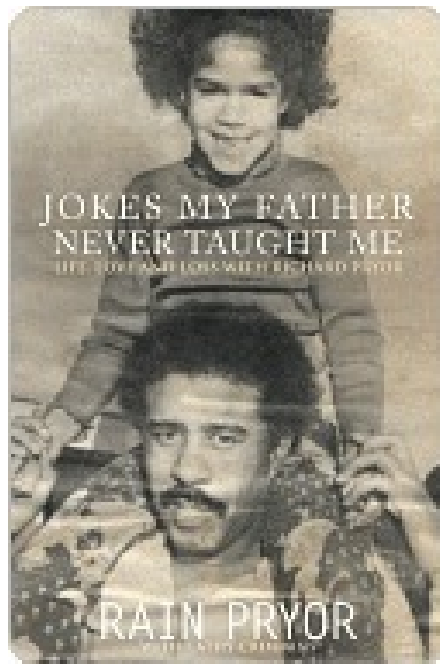




Jokes My Father Never Taught Me: Life, Love, and Loss with Richard Pryor

Rain Pryor

Download now

Read Online ➔

Jokes My Father Never Taught Me: Life, Love, and Loss with Richard Pryor

Rain Pryor

Jokes My Father Never Taught Me: Life, Love, and Loss with Richard Pryor Rain Pryor

The loving yet brutally honest memoir of the daughter of comedy legend Richard Pryor

Rain Pryor was born in the idealistic, free-love 1960s. Her mother was a Jewish go-go dancer who wanted a tribe of rainbow children, and her father was Richard Pryor, perhaps the most compelling and brilliant comedian of his era.

In this intimate, harrowing, and often hilarious memoir, Rain talks about her divided heritage, and about the forces that shaped her wildly schizophrenic childhood. In her father's house, she bonded with Richard's grandmother, Mamma, a one-time whorehouse madam who never tired of reminding Rain that she was black. In her mother's house, and in the home of her Jewish grandparents, Rain was a "mocha-colored Jewish princess," learning how to cook everything from kugel to beef brisket.

It seemed as if Rain was blessed with the best of both worlds, but it didn't quite work out that way. Life at Mom's was unstable in the extreme, while at Richard's place Rain was exposed to sex and drugs before she had even learned to read. "Daddy," she told her father one day, sitting down to Thanksgiving dinner at the advanced age of eight, "the whores need to be paid."

Jokes My Father Never Taught Me is both lovingly told and painfully frank: the story of a girl who grew up adoring her father even as she feared him—and feared *for* him—as his drug problems grew worse. In 1980 Pryor tried to kill himself by setting himself on fire, then joked that it had been an accident: "No one ever told me you couldn't mix cookies with two types of milk!" In his later years, Pryor succumbed to multiple sclerosis, and Rain watched in tears as her father became a shell of his former self. Once, in an unusually introspective mood, Pryor asked his daughter, "Why do you love me, Rainy, when I can be so mean?"

Jokes My Father Never Taught Me answers that poignant question and many more. It is an unprecedented look at the life of a legend of comedy, told by a daughter who both understood the genius and knew the tortured man within.

Jokes My Father Never Taught Me: Life, Love, and Loss with Richard Pryor Details

Date : Published (first published 2006)

ISBN :

Author : Rain Pryor

Format : Kindle Edition 224 pages

Genre : Nonfiction, Autobiography, Memoir, Biography, Humor, Comedy



[Download Jokes My Father Never Taught Me: Life, Love, and Loss w ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Jokes My Father Never Taught Me: Life, Love, and Loss ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online Jokes My Father Never Taught Me: Life, Love, and Loss with
Richard Pryor Rain Pryor**

From Reader Review Jokes My Father Never Taught Me: Life, Love, and Loss with Richard Pryor for online ebook

Mary says

Ever said to someone, "Wow, you should write a book about your life. It would sell." This was one of those books. It was interesting, but poorly-written, and slightly disorganized. Towards the end, it sort of took on an air of, "By the way, these are the projects I'm working on now...hint, hint..." An interesting read, but not one I'll read again, or recommend to others.

Gayle Francis Moffet says

A surprisingly quick read of a biography that gives an idea of what it was like for Rain Pryor to grow up as the daughter of famed comedian Richard Pryor. The short version is that Pryor the Senior alternated between showering his children with love, physically and mentally abusing them, and just straight up ignoring their existence as he did whatever he wanted to do. Pryor the Younger doesn't go into deep descriptions of the abuse. Instead, she admits that it happened, mentions that it happened a lot, and focuses on the fact that Richard Pryor was a man with many, many demons. Alongside the story of being Richard's daughter, Rain also looks at what it was like to be the daughter of her white, Jewish mother, who had her own demons and was also abusive to Rain.

It should have been a slog of a book, with so much abuse, but Rain simply doesn't let it be. She is presenting, for better or worse, the people who raised her, and she is clearly at a point where she has come to at least some peace with how they shorted her. It's the story of a kid from a messed up family who is able to look back and say, "We were fucked up, and it fucked me up, but I can recognize the fuck ups and still find something to love."

Dawn says

I read this book in one day. Think of Richard Pryor's raunchy wild stand-up routines and that is exactly the life that Rain and her half siblings were raised in. With all the craziness in her life when she spent time with her father, her mother was not always a nurturing parent either. It is amazing how well adjusted she became as an adult, with the screwed up parents she was raised by. Even through all of Richard's faults, Rain still loved her father and knew he was doing the best he was able to do. She does not down play his faults, but also show his caring side. It was very hard to read of his struggles with MS and how quickly he deteriorated. The book also includes some wonderful pictures of Richard and Rain as she grew up. The pictures of Richard stricken with MS are very sad to see. All in all, this was a loving tribute to her father and the amazing entertainer that he was.

