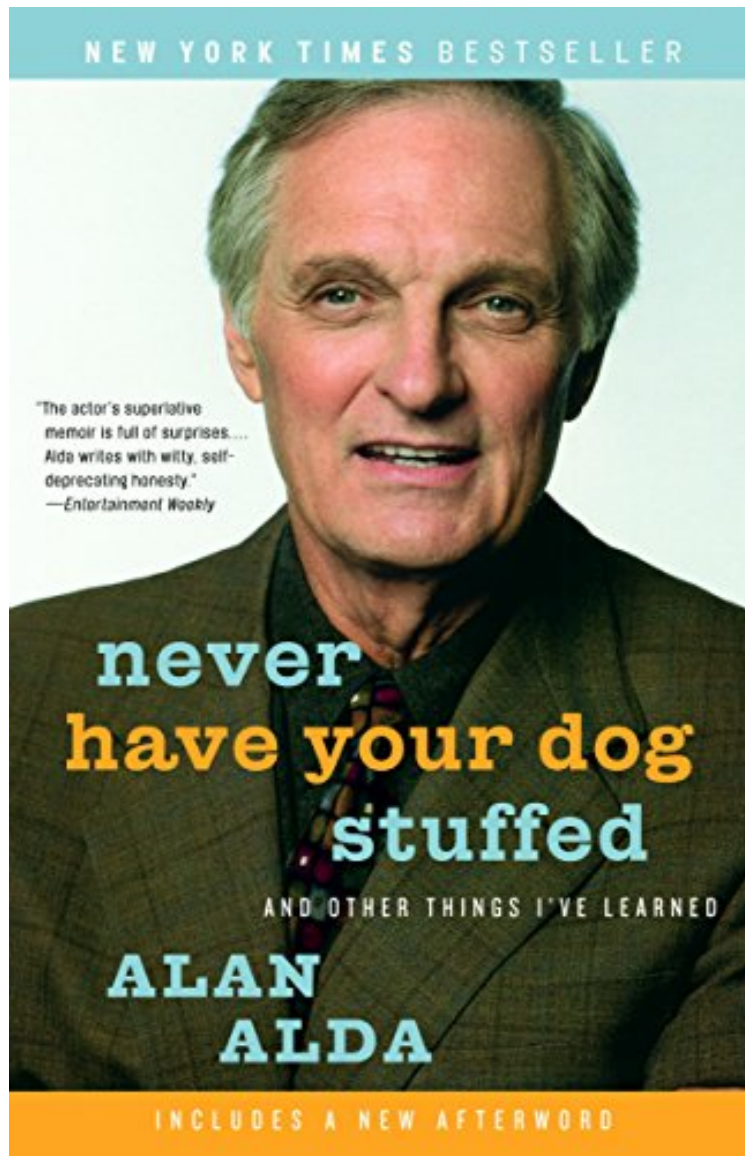


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Never Have Your Dog Stuffed: And Other Things I've Learned

Alan Alda

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Alan Alda : Never Have Your Dog Stuffed: And Other Things I've Learned before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Never Have Your Dog Stuffed: And Other Things I've Learned:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Enter Alan Alda: The Real Deal By Nancy Rossman Smart, self-effacing, determined, loving...it's all there. I knew nothing about his childhood, his handsome and successful father with whom he had a great relationship. Their competitive drive, their help to each other throughout their lives, and just how Alan got started in the first place with drama, and comedy. There was just enough stuff about the entertainment

industry to make this interesting without all the name dropping, gossip, and other finger pointing that goes on in so many celebrity books. Nothing that I would label tell-all. I was relieved to come away with the same honorable opinion of him as I have always had...his wife and daughters come first. He is a good human and worthy of all the film accolades, but still, I think it is rare that the man actually stands up well to the "part" he plays. However, Alan does. The book was fun, poignant, and full of life. Some good words to live by as well. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Get your heart and soul stuffed! By Firsthand Witness My heart and soul were stuffed by his wonderful book. His ability to elicit immense laughter absent of personal presence was amazing. I burst out laughing on so many occasions! Truly a reflection of improv treasures he possesses, even as a writer. The depths of revelations of his personal life and acting struggles were especially interesting to read about...it was also like a treasure hunt in finding out about how history was made with MASH! Truly acts of God, and the strengths of a wonderful human spirit, were revealed in his work...and especially in finding out that his father was in MASH scenes, something I never knew! Not only is Alan a great actor, but he equally can elicit strong emotion at whim from his reading audience. Such a great artist! Such a great human being! If you want to learn about him, and some other interesting aspects about human behaviors, especially in the acting world, read his book! Thanks Alan...you're the greatest! I'll never get my dog stuffed! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Alda, Unique. Classic By Customer I've always had an affinity for Alan Alda. I grew up watching M*A*S*H and thought his character was funny and believable. I've followed his career since then and have always been impressed. There's a reason he was once voted the most believable actor in the business. I like his work, and what brief interviews I've seen over the years with him have impressed me. I saw this autobiography mentioned on a biography show about him and thought, why not? I was not disappointed. I barely paused to sleep while reading it. Highly recommend to everyone and anyone and hope that others will be as pleasantly surprised by the color, diversity, adversity and sheer intelligence born in this man's life. There was an interview with Loretta Switt in which she says, "there aren't too many Alan Alda's walking around out there." Having read this, and consequently his second book, I'm inclined to agree.

He's one of America's most recognizable and acclaimed actors—a star on Broadway, an Oscar nominee for *The Aviator*, and the only person to ever win Emmys for acting, writing, and directing, during his eleven years on *M*A*S*H*. Now Alan Alda has written a memoir as elegant, funny, and affecting as his greatest performances. "My mother didn't try to stab my father until I was six," begins Alda's irresistible story. The son of a popular actor and a loving but mentally ill mother, he spent his early childhood backstage in the erotic and comic world of burlesque and went on, after early struggles, to achieve extraordinary success in his profession. Yet *Never Have Your Dog Stuffed* is not a memoir of show-business ups and downs. It is a moving and funny story of a boy growing into a man who then realizes he has only just begun to grow. It is the story of turning points in Alda's life, events that would make him what he is—if only he could survive them. From the moment as a boy when his dead dog is returned from the taxidermist's shop with a hideous expression on his face, and he learns that death can't be undone, to the decades-long effort to find compassion for the mother he lived with but never knew, to his acceptance of his father, both personally and professionally, Alda learns the hard way that change, uncertainty, and transformation are what life is made of, and true happiness is found in embracing them. *Never Have Your Dog Stuffed*, filled with curiosity about nature, good humor, and honesty, is the crowning achievement of an actor, author, and director, but surprisingly, it is the story of a life more filled with turbulence and laughter than any Alda has ever played on the stage or screen. From the Hardcover edition.