

## American Legends: The Life of William Holden (Paperback)



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### Reviews

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*(Keshaun Schneider)*

## AMERICAN LEGENDS: THE LIFE OF WILLIAM HOLDEN (PAPERBACK)

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Createspace, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Includes pictures \*Includes online resources and a bibliography for further reading \*Includes a table of contents Aging is an inevitable process. I surely wouldn't want to grow younger. The older you become, the more you know; your bank account of knowledge is much richer. - Holden The fantasy world of Hollywood of the 1940s that continued to fascinate the American public through the following two decades typified the golden age of old-style American machismo. The movies were filled with rugged, intimidating men who had a rough style adored by female screen characters and moviegoers alike. Unlike their European counterparts, the evolving subgenres of the American leading man began to include individuals with iconic quirks in general appearance, voice and humor, as an alternative to the rugged, understated, and sometimes reluctant man of the people. Actors such as Cary Grant, Tony Curtis, and Dean Martin ably represented the new, more suave male, while John Wayne covered the spectrum of the rural hero, and Anthony Quinn lent a broad ethnicity to his characters. However, it was William Holden who became America's first choice among films requiring a shy, cynical, and sexually potent broken hero on the screen, less thoughtful, perhaps, than Gregory Peck, and less rigid than Gary Cooper. Once finding his niche in the early 40s, the actor with no discernible quirks to rely on for identification, unlike his counterparts, sauntered onto the screen with an easy masculine manner. Perhaps Holden's many unwilling heroes filmed over a 40 year career were aided by the reality that Holden was much like them, an actor who was uncomfortable on the set and terrified of screen intimacy, on certain...



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