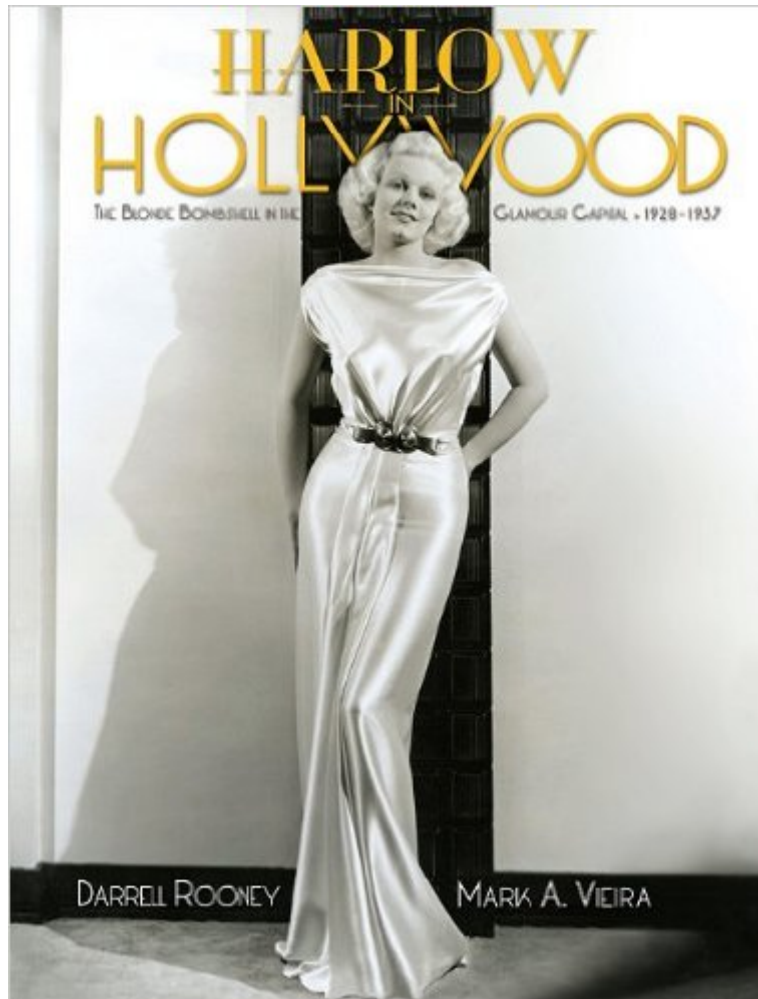


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# Harlow In Hollywood: The Blonde Bombshell In The Glamour Capital, 1928-1937



## Synopsis

Scene 1: Harlean Carpenter comes to Hollywood. Scene 2: Hollywood creates Jean Harlow.

Scene 3: Her legend lives forever. At last, the story of how Hollywood shaped a myth and determined a young woman's reality. A town, a remarkable town, became the backdrop for one of Hollywood's most incredible stories, a life rife with glamour, pleasure, power, and--in the end--utter sorrow. Her story lives in the pages and breathtaking pictures of Harlow in Hollywood. When Jean Harlow became the Blonde Bombshell, it was all Hollywood's doing. She was the first big-screen sex symbol, the Platinum Blonde, the mold for every famous fair-haired superstar who would emulate her.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (69 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I pre-ordered this book fully expecting that it would be good, but it totally exceeded my expectations. While authors Rooney and Viera define it in its title/subtitle as the story of Harlow's Hollywood career, it is more aptly Harlow's life story told via archival pictures and text culled from a variety of sources and written with the assistance of surviving family members and accounts from friends and contemporaries, film historians and archivalists, and the current owners of Harlow's homes and property. I could rattle on indefinitely about all the things I loved about this book, but it basically can be broken down by the roughly termed categories of writing, photos and illustrations, and overall layout. **WRITING** Based upon the sourcing listed at the back of the book, the authors appear to have relied on a variety of reputable sources to assemble the story of Harlow's short but well-lived life,

which included (and this I found both interesting and meaningful) accounts by classmates in reference to Harlow's early years and the extent to which her mother not only influenced her but isolated her. The book is crammed with bits and pieces of information such as the mother figuratively and literally eliminating Jean's father from her life. The book provides an interesting look at Harlean Carpenter (aka Jean Harlow) who appeared to be an accomplished cook and hostess and essentially a mid-west gal at heart who hung around with a lot of ordinary people when away from the Hollywood glamour. It also provides a view of Harlow as a consummate professional who soldiers on despite her second husband's questionable death and the potential scandal surrounding that death and a fatal illness during the filming of *Saratoga*, and the non-stop demands of her mother and grifter stepfather.

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