

Page Turner

MARILYN MONROE

by Norman Mailer & Bert Stern

By the time she died age 36, Marilyn Monroe had become the biggest star in Hollywood, the personification of American beauty and one of the most recognisable people in history. In an eventful life, Monroe grew up in a series of foster homes before becoming the world's most beautiful woman, albeit with heavily publicised personal problems and character flaws. Rumours of everything from sexual promiscuity to depression to unprofessionalism were thrown at the young starlet. However, the years have seen her prove to be a talented singer, actress and model, as well as an astute businesswoman who changed the face of the film industry forever.

TASCHEN has combined two major works in their own right to form this work. Bert Stern was one of the most accomplished photographers of the 1960s, producing as many as 200 pages worth of Vogue pictures per year at his peak. He shot Monroe numerous times, famously just weeks before her death, widely considered to be the most intimate prints ever taken of her. Norman Mailer is a two-time Pulitzer Prize winning writer who wrote perhaps the most respected biography of the starlet, Marilyn, in 1973. This collector's edition combines the incredible pictures with an incredibly personal insight into one of the most fascinating lives in modern history and possibly the most beautiful woman of all-time.

'As Mailer reflects upon her life, from her bleak childhood through to the mysterious circumstances of her death, she emerges as a symbol of the bizarre decade during which she reigned as Hollywood's greatest female star.'

www.knave.co.uk 31

MARILYN MONROE: THE FACTS BEHIND THE FIGURE

- At \$475,000, pictures of a 22-year-old Monroe became the most valuable nude photos of all-time when they went to auction in 2001.
- Marilyn Monroe was the first ever Playboy centrefold in December 1953, although the picture used was originally taken for a calendar, not Playboy, and was actually taken six years previous.
- The December 1953 issue of Playboy was sold at auction for \$5,000 in 2002.
- Marilyn first married at 16 to avoid going back into foster care. She was divorced by age 20.
- Despite being dead for nearly 50 years, Monroe still earns \$6.5million per year.

Erotic News...

... from *Between the Sheets!*

The Festival of Romance has found that the traditional 'tall, dark and handsome' image for the perfect man is no longer relevant to today. According to British romantic novelists, the ideal male is loyal (91%), honest (89%) and intelligent (85%). It seems that the traditionally handsome man is losing out to the principled and witty guy these days!