Cheryl Mitchell says

An Intimate Look

The story of Richard Pryor told by his daughter is both tragic and funny, unbelievable and honestly brutal. Rain Pryor definitely exorcised a few demons by writing this memoir.

Koren says

This girl really went through a lot growing up as the daughter of a celebrity. There is a lot here that would be considered abuse today. Not physical abuse, but just having parents that were self-absorbed and selfish. Even though her father was not the best parent in the world, he comes across as a likeable person. If you are sensitive to crass language this would not be the book for you.

Karl Zoid says

Absolutely well written.

I had no idea what to expect from this book. Being ten years older than Rain and only knowing her father through the media, this was such a great insight into a true legend. I've also fallen in love with the author.

Lorri Stanton says

I love Rain!!

Wow, super good read!! What an amazing young woman to become who she is from the start and life she lived with her mom and dad!! I would love to know her as a friend. I hope she is still married and living a wonderful life with Kevin. What an awesome, crazy, historical man Richard Pryor was and what an amazing person she became.

Michal says

I liked reading about the life of Rain Pryor. It reminded me of some of the news or shows I watched in 80s and 90s. My favorite movie by Richard Pryor gets no mention which surprised me. Rain talks about life with a dysfunctional family and how she loved her parents through it all. It is a glimpse into her life and the struggles and challenges she went through.

Joi Chanél says

No holds barred

Rain Pryor opened the doors and invited readers into her life. Just like Richard she told it like it was, the good, the bad, the ugly...she told her story in a raw and open manner.

Bill says

An easy read. Good, but you definitely get the feeling that she's trying to heard and have a respected voice...I assume it's the byproduct of having a selfish hippy mom and destructive father who only wished to be in her life when she was 6 years old. It screams, "listen to me, I'm intelligent". I love Richard Pryor so it was great to get more insights on the man.

Michael says

Knowing already about the late Richard Pryor's destructive lifestyle, I thought an account from somebody close to him would be interesting. I wasn't wrong. Rain Pryor's account of the time spent with her father reveals his life was just as raunchy off stage as it was in his act. Even with his children around the drugs and whores were part of Pryor's daily life. Some parts of the book might have benefited from a bit more research. She references Critical Condition as a Pryor / Wilder film and Gene Wilder was not in the movie. She also bemoans her failure to launch an acting career, even with her father's help. She claims her dad could not even get her a part of an extra in Bingo Long and the Travelling All Stars. However at the time of the film, she would not have even been ten years old and her attempts at acting seemed to come much later in life. Her regular role on Head of the Class would come years later and not open many doors to an acting career. Her life as a celebrity's child seems to have led to many of the same problems as those written about by others but with a superstar father like Pryor, Rain Pryor's story makes for an engaging read.

Juliette says

This book is heartbreaking on a lot of levels. It's also very fascinating. The way Rain Pryor grew up among fame, drugs, prostitutes, celebrities, and hangers-on is really interesting. I love reading memoirs and books about the 1970's, and this fit the bill. Richard Pryor was a complex person, and as much as he hurt people, he also had his moments of sweetness. The bond between Rain and her dad at the end of his life was really touching. I met Rain and her daughter at a conference last fall, and she was quite great. This isn't a complex book and didn't go as deep as I would have liked it to, but it was engaging and totally interesting.

Joan says

I read this book in a weekend. Rain's writing style is so conversational and honest that much of the very shocking details are defused and accepted. She writes as I imagine her daddy's momma would have: this happened, I felt this way and then life kept going. I am so impressed by Rain's strength, especially the strength of her love. Highly recommended to those who love the Pryors, those who came up under difficult circumstances and to the people who love them. I only wish I could hear Rain read it in an audiobook. Hear that, Rain?

Kimberly Hicks says

I remember watching Rain Pryor in Head of the Class and before I saw her name in the credits, I knew she had to be Richard Pryor's daughter because she is spitting image of him. I grew up listening to Richard's comic albums and watched all of his movies and loved him for giving me comic relief, but it's one thing to be a comedian, and a whole other ball of wax to be related to the man.

Rain gives explicit detail of the physical abuse she and her siblings received from their famous father. From his drug induced violent fits, he would often beat his children, and Rain, unfortunately, received some of that. The title of this book is so fitting because the things Richard did teach his daughter should have landed him in prison, but having a Jewish mother and a crazy, somewhat violent, comedic father, I'm surprised Rain turned out as well as she did. Lucky for her, she has wonderful grandparents who gave her stability.

This was an outstanding read and I appreciated Rain's honesty and truth. In a lot of ways, she's a great deal like her father, in that she tells it like it is and didn't sugar coat her upbringing. I'm glad she's found peace and identity, which she struggled with throughout most of her life--from not being black enough or Jewish enough. It was a battle to find a common ground. She finally has found her place in the world. I give this biography five stars.

READER BEWARE: The Kindle version jipped me on some pictures, which I didn't appreciate for the \$10.99 download price. If I'm going to pay that for an ebook, I want ALL the pictures the book had to offer. Luckily, most were there, but a few weren't available! So the five stars is for the story itself, and not the lack of some photos.

Alan Hunter says

Deeply touching and honest to the last word.

I thoroughly enjoyed reading the memoir. A good companion to Pryor Convictions. Rain is a woman who writes with unshielded honesty.
