



Untouchable: The Strange Life and Tragic Death of Michael Jackson

By Randall Sullivan

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"A dishy Michael Jackson biography that makes the exhaustively covered King of Pop fascinating all over again."—People

"The first deep-dive narrative by a veteran journalist covering the King of Pop's convoluted final years on earth . . . [Untouchable] helps cast Jackson in a new light."—Los Angeles Times

"A tale of family, fame, lost childhood, and startling accusations never heard before."—ABC Nightline

Untouchable portrays Michael Jackson's life and death in unprecedented depth. Beginning with his last departure from Neverland, Sullivan captures Jackson's final years shuttling around the world, and plans to recapture his wealth and reputation with a comeback album and planned series of fifty mega-concerts. Sullivan delves deep into Jackson's past, depicting a man both naive and deeply cunning, a devoted father whose parenting decisions created international outcry, a shrewd businessman whose failures nearly brought down a megacorporation, and an inveterate narcissist who desperately wanted a quiet, normal life. Sullivan has never-before-reported information about Jackson's business dealings, the pedophilia allegations that besmirched his reputation, and the fate of his billion-dollar-plus estate, and exclusive access to inner-circle figures including Jackson's former attorneys and managers. *Untouchable* is a remarkable portrait of the man who still reigns as King of Pop.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Amazon Best Books of the Month, November 2012: Does the world need *another* book about the late King of Pop? Do you want to read one? Before opening onetime *Rolling Stone* editor Sullivan's massive (775+ pages) book, I would surely have screamed NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO. Everybody knows the story: adorable musical prodigy grows up into weird, plastic surgery-addicted, money-obsessed celebrity who may or may not have been a pedophile but is doubtless sexually stunted. And how could he not have been, given the horrific treatment he received from his father, who apparently couldn't decide whether to beat him to death or just pimp him out as a performer? Sullivan hits all those notes, of course, and while the recitation of Jackson's many debts and trials verges on wearying, the sheer accumulation of detail and unusual amount of access to longtime Jackson advisors and relatives also makes you realize, once and for all, the extent of the damage done both to and by the guy the British press dubbed "Wacko Jacko." From the very first scene--in which Joe and Katherine Jackson trick their way into their son's home--the Michael Jackson that emerges here is both hero and villain, a loving father (truly!) and a screaming egomaniac, a sometimes brilliant businessman who was also pathetically naïve. Go on: Check out this train wreck of a life. I dare you to look away. --*Sara Nelson*

Review

Praise for *Untouchable*

"Sullivan reveals a man who was not the pedophilic, transgendered, transracial freak the media thought he was, but a highly intelligent and sensitive perfectionist, more self-aware—and ashamed—of his surgically altered looks than the public ever knew. . . . Sullivan's sensitive portrait of [Jackson] is a good start toward explaining and rehabilitating a lonely genius who was poorly understood in his lifetime."—*Kirkus Reviews*

Praise for Randall Sullivan

"Like its title, this book has something miraculous in it. Imagine, if you can, a book . . . that will interest, and satisfy, both the pious and skeptical. That book is this one. Mr. Sullivan's cast of unlikely characters recalls the inhabitants of other mountains, Thomas Mann's *Magic Mountain* or Thomas Merton's *The Seven Storey Mountain*." —*The Washington Times* on *The Miracle Detective*

"An intrepid Portland journalist crafts a fascinating exploration of how the Catholic Church investigates purported sightings of the Virgin Mary; a globe-trotting, first-person spiritual odyssey that took him to northeastern Oregon, Arizona, Bosnia, the Vatican and beyond." —*Seattle Post-Intelligencer* on *The Miracle Detective*

"[An] engrossing, damning tale of widespread unchecked corruption in one of the nation's largest police departments, one that deserves attention. . . . Exhaustively researched, the book methodically weaves a disturbing story of corruption, intimidation, and murder." —*Boston Globe* on *Labyrinth*

About the Author

Randall Sullivan was a contributing editor to *Rolling Stone* for over twenty years. He is also the author of

The Price of Experience, Labyrinth, and The Miracle Detective, the book that inspired the television show The Miracle Detectives, which he hosted and which premiered on the Oprah Winfrey Network (OWN) in January 2011. He lives in Oregon.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Carrie Correll:

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Margaret Watt:

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