powerful studio heads ever, orchestrating the gradual takeover of Universal Studios starting in 1958. His wife, Edie, was equally powerful in the realm of the "Hollywood Wives," throwing parties where other executive spouses mixed with starlets like Janet Leigh. Sharp, the Boston Globe's Hollywood correspondent, covers much of the same territory as Connie Bruck's recent Wasserman bio, When Hollywood Had a King, but the attention she gives to Edie adds celebrity gossip to the mix as well as a new facet on the matter of MCA's ties to organized crime. She also sheds light on new aspects of Lew's career, like his guiding hand in the development of early videodisc technology. The book clarifies the frosty relationship between Lew and Ronald Reagan while revealing how Reagan may have colluded with MCA while heading the Screen Actors Guild, depriving SAG members of potentially lucrative residual benefits. While Bruck remains a better source on MCA's early years, Sharp offers additional insights into how Wasserman transformed a talent agency into a studio that produced nearly half of all prime-time programming in the late 1970s, then found creative ways to keep all the profits for itself. Drawing upon more than 450 interviews, Sharp blends corporate maneuvering and personal scandals into a gripping portrait of the original power couple. 16-page photo insert not seen by PW. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Drawing upon more than 450 interviews, Sharp blends corporate maneuvering and personal scandals into a gripping portrait of the original power couple." --Publishers Weekly "Dramatic and enthralling... Lavish and extravagant... maximizing a great story; likely to become the standard text on the Wassermans." --Kirkus (starred review) About the Author Kathleen Sharp is a speaker, award-winning journalist, and bestselling author whose top books have been adapted for film. She is the author of Blood Medicine: The Man Who

Blew the Whistle on One of the Deadliest Prescription Drugs Ever; Mr. Mrs. Hollywood: Edie and Lew Wasserman and Their Entertainment Empire; In Good Faith; Stalking the Beast: A History of Hollywood through the King Kong Movies; and several anthologies. She is a former correspondent for the Boston Globe and has written for several magazines, including the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, Playboy, Elle, and Parade. She has also appeared on Book TV, ABC News, C-SPAN, and The Armstrong Williams Show, among others, and on dozens of national radio shows and consulted on film documentaries for Turner Classic Movies, the Biography Channel, and Bravo. She lives in Santa Barbara, California. Tavia Gilbert, an acclaimed narrator of more than four hundred full-cast and multivoice audiobooks for virtually every publisher in the industry, is an eight-time Audie nominee and the recipient of thirteen Earphones Awards, a Voice Arts Award, and a Listen-Up Award. With frequent inclusion on best of year and annual top ten lists, Tavia is a trusted and increasingly sought-after actress for work across every genre, from children's and YA, to literary fiction, nonfiction, and genre fiction. Audible recently named her a Genre-Defining Narrator: Master of Memoir, and Library Journal said of this highly acclaimed actress, "as close as you can get to a full cast narration with a solo voice." Tavia is a producer, singer, photographer, and a writer, as well as the cofounder of a feminist publishing company, Animal Mineral, with fiction and nonfiction focusing on relationships, love, and identity.