



Robert Downey Jr.: The Fall and Rise of the Comeback Kid

By Ben Falk

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The Comeback Kid will be the first biography of Robert Downey Jr. A Detailed and authoritative account of the life, career, stardom and controversy of Robert Downey JR - one of Hollywood's most popular, and gifted, actors of recent times. A behind-the-scenes look on the making of his most famous and infamous movies, talking to the people closest to him, from actors and directors to those he has encountered during his trips to the dark side. "I've always felt like an outsider in this industry. Because I'm so insane I guess." - Robert Downey Jr. Robert Downey Jr's life isn't a movie - but it could be. Now one of the biggest box office stars in the world thanks to Iron Man and Sherlock Holmes, he's come a long way since his early days as a rising actor amidst the Brat Pack of the Eighties, as well as stints on Saturday Night Live and Ally McBeal. His incredible journey has also encompassed prison and drug addiction - experiences which left him just one bad choice away from death. Funny, definitive and entertaining, this is the first book that dares to glimpse inside the psyche of a brilliant and complex icon of our times.

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Editorial Review

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The 2008 blockbuster Iron Man finally made Robert Downey Jr. a superstar at 43, but just a decade prior he was deeply mired in years of legal troubles, failed relationships, and box-office flops, despite widespread acclaim for his natural-born artistry and a best actor Oscar nomination for 1992's Chaplin. British journalist Falk meticulously details the turbulence in his unauthorized biography of the actor, who began a harrowing descent into decades of drug addiction after his cult-film director father shared a joint with his young son. In 1999, at arguably his lowest point, Downey told a judge, "It's like I've got a shotgun in my mouth, and my finger's on the trigger and I like the taste of gun metal," before being sentenced to three years in state prison (he served nearly a year). Falk obviously has a great deal of respect for his subject, which he weaves throughout this even-handed portrait. Downey's midcareer comeback is also given fair shrift in this absorbing account of one man's amazing triumph over his voracious demons. --Chris Keech

Review

"Falk obviously has a great deal of respect for his subject, which he weaves throughout this even-handed portrait. Downey's midcareer comeback is also given fair shrift in this absorbing account of one man's amazing triumph over his voracious demons." —*Booklist*

About the Author

Ben Falk is an entertainment journalist who has written for such publications as *Empire*, the *Observer*, the *Sun*, *Total Film*, and *Us Weekly*, and has been an entertainment correspondent in London and Los Angeles. He is the coauthor of *Television's Strangest Moments*.

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