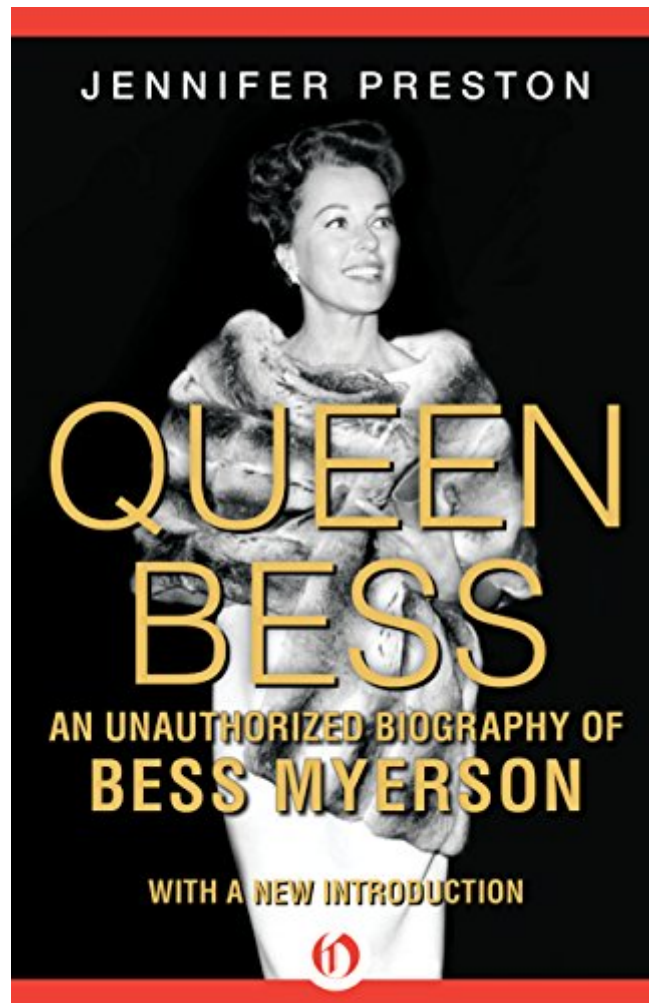


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Queen Bess: An Unauthorized Biography Of Bess Myerson



Synopsis

As detailed in this absorbing biography, Bess Myerson dazzled as a beauty queen, television personality, and politicianâbefore scandal toppled her career. When Bess Myerson, the Bronx-born daughter of Jewish immigrants, was crowned Miss America in 1945, she was determined to break down gender barriers and be more than a beauty queen. Amid rampant anti-Semitism, she took advantage of her reign to call for an end to bigotry and hate. Then, after more than two decades as a glamorous television personality, Myerson took on corporate America, applying her celebrity as a consumer advocate to become an influential New York City political figure credited with helping elect Mayor Edward I. Koch. But behind the glittering public image, Myerson struggled with unhappy marriages. Then, in her early sixties, she found love with a much younger married man. The romance put her at the center of a political corruption scandal that led to federal charges brought by US Attorney Rudolph W. Giuliani, ending the reign of Queen Bess, New Yorkâs favorite daughter, after more than forty years. Â Award-winning investigative journalist Jennifer Preston reveals Myersonâs fascinating life story in this engaging biography. Featuring interviews with Myerson herself and a new introduction from the author, Queen Bess remains the most comprehensive account of this ambitious and talented woman who inspired, entertained, and shocked millions.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Looking back now, I wonder whether I was too young to write a biography of someone twice my age. I knew I had much to learn about life before writing someone else's biography. That's perhaps why this story of Bess Myerson relies less on opinions and assumptions, and more heavily on in-depth reporting, public records, transcripts and interviews. I let the reporting lead me on the journey to tell her story." Queen Bess: The Unauthorized Biography of Bess Myerson, which first came out in 1990, has a Kindle edition coming out later this month, and an updated introduction is apparently the only new thing in the Kindle version. The above quote by author Jennifer Preston is from that new introduction. It's an intelligent and insightful quote from someone who obviously realized she didn't know everything in her late 20s. She's also hitting on the main problem of this book, however. While maybe her youthful opinions and assumptions would not have been the most discerning, there were others, during the time she was writing the book, who could have been asked to provide wiser observations, and who should have been quoted in this biography. Having such limited analysis of Beth Myerson will unfortunately probably leave many readers wondering what in the world happened to such an intelligent, beautiful woman who obviously cared for others besides herself. Or, even worse, many readers, who are far from being prejudice-free, may simply see her as being a money obsessed Jew. My feelings at the end of the story were something else.

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