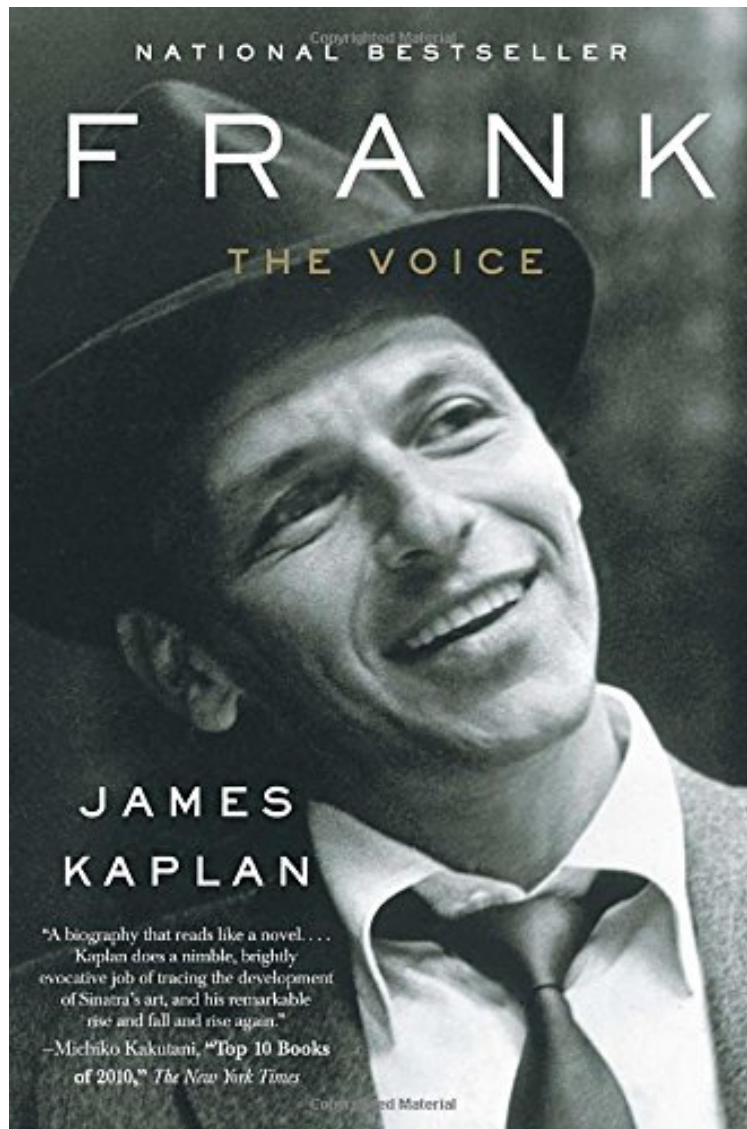


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## Frank: The Voice

James Kaplan

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**James Kaplan : Frank: The Voice** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Frank: The Voice:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One of the most interesting biographies I have ever read. By wutanglenI will cut to the chase with this review. Simply one of the most interesting biographies I have read in a very long time. It is a big long book but that was never an issue as each page was just more interesting than the previous page. Absolutely one of the best books I have read in a long time. Hoping they drop the price on the Kindle edition of book 2! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Voice and his messed up life By Sue JA biography of

Frank Sinatra from the beginning to 1954, and STILL 800 pages! (Well that includes the bibliography and index.) Since Sinatra is by far and away my favorite singer of all time, I had to read this, even knowing what a messed up jerk he was. Messed up and jerk are terms that now seem tame. He was not a nice man, but I love the voice anyway. No doubt if I had been born 20 years earlier, I'd have been screaming "Frankie" along with all the other bobby-soxers. The voice is just that good. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ..The Road to Success of a High School Dropout By John Herzfeld This is a story of a tortured soul who enjoyed success, suffered failure in both his profession and 2nd marriage, but overcame his downs with an Oscar winning role in "From Here to Eternity." This story of a musical genius with a series of struggles after a great start. It shows his character including the warts, his obsession with his 2nd wife (Ava Gardner) and, his devotion to his kids. It is a long story (over 700 pages), and does not include his life beyond his recovery after his winning the Oscar. I enjoyed my Kindle edition so much, I ordered the book version for my wife.. by Nancy, his first wife, and his triumph as an Oscar winning performance in "From Here to Eternity." His legacy as a great voice of the music of the 30s, 40s, and 50s has endured. This is a good read from a well researched biography..,

Frank Sinatra was the best-known entertainer of the twentieth century infinitely charismatic, lionized and notorious in equal measure. But despite his mammoth fame, Sinatra the man has remained an enigma. Now James Kaplan brings deeper insight than ever before to the complex psyche and turbulent life behind that incomparable voice, from Sinatra's humble beginning in Hoboken to his fall from grace and Oscar-winning return in *From Here to Eternity*. Here at last is the biographer who makes the reader feel what it was really like to be Frank Sinatra as man, as musician, as tortured genius.

