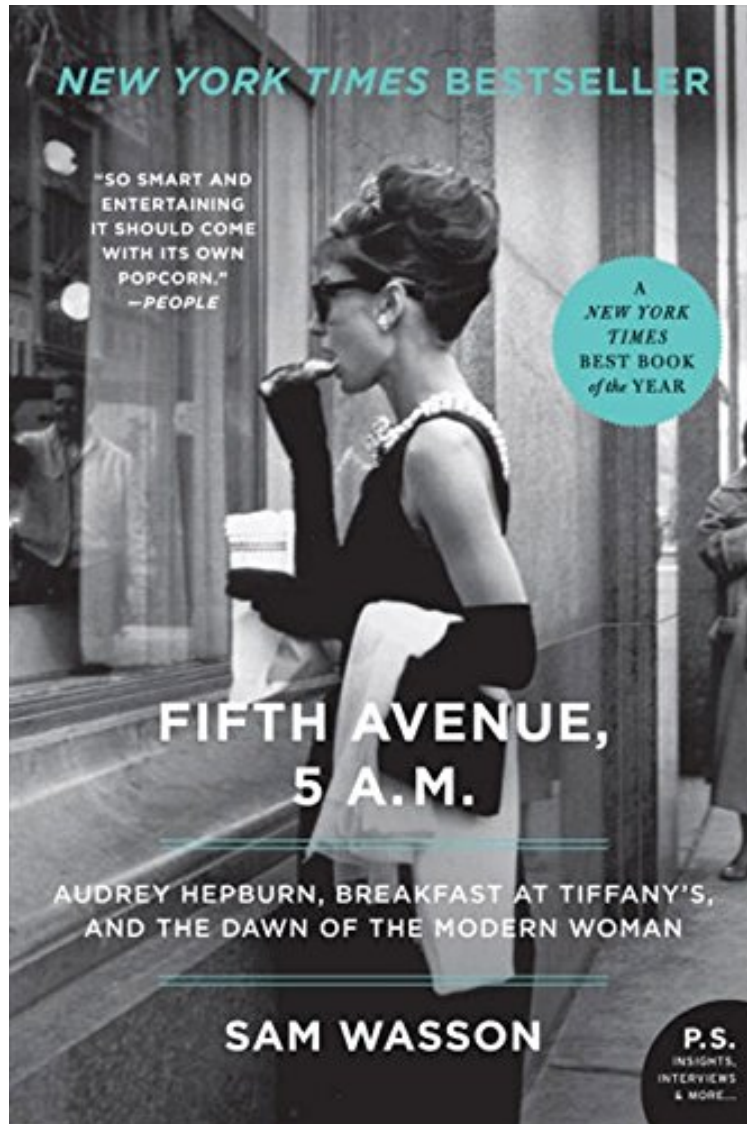


[Free] Fifth Avenue, 5 A.M.: Audrey Hepburn, Breakfast at Tiffany's, and the Dawn of the Modern Woman

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Sam Wasson

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#128304 in Books Sam Wasson 2011-08-30 2011-08-30 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.00 x .65 x 5.311, .47 #File Name: 0061774162288 pages Fifth Avenue 5 A M Audrey Hepburn Breakfast at Tiffany s and The Dawn of the Modern Woman | File size: 66.Mb

Sam Wasson : Fifth Avenue, 5 A.M.: Audrey Hepburn, Breakfast at Tiffany's, and the Dawn of the Modern Woman before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fifth Avenue, 5 A.M.: Audrey Hepburn, Breakfast at Tiffany's, and the Dawn of the Modern Woman:

107 of 111 people found the following review helpful. The Awesomeness of AudreyBy B. MernitSam Wasson's just-

