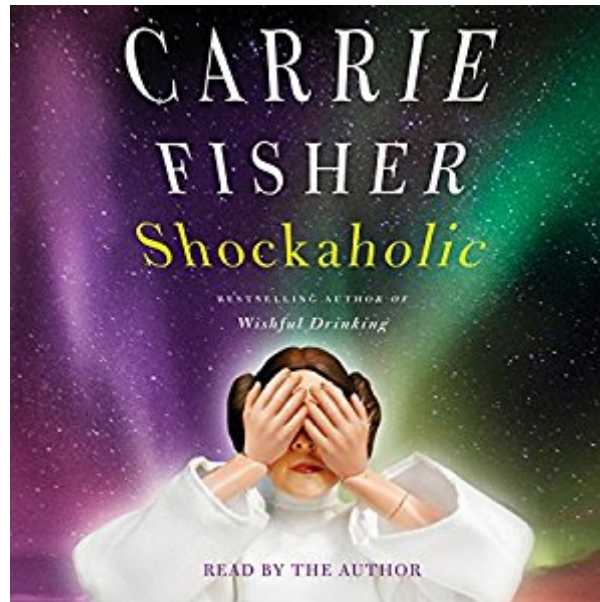




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Shockaholic



Synopsis

Infused with Carrie Fisher's trademark incisive wit and perfectly poised on the heels of *Wishful Drinking's* instant New York Times best-selling success, *Shockaholic* takes listeners on another rollicking ride into her crazy life. Told with the same intimate style, brutal honesty, and uproarious wisdom that placed *Wishful Drinking* on the New York Times best-seller list for months, *Shockaholic* is the juicy account of Carrie Fisher's life, focusing more on the Star Wars years and dishing about the various Hollywood relationships she's formed since she was chosen to play Princess Leia at only 19 years old. Fisher delves into the gritty details that made the movie - and herself - such a phenomenal success, admitting, "It isn't all sweetness and light sabers."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This review is based on the Kindle edition. Reading a Carrie Fisher book is a wild trip indeed, full of stream of consciousness writing mixed with a strong dose of humor. The result? Revelations and opinions that are totally refreshing compared to so much tepid writing and so-called "confessions" out there. Fisher can definitely NOT be described as tepid. Given the day and time she could be described as depressed or hyper, a loyal friend or a shopaholic. She fights to keep weight off and recently shed weight with the aid of (as Fisher puts it).. "my unexpected ship...the S.S. Jenny Craig." Yep, she used the Jenny Craig program in spite of the fact that she'd have to reveal her hefty body to the public before taking off the weight. Not an easy task. But for me it is her unique humor that make her books, including *Shockaholic*, stand out from the crowd. Who else would write:

"One could argue that by having regular ECT treatments, I'm paying two- that's right, two electric bills. One for the house and one for the head." In between the humor are serious messages. Electroshock therapy may help when other depression treatments fail. Like so many others, Fisher was terrified to try it but it helped her immensely. With so many ashamed to admit that they struggle to remain semi-balanced and functioning, *Shockaholic* could take away some of the stigma. Not that the book focuses only on electroshock treatments. Fisher doesn't avoid making fun of herself while sharing her views on a variety of topics. Michael Jackson. Elizabeth Taylor. The details of a wildly surreal conversation with Senator Kennedy. Memories of visiting Michael Jackson's Neverland estate. In light of recent events (as of the book's publication), I found Fisher's info about Arnie Klein (Jackson's dermatologist) to be particularly intriguing. There is, in fact, a complete chapter on Michael Jackson and his super celebrity status as well as Fisher's experiences with Klein. You never know what you'll find between the covers of a book written by Carrie Fisher. I always feel inspired as well as entertained by her writing. By her own admission, writing is therapeutic for her....and readers are the lucky recipients of some of that writing.

Carrie Fisher feels like a close friend of mine - that's how personable, intimate and scathingly witty her writing is. I feel like I'm listening to juicy gossip and madcap Hollywood drama from a sassy, tart-tongued best friend who doesn't hold back with the pants-wetting details. From her electro-shock treatment, to hanging out with Michael Jackson, to butting heads with Ted Kennedy, to Elizabeth Taylor pushing her in a pool...and all sorts of drug use in between - you won't find a better first hand account of growing up (and out of) the hilarious absurdity of showbiz. The perfect companion to *'Wishful Drinking'* - Carrie fans will not be disappointed.

Carrie Fisher is an amazing storyteller. It's amazing what she has lived through and is willing to share. I actually bought this just so I could have her autograph it in person. I'm so glad that I did! She's just as funny and witty in person. I will read anything that she writes because I love her take on the world!

I read *Shockaholic* this afternoon, and it was every bit as entertaining as *Wishful Drinking* had been, with the sad caveat that Ms. Fisher is no longer with us. She was a true dry wit of the highest degree; a wonderful writer, as well as a fantastic and loving daughter, mother and sister. This book of essays had me doing everything from giggling softly to myself to guffawing out loud at various times. The Michael Jackson chapter was particularly hilarious, but the final chapter on her dad,

Eddie Fisher, was both funny and very touching. What a great talent Carrie was. An American treasure who is gone far too soon. I'm ordering The Princess Diarist to read this coming week.

This was the only one of Carrie's books that I hadn't read and it's as fantastic as all her writing--fantastic in every sense. What this woman has experienced, endured, triumphed over...and written about with such wry clarity and...well, she IS a triumph. Somewhere, I'm told, she wrote that, if her life weren't funny, then it would be merely true--and that is totally unacceptable. Gotta love that. Gotta love every word she's ever written...

This book was not what I expected from Carrie Fisher, considering I've read another of her books chronicling her mental illness and experiences. Though it began with a brief description of her shock treatments, it overall seemed more of a catalog of her famous family, and her celebrity friends. I can't recall the title of the other book I've read, but it was much more personal, and that is what I would love to read more about Carrie Fischer, who she is just as a person, struggles and all.

I was not a big fan of Carrie Fisher's other books but I thoroughly enjoyed this one because I had recently seen the special film of her and Debbie Reynolds and this was written within the same timespan. She writes like she talks, with many thoughts pushing in together. But I found her funny and endearing. I was especially touched by how caring she was to her Father in his later years. During her younger years, they did drugs together. He paid dearly for it with his health as did she. All of her dear mother's life, Debbie worried that her daughter would die of an overdose. When it finally came true, she collapsed and died within a day. I am glad that Carrie had a chance to write this before her untimely death at age 60. It made reading this especially sad.

I chose this book because I found her quirky and yet a pretty thought provoking individual. However after reading the first chapter I was bored. The second chapter good but not great. Loved some of her analogies (humorous) but some you had to unwind. Then shaking your head saying what the hell! I guess this book was written in her head in her words which could take a person forever to figure out what she's trying to say. Did enjoy the last chapter about her and Eddie..she was a kind and loving daughter ..albeit a pretty loving individual who didn't get it in return.

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Shockaholic

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