Merv Griffin: A Life in the Closet

Darwin Porter
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Darwin Porter : Merv Griffin: A Life in the Closet before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Merv Griffin: A Life in the Closet:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Wealth Can Never Buy HappinessBy MEAs wealthy as he was, did Merv Griffin ever feel like being who he was? He was scared that if people found out about his preferences, he would be ostracized and his struggles to become famous would have been for nothing. Different world back then and I'm glad things have changed.8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Hysterical fantasies and 2nd hand informationBy Nor Cal SteveThis is complete trash and impossible to put down. The sources are Merv's old friends

and Roddy McDowell. I have no doubt Merv told these stories and I have no doubt he exaggerated everything. What's interesting is hearing what are probably all the rumors about the great stars. I'm sure there was a lot of swinging and "pay for play" but I really doubt people were really that into a young, bland Merv Griffin. He's just not that interesting or talented or good looking. He does seem to have tenacity.It's also a sad but important look back at a time when being gay meant being in the closet and "sex" seemed to be limited to oral sex men only when they could find no women. Merv seems like a punching bag and a consolation prize. If this is true, it had to screw him up in the head.But really, by the time you get to the part about John Wayne using Merv's pad for a tryst and finding Gail Russell the next morning coming out of their room and then Gail finding her husband's clothes in Merv's room because it turns out that Merv was with her husband the night before, you start to laugh. I think he desperately wanted to matter to these celebrities and he just made up stories.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. HE DID IT HIS WAYBy Roberto FontFascinating account of a man who had to be closeted and pretend.

This is the first post-mortem, unauthorized insight into Merv Griffin, a failed singer and unsuccessful actor who unexpectedly rewrote the rules of America's broadcasting industry. He became the richest man in TV, befriended everyone in media who mattered, bought a casino, and maintained a secret life as America's most famously closeted homosexual. From a controversial writer whose previous work has virtually re-defined the art of the celebrity biography, HERE'S MERV.