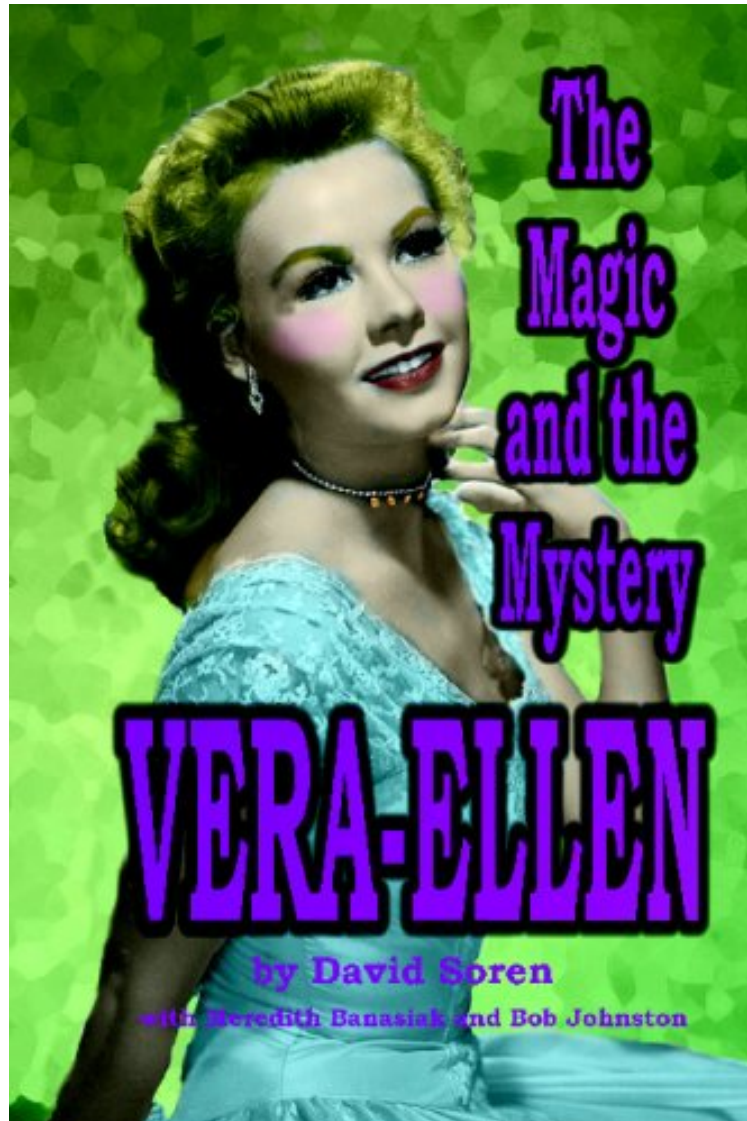


(Download free ebook) Vera-Ellen: The Magic and the Mystery

Vera-Ellen: The Magic and the Mystery

David Soren

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David Soren : Vera-Ellen: The Magic and the Mystery before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Vera-Ellen: The Magic and the Mystery:

18 of 18 people found the following review helpful. Success and TragedyBy Roy WhiteThe details about Vera-Ellen's various performances in the movies and on stage--sometimes were a bit tedious. It is obvious that Mr. Soren was--like many others--smitten by Vera-Ellen's magic. The tragedy is in the way she was not able to better capitalize on that real magic--due to insensitive movie studio executives, an over involved mother, and Vera-Ellen's own quirks, i.e. obsessive compulsive issues, including what we now call anorexia. She was just too talented to not have become mega

star--except for her own psychological and personal hang ups.Soren provides some valuable information about Vera-Ellen's childhood without making judgments regards the family dysfunction. I appreciated that and it enabled me as a reader to read between the lines without being beat over the head with it. Sadly, it leaves me wishing someone had stepped in at key points to help Vera or to at least rescue her from herself as well as her mother and studio executives. The fact that she was intentionally over looked in the various compilations of movie musical show cases like "That's Dancing," and follow-up compilations, makes no sense other than the fear of publicists to display her obvious physical problems due to the anorexia. But there were many performances that she did like "Slaughter on Tenth Avenue" with Gene Kelly, that are some of the best dancing ever seen on the screen. None of them have been included in major Hollywood anthologies and this is very sad. Besides her personal quirks, it makes me wonder who she might have crossed or insulted--or likely by saying "no" to invitations to take part in "remember when" programs gave the impression she did not want to be bothered.She was an amazing dancer, and an unappreciated actor.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Vera-Elen The Magic and the MysteryBy CustomerIt was nice reading about her life in hollywood and I loved how it included many pictures from the movie White Christmas which is the only movie have seen as,well as like Vera-Ellen wow what a dancer.They could have talk a little bit more about her childhood and I would have proably been more into it if I grown up during the time she was an actress in movies but I wasn't.There was sad parts on and off and the saddest was at the end when they talked about how she died.A beautiful woman who especially a talented dancer,but alot of times had a low self-esteem and didn't think she was good enough.If you liked the actress and dancer Vera-Ellen this is the book for you.7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Good StoryBy Dan SterlingI enjoyed the story about Vera-Ellen. I had noticed her in recent years every Christmas and was just wowed by her physical ability and good looks as well. I wondered why I hadn't seen her in other movies and searched the net to read more about her. The fact that I was interested enough to read a book when I rarely and I mean rarely do is the greatest homage I can give to her.If you have seen this lady dance in White Christmas, give her the respect she missed out on in life and read her story.

Vera-Ellen should have been one of Broadway and Hollywoods most enduring stars. She was a fine dramatic and light comedic actress, and was considered by a number of authorities to be the greatest all-around dancer of her generation. And for a brief moment in 1950, she was an American household name, as famous as Babe Ruth, Joe DiMaggio or General Douglas MacArthur. She could do tap, toe dancing, adagio, modern dance (formerly known as dramatic dancing), comic dancing, partnered dancing, prop dancing, Apache dancing and advanced acrobatics. She could also sing well enough to be featured on Broadway and television. Her obsessive perfectionism was legendary; nobody worked harder on a routine or accomplished it with greater attention to detail. Not only were each of her steps perfect but the transitions from step to step were flawless and remarkably beautiful to observe. Like Fred Astaire, who admired her, she had the ability to make each complex routine seem effortless, as if she were expressing herself spontaneously. Vera-Ellen's work in films such as On The Town, White Christmas, Words and Music, Three Little Words, The Belle of New York and Call Me Madame will never be forgotten by film musical fans. This much anticipated biography will not disappoint those fans.