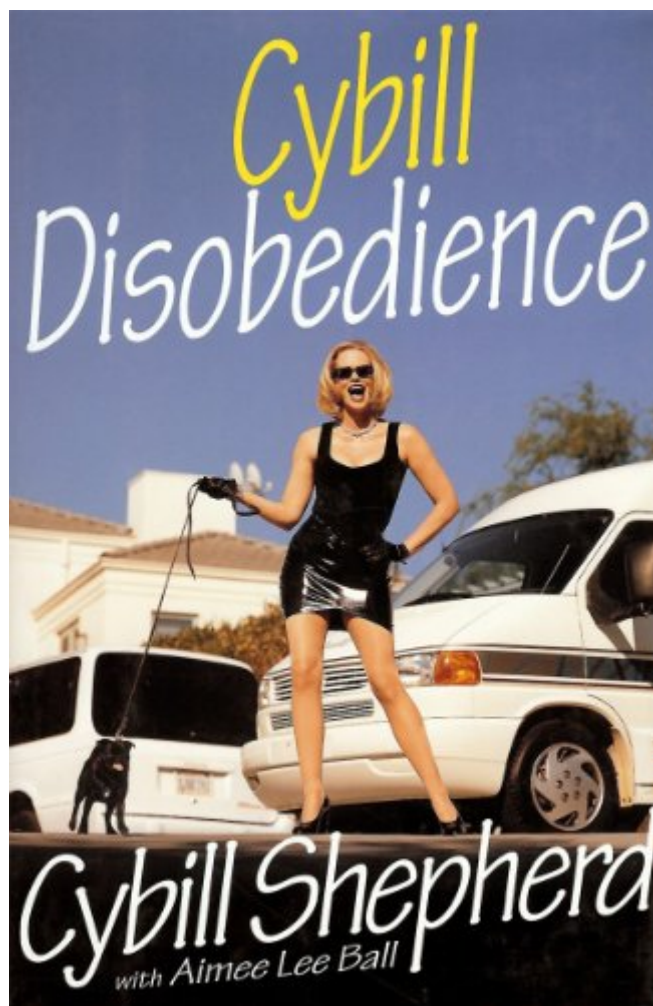




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Cybill Disobedience



Synopsis

'How I survived beauty pageants, Elvis, sex, Bruce Willis, lies, marriage, motherhood, Hollywood, and the irrepressible urge to say what you think.' From wholesome beauty queen to saucy cover girl, from heartbreaking movie star (THE LAST PICTURE SHOW, TAXI DRIVER) to one of television's most loved comediennes (MOONLIGHTING, CYBILL), Cybill Shepherd is renowned as sassy, shocking and sexy. In CYBILL DISOBEDIENCE, she opens her heart with the wit and honesty of a star who's seen and knows it all.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I knew she existed, but until her television show (which I adored) I never really paid her any attention. Almost immediately, I identified with her growing up in the 50's and the insane expectations to always be little ladies that were put upon the girls of that generation. Many time while reading the book, I said to myself (often in the same breath) "Damn, I wish I had had the nerve to do that - what the holy hell was she thinking, how could any sane person.....?" Not the fuzzy, cozy little warmer of a book that Carol Burnett produced, but then again, I didn't expect it to be. I was

definitely entertained, and I like her even more. The woman has balls. I admire that.

