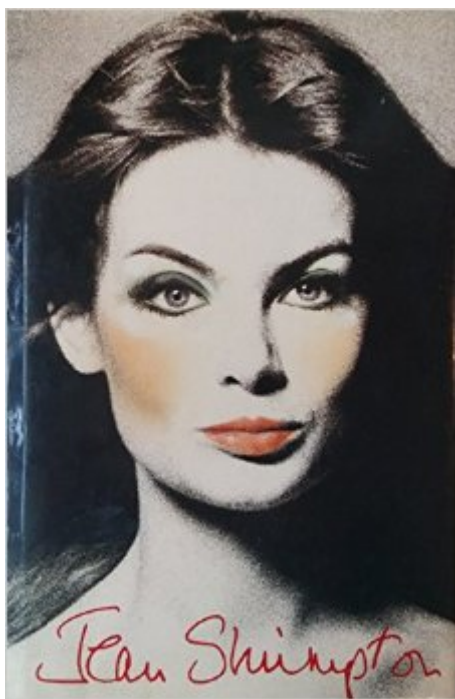


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Jean Shrimpton: An Autobiography



Synopsis

She was the looks of the 60s. Her face appeared on the cover of every fashion magazine and her life in every gossip column. Jean Shrimpton tells the story of the partnership between her and the East End photographer David Bailey which brought them both fame and fortune. As a model and photographer, his sensitive, yet exciting pictures helped her to become known worldwide as "The Shrimp". Her life since then has not always been happy - and was frequently bizarre. She lived for a period with Heathcote Williams and for some time with a schizophrenic. Her modelling career was abandoned as she struggled to come to terms with the problems that her fame had created. Only recently has she found happiness and contentment with her husband Michael Cox and a quiet life in Cornwall, where they run a small hotel.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

So often 'celebrity' autobiographies are tremendously disappointing. In fact, you probably wouldn't expect too much from some girl who was a successful model forty years ago...BUT...you'd be wrong. This is a really top notch autobiography. She writes with an honesty and intimacy that draws you in from start to finish. Jean Shrimpton, like so many who had sudden stardom and massive international success, during the 'Swinging London' era, has an interesting story to tell. She tells it with wit, intelligence and good humour.

As a kid growing up in the 1960s & '70s, I LOVED the yummy Yardley of London products & thought Jean Shrimpton, the beautiful young British woman who modeled them, the epitome of hip

glam. How fabulous to read her autobiography years later, and discover someone who, beneath the makeup & groovy clothing, could easily be a good friend. She tells her story in a forthright manner; it makes for an entertaining snapshot of the times & the places, but is more engaging for her down to earth assessment of what is really valuable in a life; what really counts for the most in the end. And she, like me, has definitely come to the conclusion that fame isn't all it's cracked up to be.

One day when I had a little too much time on my hands, I decided to Google Jean Shrimpton, the obsession of my teen years. Little did I know I'd be in for this great ride! I obtained this book on , used, and was amazed at how much I loved it. The writing is decent enough, but the facts, the facts! I was so excited to learn about the interesting details of this woman's life. Clearly, she was insecure as all get out even with her outstanding looks and struggled with money. The sensibilities we have today regarding supermodels is we think they are all rich. Shrimpton made very little plus the world of modeling was so different then. It seems way more honest. The models did their own makeup and it appears plastic surgery wasn't the norm as it is today. I am happy to read Jean Shrimpton finally latched onto a passion she really loved as well as a man who didn't pretty much disregard and disrespect her. Read this book for sure if you have ANY interest! Great time.

I was fifteen in 1965 when Jean Shrimpton was the first known supermodel and at her height. I remember magazines at our house with her gorgeous face on the covers. She was so stunning that she looked unreal and I assumed that her life was one of pure glamour, jetsetting to Paris and Rome with her then boyfriend, and fellow glam-partner, Terence Stamp. Together, their combined beauty made them appear other-worldly. Reading about the reality of her world is fascinating, since it reveals a very human being with anxieties about her looks who didn't feel that she was as good looking as her boyfriend! Somehow with almost no planning, she fell into an amazing career that gave her a unique vantage point of the 60's - when London was the center of everything new, bright, cool and young. This book is very entertaining and honest and her viewpoint of her relationship with Terence Stamp is virtually the opposite of his. If you enjoy this book, I recommend that you read Stamp's autobiography, "Double Feature" to get his colorful take on their time together and the swinging sixties.

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