.com Peter Bogdanovich's *Frank: The Voice* Peter Bogdanovich is an acclaimed director, producer, writer, actor, film critic, and author. He has directed over 25 feature films, including international award winners *The Last Picture Show*, *What's Up, Doc?*, and *Paper Moon*. Read his review of *Frank: The Voice*: There has never been a book of this kind or quality about Frank Sinatra. Like the formidable novelist he is, James Kaplan has somehow managed to get inside the man and the legend, to such a degree that you feel you are living Sinatra's life with him, almost day by day. Yet it is the fastest read. From his violent, deforming, traumatic birth, through his Hoboken childhood with a super-dominating mother and a weak father, through the heady, unprecedented bobby-sox years, his young marriage to the virtually saint-like Nancy, their three kids, his numerous--almost serial--infidelities, through the tumultuous affair with Ava Gardner--detailed as never before--through the much-frowned-on divorce, the suicide attempts, rivetingly onward through the near total collapse of his career, and right up through the miraculous comeback with the Oscar for *From Here to Eternity*, this book tells it all with the freshness of the first time, in the most engrossing and evocative prose. There is compassion and candor, and a profound sense of real lives being lived. Sinatra the musician has never been taken as seriously or chronicled with such sensitivity and depth; it has never been as clear how very much the singer had to do with all aspects of his recordings and performances. This is a warts-and-all work, with a staggering amount of research to back everything up, revealing Nancy Sr. in all her grace, and Frank in all his moods, but it is never salacious or malicious, only honest, forthright and civilized. Nobody can be prepared for the life of a phenomenon--which Sinatra was--the first show business phenomenon of the 20th century, long before Elvis or the Beatles, and far more complicated and multi-layered. Being very human, Frank did the best he could with it all, and James Kaplan has done a magnificently resonant chronicle of the first half of an incredible journey. It leaves you hungering for the second volume! From *Publishers Weekly* Starred . In this riveting and fast-paced biography, Kaplan, coauthor with Jerry Lewis of *Dean and Me*, chronicles Sinatra's somewhat unlikely meteoric ascent to success, his failures, and his rebirth as a star of song and screen. With exhaustive, and sometimes exhausting, detail, Kaplan engagingly re-creates the young Sinatra's childhood in Hoboken, N.J., where young Frank was born, in 1915. By the time he was 12, Sinatra was singing for quarters on top of the piano in the bar in his father's tavern. At 21, Frankie joined a group that became known as the Hoboken Four, and everyone soon recognized Sinatra's great vocal gift. Kaplan expertly conducts us on a journey through Sinatra's early years with Tommy Dorsey and his long solo career; Sinatra's first marriage to Nancy Barbato and his more famous marriage to Ava Gardner; and through Sinatra's movie career and his rebirth in the early 1950s. Although Sinatra's career often faltered in the late 1940s, his partnership with Nelson Riddle and the release of the song "Young at Heart" in 1953 began Sinatra's comeback. Kaplan's enthralling tale of an American icon serves as an introduction of "old blue eyes" to a new generation of listeners while winning the hearts of Sinatra's diehard fans. (Nov.) (c) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From *Bookmarks Magazine* Veteran writer James Kaplan knows what goes into a life on the page. He's a good and capable biographer, and critics generally give *Frank: The Voice* high marks for his ability to connect the chaotic, heartbreaking, and at times violent life of the artist with the unique singing style that made him famous. Some reviewers, however, wonder whether another biography despite Kaplan's gritty, point-of-view perspective and a photo insert that contains several rare snaps adds much to the already crowded bookshelf on the crooners' life (including Kitty Kelley's *His Way*, upon which Kaplan draws frequently). Despite a few passages held together with dubious psychoanalysis, Kaplan makes his

case (and an easy one at that) that Sinatra ranks among the icons of 20th-century popular culture, even if his true genius remains somewhat elusive.