released and delightful book on the making of "Breakfast at Tiffany's" is so chock-full of great anecdotes that you're sorry when it's over. For awhile, you are there - a privileged insider-witness to a marvelous bygone moment in moviemaking history - and it's with a feeling of bittersweet regret that you step from its closing pages back into a realm of noisy 3D sequels and superfluous comic book franchises. Everything you'd want to know and more is delivered in the book, from the reader's coverage producer Marty Jurow was first handed, re: adapting Capote's book for the screen ("In any event this is more of a character sketch than a story. NOT RECOMMENDED") to the guest list for the post-premiere party (including such unlikely elbow-rubbers as Dennis Hopper, Buster Keaton, Charles Laughton, and Jane Mansfield). A delicious through-line in the book is how close the movie came to not coming out so well as it did, with such jaw-droppers as everyone's resistance to having Henry Mancini write a song for the thing (eventual collaborator Johnny Mercer's original lyric, we learn, one of three eventually presented to Mancini, was called "Blue River"). An intimate exploration of the myriad personalities in conflict and collusion when a casual classic is being created, the book is cannily adept at detailing the logic of the so many minute decisions that lead to what we now accept as inevitable. Of course Audrey Hepburn played Holly Golightly, you think, until you hear how hard Capote lobbied for Marilyn Monroe. Wasson is a formidable researcher. He doesn't so much know where the bodies are buried as he knows where the hearts and minds are hidden. The book is written like a good novel, taking you inside the consciousness of its characters with an impressive, insight-laden believability ("Fifth Avenue"'s only recent movie-book rival in this regard is Mark Harris' fascinating "Pictures at a Revolution"). And Wasson's notes on how he arrived at, and can justify, his leaps of imagination and empathy are almost as interesting as the text itself. Of course the book has its thesis and theories as well, positing "Breakfast at Tiffany's" and Hepburn's stylish, fresh, era-defining performance as a watershed moment in cultural history. If you're a fan of Audrey Hepburn, the book is a must-have, because Wasson's astute take on what she was about, what she was up against, and how she delivered the goods strikes me as definitive. Her spritely, near-angelic spirit comes alive in the pages of this eminently devour-able book, which is kind of an awesome dividend. 7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Entertaining Short Read of Behind-the-Scene Details By Francie Nolan This is a great short read. Entertaining, interesting, breezily written with lots of interesting behind-the-scene details. For sure, there was a great contrast between the book and the screenplay. I prefer the movie version, although Capote wrote gorgeous prose in his early books. I just like happy endings. Interesting about Peppard. I won't spoil it for you, though. The book is short. I would have loved more scoops, but apparently there wasn't much more to say, and who needs filler. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. New View of Old Film By catb This well-written book goes behind the scenes of casting, filming, and directing "Breakfast at Tiffany's." It provides backstories of backstories as it reveals the attitudes of writers and screenwriters toward the actors cast in the various roles and of the actors and directors toward the screenplay and the necessary modifications to it. After reading this book, you will never view the film in the same way again.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER NEW YORK TIMES BEST BOOK OF 2010 So smart and entertaining it should come with its own popcorn People A bonbon of a book As well tailored as the little black dress the movie made famous. Janet Maslin, New York Times Sam Wasson is a fabulous social historian. The New Yorker Reads like carefully crafted fiction [Wasson] carries the reader from pre-production to on-set feuds and conflicts, while also noting Hepburn's impact on fashion (Givenchy's little black dress), Hollywood glamour, sexual politics, and the new morality. Capote would have been entranced. Publishers Weekly (starred review) Sam Wasson's exquisite portrait of Audrey Hepburn peels back her sweet facade to reveal a much more complicated and interesting woman. He also captures a fascinating turning point in American history when women started to loosen their pearls, and their inhibitions. I devoured this book. Karen Abbott, author of Sin in the Second City Fifth Avenue, 5 A.M. by Sam Wasson is the first ever complete account of the making of Breakfast at Tiffanys. With a cast of characters including Truman Capote, Edith Head, director Blake Edwards, and, of course, Hepburn herself, Wasson immerses us in the America of the late fifties, before Woodstock and birth control, when a not-so-virginal girl by the name of Holly Golightly raised eyebrows across the nation, changing fashion, film, and sex, for good. With delicious prose and considerable wit, Wasson delivers us from the penthouses of the Upper East Side to the pools of Beverly Hills presenting Breakfast at Tiffanys as we have never seen it before through the eyes of those who made it.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . Wasson, who wrote on the career of writer-director Blake Edwards in A Splurche in the Kiss, tightens his focus for a closeup of Edwards's memorable Breakfast at Tiffany's, which received five Oscar nominations (with two wins). Interviewing Edwards and others, he skillfully interweaves key events during the making of this cinema classic. He begins (and ends) with Truman Capote, whose novel was initially regarded as unadaptable by the producers, since they hadn't the faintest idea how the hell they were going to take a novel with no second act, a nameless gay protagonist, a motiveless drama, and an unhappy ending and turn it into a Hollywood movie. The flow of Wasson's words carries the reader from pre-production to on-set feuds and conflicts, while also noting Hepburn's impact on fashion (Givenchy's little black dress), Hollywood glamour, sexual politics, and the new morality. Always stingy with praise, Capote dismissed the finished film as a mawkish valentine to New York City, but

