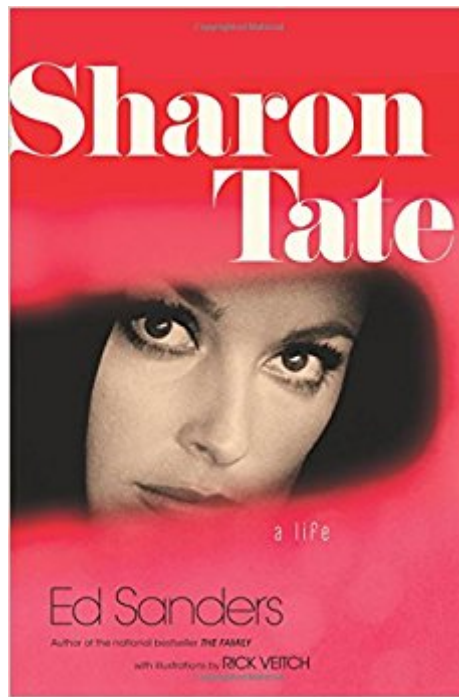


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# Sharon Tate: A Life



## Synopsis

Ed Sanders gave readers their clearest insight yet into the disturbing world of Charles Manson and his followers when he published *The Family* in 1971. Continuing that journalistic tradition, Sanders presents the most thorough look ever into the heartbreaking story of Sharon Tate, the iconic actress who found love, fame, and ultimately tragedy during her all-too-brief life. *Sharon Tate: A Life* traces Sharon's path from beauty queen to budding young actress: her early love affairs, her romance with and marriage to director Roman Polanski, and the excitement of the glamorous life she had always sought—all set against the background of the turbulent 1960s. This sympathetic account tells the powerful story of her determined rise through the ranks of Hollywood and to the brink of stardom before her name became forever linked with the shocking murder spree that took her life. In 1969, the Polanski house was targeted by the followers of cultist Charles Manson. Why the Manson clan focused its gaze on Sharon remains unclear, but the world was soon shocked to its core as it learned of the brutal murders of a pregnant Sharon Tate and her friends at her idyllic home in Los Angeles. Sanders once again examines this horrific crime and its aftermath, expounding on what may have led the killers to that particular house on that particular evening. Sharon Tate takes readers on a sometimes joyous yet inevitably heart-wrenching tour of the '60s as seen through the eyes of someone who lived it, survived it, and remembers it all too well. Brilliant illustrations by noted artist Rick Veitch lend character to this riveting narrative of the life and times of a beloved actress whose image and whose fate still haunt us to this day.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This long awaited book was a disappointment. I was surprised since Ed Sanders possesses extensive knowledge regarding the victims, the crimes, and the murderers; he proved this in his informative 1971 book 'The Family.' The problem with 'Sharon Tate: A Life' was foretold in the dedication when Sanders revealed his long time Manson case researcher/ investigator Larry Larsen died suddenly at the start of the project; this left Sanders with a formidable project and explains the publication date delays that occurred again and again. Readers will quickly turn to long awaited interviews with Sharon's friend and former roommate Sheilah Wells; actress friends Joanna Pettet and Barbara Lewis (who lunched with Tate at Cielo Drive that last day) and Tate's photographer and friend Sharokh Hatami. Much credit is due to author Sanders for securing interviews with these individuals all so relevant to Sharon's life. Unfortunately the acclaim ends there. It feels like Sanders ran out of time, funding, or the necessary connections to delve further into Sharon's life. The remainder of the book contains many examples of plagiarism without footnotes provided or much needed confirmation given. The original edition of 'The Family,' published in 1971, while admirable in many ways, included a great deal of rumor and conjecture unsubstantiated at the time. Sanders published an 'updated' edition of 'The Family' about 2002 and in this edition great care was obviously made to clarify and delete inaccuracies.

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