



You Might Remember Me: The Life and Times of Phil Hartman

By Mike Thomas



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Beloved TV comedic actor Phil Hartman is best known for his eight brilliant seasons on *Saturday Night Live*, where his versatility and comedic timing resulted in some of the funniest and most famous sketches in the television show's history. Besides his hilarious impersonations of Phil Donahue, Frank Sinatra and Bill Clinton, Hartman's other indelible characters included Cirroc the Unfrozen Caveman Lawyer, Eugene the Anal Retentive Chef and, of course, Frankenstein. He also starred as pompous radio broadcaster Bill McNeal in the NBC sitcom *NewsRadio* and voiced numerous classic roles — most memorably washed-up actor and commercial pitchman Troy McClure — on Fox's long-running animated hit *The Simpsons*.

But Hartman's seemingly charmed life was cut tragically short when he was fatally shot by his troubled third wife, Brynn, who turned a gun on herself several hours later. The shocking and headline-generating turn of events stunned those closest to the couple as well as countless fans who knew Phil only from afar. Now, for the first time ever, the years and moments leading up to his untimely end are described in illuminating detail through information gleaned from exclusive interviews with scores of famous cast mates, close friends and family members as well as private letters, audio/video recordings, extensive police records, and more.

Both joyous tribute and serious biography, Mike Thomas' *You Might Remember Me* is a celebration of Phil Hartman's multi-faceted career and an exhaustively reported, warts-and-all examination of his often intriguing and sometimes complicated life—a powerful, humor-filled and disquieting portrait of a man who was loved by many, admired by millions and taken from them far too early.

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Editorial Review

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It's been more than 15 years since Phil Hartman, star of NewsRadio, voice artist on The Simpsons, and veteran of Saturday Night Live, was murdered by his wife (who then, hours later, took her own life). This new biography begins and ends with the last night of Hartman's life, but the author spends most of his time exploring the years that came before. Fans of Hartman's comic performances who don't know much else about him will find the book to be packed with surprises: Hartman was an accomplished graphic artist, doing album art for a number of music groups in the 1970s (including Crosby, Stills & Nash); he cowrote the hit film Pee-Wee's Big Adventure; and he went to school with Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, who would later become famous as one of Charles Manson's acolytes. Based on previously published material and firsthand interviews with many people who knew the actor, the book might not be the definitive Hartman biography, but it's a wonderful introduction to a man whose shocking death still resonates with his many fans. --David Pitt

Review

"You Might Remember Me is valuable—a well-reported, thorough portrait of an artist....[Thomas] doesn't make Brynn Hartman a monster or Phil Hartman a saint. He presents Hartman as he was, without diminishing or sanitizing him, giving the world a more nuanced remembrance than much of what's been published about him since 1998. It's a good way to remember him." *?The New Yorker*

"In Mike Thomas...Hartman has gotten the biographer he deserves....If you want to know what made Phil Hartman tick and what, in turn, gives him a permanent place in this country's laughter landscape, this book is the ticket, and you will remember the ride." *?Chicago Tribune*

"Thomas illuminates the private life of one of the greatest character actors of his generation....Even as you're turning the pages of the book, nothing will prepare you for the ending that you already know. But the inside story shows the complicated and messy lives that Hartman hid from everyone else around him." *?Salon*

"A much needed, well-researched biography...Phil Hartman is revealed with compassion and respect...Verdict: A welcome contribution to the sparse and one-note publications about Hartman's career and life." *?Library Journal*

"Phil Hartman is missed by many, but for those who adored him--and those who want to know more about him--Mike Thomas has crafted a joyous, serious, and compelling biography that affirms Phil's unique place in American comedic culture." *?James Andrew Miller, New York Times bestselling author of Live From New York*

"Saturday Night Live certainly 'makes' a lot of careers. However, there are a select few without which SNL would not be the same. That was Phil Hartman. He was an incredibly deep, brilliant, complex and enriching personality. *You Might Remember Me* uncovers all the many, diverse experiences that fueled Phil's comedy, passion and his incredible ability to bond or 'glue' with those around him--both on and off stage. Mike Thomas shows us Phil Hartman the artist, the poet, the surfer, the musician, the friend. What a life he lived." *?Tom Farley, New York Times bestselling co-author of The Chris Farley Show and brother of Chris Farley*

"Beautifully written and exquisitely researched, *You Might Remember Me* puts us inside the heart and mind

of Phil Hartman, one of the great comedic geniuses of our time. By writing it, Mike Thomas has done more than produce Hartman's definitive biography--he has taken us on a journey into an era of immense inspiration and creativity, put us at the table with giant personalities, and shown us, so honestly, the hopes and dreams of a complicated and truly decent man." ?*Robert Kurson, New York Times bestselling author of Shadow Divers and Crashing Through*

"Piercing, heartbreaking, and superbly researched--full of wisdom about the brutal business of comedy and the 'man of a thousand voices' who was one of its great, tragic practitioners." ?*James Kaplan, New York Times bestselling author of Frank: The Voice*

About the Author

Mike Thomas has more than 30 years' experience as an Auto/Diesel Technician. He is a Graduate of Denver Automotive and Diesel College and Joliet Junior College AAS Degree. Thomas is ASE Certified as a Master Automotive Technician, Master Medium/Heavy Duty Diesel Truck Technician, L1 Automobile Advanced Engine Performance, and L2 Advanced Electronic Diesel Engine Diagnostics. He has been teaching auto and diesel classes for more than 15 years. Thomas was an Auto/Diesel curriculum developer for Universal Technical Institute (UTI) for three years. At Arizona Automotive Institute, he created the entire 60-week Diesel Program, including course materials, PowerPoint presentations, lab sheets, and quizzes.

Corey Snow, a full-time audiobook narrator and voice actor living in the great Pacific Northwest, has been everything from a paratrooper to a software developer. Working from his studio in Olympia, Washington, he has recorded numerous audiobooks, including "Lak"DeChance Chronicles. Corey's love of reading and storytelling shows in every word, regardless of whether he is bringing characters from a novel to life, clearly detailing military history, or making software theory riveting

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Terra Runyan:

Nowadays reading books become more than want or need but also become a life style. This reading practice give you lot of advantages. Advantages you got of course the knowledge the actual information inside the book which improve your knowledge and information. The information you get based on what kind of publication you read, if you want send more knowledge just go with education and learning books but if you want experience happy read one along with theme for entertaining including comic or novel. The actual You Might Remember Me: The Life and Times of Phil Hartman is kind of book which is giving the reader unstable experience.

Patricia Baker:

The actual book You Might Remember Me: The Life and Times of Phil Hartman will bring one to the new experience of reading a book. The author style to elucidate the idea is very unique. When you try to find new book to learn, this book very acceptable to you. The book You Might Remember Me: The Life and Times of Phil Hartman is much recommended to you you just read. You can also get the e-book through the official web site, so you can quicker to read the book.

Manuel Porter:

You Might Remember Me: The Life and Times of Phil Hartman can be one of your basic books that are good idea. We recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining but still delivering the information. The article writer giving his/her effort that will put every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing You Might Remember Me: The Life and Times of Phil Hartman nevertheless doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest and also based confirm resource information that maybe you can be among it. This great information could drawn you into brand new stage of crucial contemplating.

Harold Smith:

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