one feels he would have been entranced by Wasson's prismatic approach as he walks a perilous path between the analytic interpretation and the imaginative one. The result deserves Capote's nonfiction novel label. Recapturing an era, this evocative factual re-creation reads like carefully crafted fiction. (June) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. So smart and entertaining it should come with its own popcorn. (People)A bonbon of a book...as well tailored as the little black dress the movie made famous. (Janet Maslin, New York Times)Anyone even slightly interested in Capote/Hepburn/Breakfast at Tiffanys will delight in [Wasson's] account. (USA Today)This splendid new book is more than a mere making-of chronicle. Wasson has pulled it off with verve, intelligence, and a consistent ring of truth...compulsively readable. Fifth Avenue, 5 A.M. is both enjoyable and informative: everything a film book ought to be. (Leonard Maltin, author of Leonard Maltin's 151 Best Movies You've Never Seen)A fascination with fascination is one way of describing Wasson's interest in a film that not only captures the sedate elegance of a New York long gone, but that continues to entrance as a love story, a style manifesto, and a way to live. (New York magazine)Crammed with irresistible tidbits[Wasson's] book winds up as well-tailored as the kind of little black dress that Breakfast at Tiffanys made famous. (New York Times)Fifth Avenue, 5 A.M. offers lots of savory tidbits [from the making of Breakfast at Tiffanys]. Mr. Wasson brings a lively and impudent approach to his subject. (Wall Street Journal)Wasson's story is part encyclopedia, part valentine, and worth reading just to find out what exactly went into making the amazing party scene. (The Huffington Post)Sam Wasson is a fabulous social historian...[Fifth Avenue, 5 AM] is as melancholy and glittering as Capote's story of Holly Golightly. (The New Yorker)A brilliant chronicle of the creation of Breakfast at Tiffanys. Wasson has woven the whole so deftly that it reads like a compulsively page-turning novel. This is a memorable achievement. (Peter Bogdanovich)Wasson offers enough drama to occupy anyone for days...The whole thing reads like a cool sip of water. (Daily News)Reads like carefully crafted fiction[Wasson] carries the reader from pre-production to on-set feuds and conflicts, while also noting Hepburn's impact on fashion (Givenchy's little black dress), Hollywood glamour, sexual politics, and the new morality. Capote would have been entranced. (Publishers Weekly (starred review))A breezy tale of dresses and breakfast pastries, this is not.... The subtexts of Breakfast at Tiffanysmaterialism, sexual freedomwere decidedly more complicated. (Women's Wear Daily)Rich in incident and set among the glitterati of America's most glamorous era, the book reads like a novel[Wasson] has assembled a sparkling time capsule of old Hollywood magic and mythmaking. (Kirkus s)The anecdotes are numerous and deftly told. This well-researched, entertaining page-turner should appeal to a broad audience, particularly those who enjoy film history that focuses on the human factors involved in the creative process while also drawing on larger social and cultural contexts. (Library Journal)Sam Wasson unfolds the dramatic story of the film's creation. He also offers a fascinating slice of social history. (Arrive Magazine)Reading a book about a movie is seldom as entertaining as watching the film, but Wasson's is the rare exception. (Christian Science Monitor)[We] couldn't put down Sam Wasson's new book, Fifth Avenue, 5 A.M.... Along with juicy film gossip, the book offers behind-the-scenes insight on how Hepburn and designer Hubert de Givenchy created Holly Golightly's iconic style. (AOL Stylelist)Sam Wasson's exquisite portrait of Audrey Hepburn peels back her sweet facade to reveal a much more complicated and interesting woman. He also captures a fascinating turning point in American history when women started to loosen their pearls, and their inhibitions. I devoured this book. (Karen Abbott, author of Sin in the Second City)From the Back CoverAudrey Hepburn is an icon like no other, yet the image many of us have of Hepburndainty, immaculateis anything but true to life. Here, for the first time, Sam Wasson presents the woman behind the little black dress that rocked the nation in 1961. With a colorful cast of characters including Truman Capote, Edith Head, Givenchy, Moon River composer Henry Mancini, and, of course, Hepburn herself, Wasson immerses us in the America of the early sixties before Woodstock and birth control, when a not-so-virginal girl by the name of Holly Golightly raised eyebrows across the country, changing fashion, film, and sex for good.