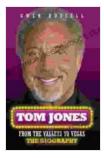
Tom Jones: An Extraordinary Life



Tom Jones, born Thomas John Woodward on June 7, 1940, is a Welsh singer and entertainer who has achieved global fame for his powerful voice and charismatic stage presence. Jones' career has spanned over six decades, during which he has sold over 100 million records worldwide and won numerous awards, including a Grammy Award and an MTV Video Music Award.



Tom Jones - An Extraordinary Life by Gwen Russell

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Early Life and Career

Jones was born and raised in Treforest, Wales, the son of a coal miner and a housewife. He began singing at an early age and performed in local talent shows. In 1957, Jones met his future wife, Linda Trenchard, who encouraged him to pursue a career in music.

Jones signed his first recording contract in 1964 and released his debut single, "It's Not Unusual," which became a worldwide hit. The song reached number one in the UK and Australia, and number two in the US. Jones followed up with a string of successful singles, including "Delilah," "Green, Green Grass of Home," and "What's New Pussycat."

International Success

In 1965, Jones made his American television debut on the Ed Sullivan Show, which helped to launch his career in the US. Jones became a regular on the Las Vegas stage, where he headlined shows at the Flamingo Hotel and the Caesars Palace. He also starred in the musical films "What's New Pussycat" (1965) and "Till Death Us Do Part" (1969).

Jones continued to release hit singles throughout the 1970s and 1980s, including "She's a Lady," "Kiss," and "Mama Told Me Not to Come." In the 1990s, Jones experienced a resurgence in popularity with the release of his album "Reload" (1999),which featured collaborations with artists such as Van Morrison, Robbie Williams, and Cerys Matthews.

Later Career and Legacy

In the 2000s, Jones continued to tour and release albums, including "Mr. Jones" (2002),"24 Hours" (2004),and "Praise & Blame" (2010). In 2012, he was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II for his services to music.

Jones has been praised for his powerful voice, charismatic stage presence, and ability to connect with audiences of all ages. He is considered one of the greatest singers of all time, and his music continues to be enjoyed by fans around the world.

Personal Life

Jones married Linda Trenchard in 1957, and they had one son, Mark Woodward. Linda died in 2016 at the age of 75. Jones has been a vocal advocate for social justice and human rights, and he has supported numerous charities over the years.

Awards and Accolades

Jones has received numerous awards and accolades throughout his career, including:

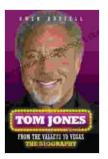
* Grammy Award for Best New Artist (1966) * MTV Video Music Award for Best Male Video (1989) * Brit Award for Outstanding Contribution to Music (2003) * Knighthood from Queen Elizabeth II (2012)

Tom Jones is one of the most successful and iconic singers of all time. His powerful voice, charismatic stage presence, and ability to connect with audiences of all ages have made him a beloved figure around the world.

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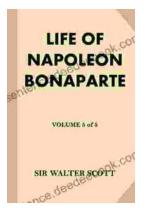
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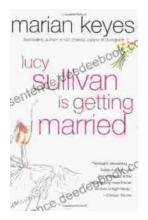
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