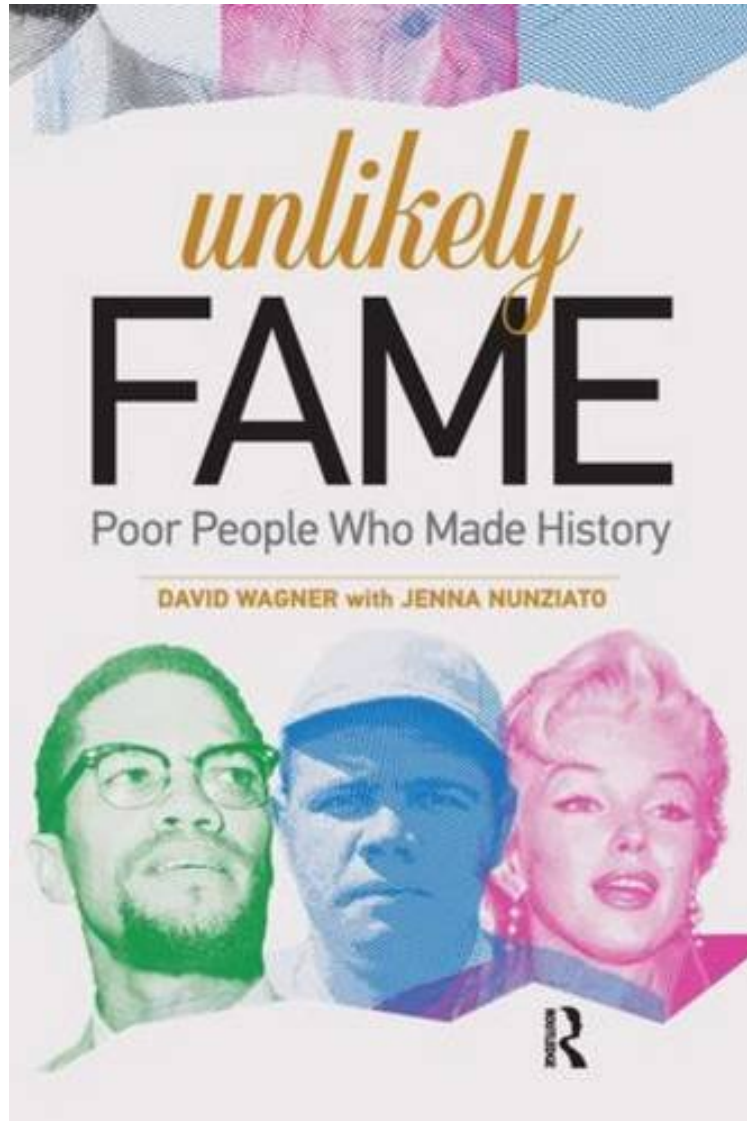


[Free pdf] Unlikely Fame: Poor People Who Made History

Unlikely Fame: Poor People Who Made History

David Wagner

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David Wagner : Unlikely Fame: Poor People Who Made History before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Unlikely Fame: Poor People Who Made History:

This unique book depicts the stories of Americans born in poverty, who achieved national or international fame. Accessible to students and lay readers, this scholarly study describes poverty as a disability that typically stunts important areas of growth in childhood. Wagner shows how poverty hampers individuals and groups for their entire

lives, even many of those who emerge from poverty. Examples of individuals with difficult childhoods who faced residual lifelong challenges are presented in the stories of 27 Americans, including athlete Babe Ruth, birth control advocate Margaret Sanger, singer Billie Holliday, author Jack London, actress Marilyn Monroe, black leader Malcolm X, singer Johnny Cash, comedian Richard Pryor, author Stephen King, and entertainer Oprah Winfrey. In over 200 engaging and accessible pages, *Unlikely Fame* yields insight into successful individuals and how they coped, adapted and ultimately achieved success.

"Has it gotten harder for Americans from poor backgrounds to become famous? In a new book, *Unlikely Fame: Poor People Who Made History*, historian David Wagner suggests fewer famous people come from poverty today than did in the past. Huffington Post "David Wagner is a foremost scholar on issues of poverty, homelessness, and social welfare policy." Z Magazine "Informed and informative, *Unlikely Fame: Poor People Who Made History* is a fascinating and informative read from beginning to end. It is a unique and seminal work that is truly extraordinary and highly recommended for personal reading lists, as well as school, community and academic library American Biography collections." Midwest A pioneering book on the influence of impoverished childhoods. . . . Wagner reveals that many people from seriously deprived backgrounds remained rebellious, often class conscious, and even more creative in their chosen work. Stanley Aronowitz, CUNY Graduate Center With all the current talk about both our celebrity culture and the end of the American dream, David Wagner's *Unlikely Fame* underscores the impact of poverty, especially childhood poverty, and the lifelong price paid by 27 famous Americans, mostly artists, athletes, and activists, from Theodore Dreiser, Jackson Pollock, Billie Holiday, Marilyn Monroe, and Richard Pryor to Babe Ruth, Malcolm X, and Fannie Lou Hamer, all of whom went from rags to riches but were heavily shaped by their poverty backgrounds. A must-read for both academic and popular audiences. Robert Fisher, University of Connecticut David Wagner provides a fascinating look into the world of those who grow up in poverty and become famous. *Unlikely Fame* vividly documents the obstacles and struggles that such individuals must overcome. The book is engaging, well written, and a page turner. Mark R. Rank, Herbert S. Hadley Professor of Social Welfare, Washington University in St. Louis From the Author "A pioneering book on the influence of impoverished childhoods...Wagner reveals that many people from seriously deprived backgrounds remained rebellious, often class conscious and even more creative in their chosen work" - Stanley Aronowitz, Distinguished Professor, CUNY Graduate Center "With all the current talk about both our celebrity culture and the end of the American dream, David Wagner's *Unlikely Fame* underscores the impact of poverty, especially childhood poverty, and the lifelong price paid by 27 famous Americans, mostly artists, athletes, and activists, from Theodore Dreiser, Jackson Pollock, Billie Holiday, Marilyn Monroe, and Richard Pryor to Babe Ruth, Malcolm X, and Fannie Lou Hamer, all of whom went from rags to riches but were heavily shaped by their poverty backgrounds. A must-read for both academic and popular audiences." --Robert Fisher, Professor of Community Organization, University of Connecticut "David Wagner provides a fascinating look into the world of those who grow up in poverty and become famous. *Unlikely Fame* vividly documents the obstacles and struggles that such individuals must overcome. The book is engaging, well written, and a page turner." --Mark R. Rank, Herbert S. Hadley Professor of Social Welfare, Washington University in St. Louis About the Author David Wagner, Professor of Social Work and Sociology at the University of Maine, is the award-winning author of eight previous books, including *Confronting Homelessness: Poverty, Politics, and the Failure of Social Welfare*. Jenna Nunziato is a recent graduate of the MSW program at University of Southern Maine.