I read quite a few reviews of this book before deciding to purchase, and some of them referred to this book as "smut." After reading those reviews, I had very low expectations, and was pleasantly surprised that I enjoyed it. It has a similar feel to other Hollywood autobiographies I've read, so maybe those same reviewers would feel everyone in Hollywood is "smutty." Which might be true come to think of it. And I will give consideration to the word "smut" to describe Cybill's enormous list of sexual partners, including several married men. Ick. Her apparent lack of remorse was a bit upsetting. However, if you're able to look past all of that, there is a lot more to her story. She provided an excellent look at how difficult it was being a working woman in the 1970's, especially one who was trying to launch an acting career. As females, we are still struggling today for equal pay and equal treatment in the workplace, but her stories demonstrate just how far we've come. Besides a general unequalness in pay, and lack of intelligent, strong female roles available, many of her male costars attempted to knock her down a peg by saying and doing awful things to her. Most could not handle working with an outspoken, opinionated female and frequently reported her as "difficult to work with." I enjoyed when she made Joey Bishop uncomfortable during their dinner show after he began mumbling obscenities at her under his breath during performances. "What did you just say? I didn't quite catch it." she asked, momentarily flummoxing him until he could get back on track with his lines. For those readers who are upset that Cybill recounted detailed stories about what people did and said to her, maybe those individuals shouldn't have been saying and doing those things in the first place. A good lesson in Hollywood is to be nice to everyone you meet and work with, because you never know when the guy bringing your coffee will write a tell-all autobiography. And finally, how could I not love this quote from her: To this day, I believe that any excuse to discriminate against any group of human beings violates their civil rights. Regardless of their skin color, religion, sex, or sexual preference, all people must be treated equally. To do otherwise is un-American. Well said Ms. Shepherd. I was ready to bring this down a star for multiple spelling and grammatical errors, which tend to drive me insane while reading, but it occurred to me that those errors may only be in the Kindle version I was reading, so I will leave this at...4 stars, very entertaining!

I am only about 10 pages in, and there have already been about 4 typos. They are so bad you have to read the sentences a couple of times to figure it out. If this continues I'll go nuts. I know I only paid 99 cents but really, there is no way a hardback book was published with this many mistakes.

What happened, ? I may end up loving the book but the two missing stars are directed at .

This book is a chatty fun read for anyone who likes Hollywood gossip, or has followed Cybills career. It is bluntly honest to a point. I gave it 2 stars because it is so blatantly self serving, apparently aimed at countering the stories that she is difficult, back stabbing etc. It is hard to believe that poor Cybill has been so completely misunderstood by almost everyone, even those closest to her, since the start of her career. She admits she made many mistakes, put her foot in her mouth, many times, blew many auditions and alienated many of those with whom she worked. It doesn't seem to me, reading between the lines, that she was misunderstood at all. She comes across as blunt, headstrong, and downright b****y. She makes a case for "women are treated differently in Hollywood," and "standing up for her rights as a woman," but that didn't ring true for this reader. I have liked her and followed her career, so I am disappointed that this book is so "poor misunderstood me.". And she mentions how pretty she is and what a burden it is way too often. We get it, being a famous beauty (but seriously not that famous or even that beautiful. She's not Angelina or Elizabeth Taylor after all) has its drawbacks.

I saw the lady in person a long time ago at Martys in New York and the caption was "Cybill does it to Cole Porter." She showed up in a short, simple black dress as if downplaying her sexuality. I thought this queen of glamour was going to show up in a stunning gown glittering with jewelry but no, she was completely unadorned and tremulous. I thought then as I do now that she was bold and courageous, what I didn't know is that she's also very frank about herself, her life, her numerous lovers and inevitable disappointments. Now the caption should be "Cybill does it to Hollywood." She tells it like it is, it doesn't matter if it puts her on a bad light or not, and she's frequently crucified for it. Why? If a man confesses to a menage a trois, nobody bats an eyelash, but a woman indulging in a fantasy like that should be stoned alive, even in this era of sexual freedom we enjoy; and I can tell that by the nasty reviews she got. How dare she act up on a fantasy most of us had at one time? She brings out the worst in people and my guess is she always did. She was too beautiful, too free, too outrageous and as others cattily put it "too lucky." Never mind that the lady "could actually act," never mind that she was talented and creative to begin with. Most people think she was handed the world on a silver platter because of her looks. She was undeniably "one of the great beauties of the world" and that brings about a lot of resentment. But fear not Cybill there are many out there who like you and admire you just the way you are. Read her interesting book with an open mind and you'll enjoy it. Be judgemental and jealous and you'll hate it, it's as simple as that.

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