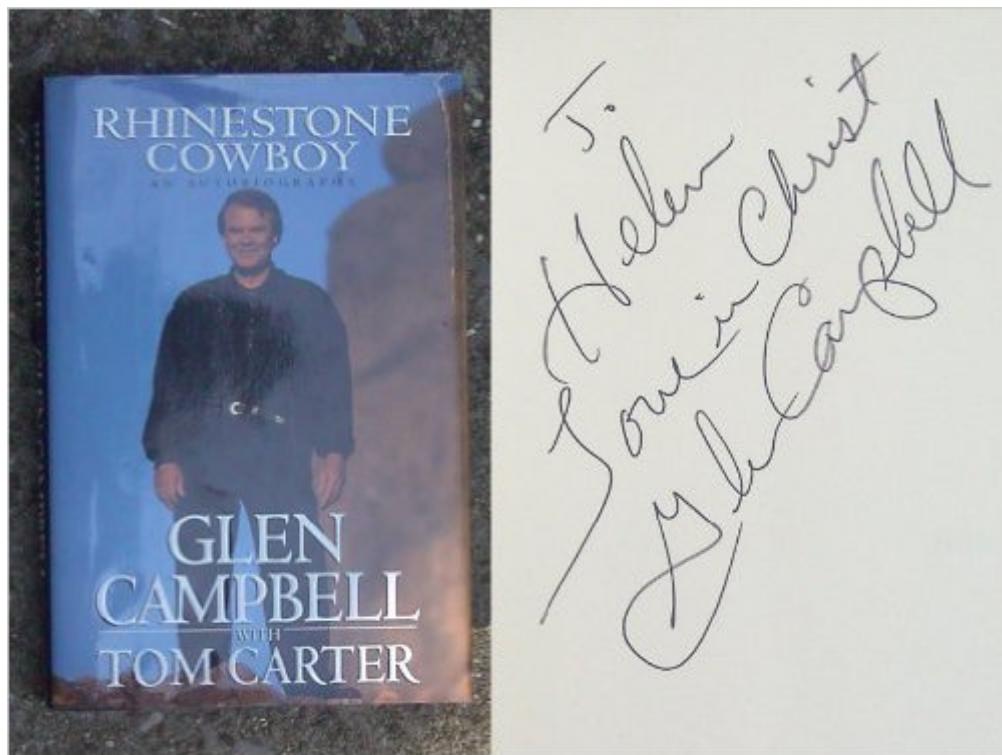


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Rhinestone Cowboy: An Autobiography



Synopsis

With an extraordinary candor intended to set the record straight, one of the most popular performers in the history of contemporary music tells of the decadence and destructive trappings of fame--the bucks, the booze, the cocaine, the women--of religious conversion, and of the marriage that literally saved his life. 16-page photo insert.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Glen Campbell has lived a very interesting life-some good and some bad. His autobiography does not hold back on either portion. From his impoverished Arkansas childhood through his many tumultuous marriages and country music superstardom to his regret-free faded status and ultimate peace, Glen lays it all on the (Wichita) line. While he does not gloss over his own flaws, the dirty linen of some other players-most notably Tanya Tucker is likewise held up for all to see. Arguably, he should have been less open in revealing maligning details about her, but their relationship kept tabloid readers engrossed for years and it legitimately was a salient chapter in his life. Furthermore, he does not condemn Tanya despite attributing less than wholesome motivations to her interest in him. He seems very sincere when he writes of his one-time paramour "I'm inclined to pray for the woman with whom I shared a poisoned relationship. I have since found another love that offers not the threat of death but the promise of eternal life. I pray that Tanya might find that too." As Glen experienced his twilight maturation, he achieved the rank of solid citizen. Becoming a Branson regular appropriately accentuates his embrace of Christianity and advocacy of traditional values. By spelling out his staunch opposition to abortion and opposing special rights for homosexuals, he

takes some daring positions for a celebrity tell-all, but it is refreshing to see a performer courageously step out of rigid show biz boundaries. One unintended drawback concerns some details of his childhood. Glen is to be commended for the tremendous respect he displays toward his parents and also for admitting his failures as a father to his older children—even accepting significant blame for his middle-aged son's drug problems. However, he relates some paternal behavior that shows his father possessed a cruel streak. From his laudatory portrayal it is easy to see that was not the image he wanted to present, and he would probably disagree with such an assessment. A more prudent tactic would have been to remain mum on some of these mean actions. Overall, "Rhinestone Cowboy" is a well-orchestrated rendition of a child born into poor Southern Nights but who eventually went "riding out on a horse in a star-spangles rodeo."

The title of this autobiography takes its title from Glen's 1975 number one hit, Rhinestone Cowboy. Many people consider "Rhinestone Cowboy" to be his comeback song. Little do people know, Glen Campbell never left, he has persevered, played and sang his way into the hearts of his fans for over fifty years. His newest album "Ghost on the Canvas", will be the last he ever releases. With his recent diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease, Mr. Campbell is valiantly fighting it having embarked on his "Goodbye Tour" just this past week. I have a great amount of admiration for Glen Campbell, he doesn't sugar coat his mistakes or try to pass the blame to others. He takes the place and grows from it, thereby allowing God to mold him into the man he wants him to be. "Rhinestone Cowboy" traces Glen's life from his birth in 1936 to the mid 1990's, when he was sober, happy, and blessed by God and his family. Everyone knows the wild ride that has been Glen's life. From his wildly publicized relationship with Tanya Tucker to his battles with alcohol and drugs, Glen looks back with regret, but is quick to point out that he is no longer that person. Many people have criticized this book for the final chapter. In the final chapter, Glen speaks politically on the issues that faced the nation at the time of the book's writing and still do today. Glen is an unabashed conservative, and as an American, he has the right to believe as he wishes. I truly loved this book, from start to finish, Glen paints a broad picture of his life. He doesn't pull any punches and writes with total honesty. At the time of this writing, a documentary produced by James Keach on Mr. Campbell is in the works as well as a motion picture based on his life. Thank you Mr. Campbell for all the memories, and your honest approach to life in this wonderful book.

I began reading this book thinking I knew all I wanted to know about Mr. Campbell. I closed the book feeling inspired. It took you through a range of ups and downs with the tumultuous life of this

talented entertainer, but it also entertained with funny antidotes and happenings. I read it in my spare time over a 4 day period and sometimes found it hard to put it down. I highly recommend this autobiography.

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