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# **The Dream Merchants**

Harold Robbins



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## The Dream Merchants

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#### The Dream Merchants Harold Robbins

"He is still recognizable as the playboy-novelist who—spurning nice reviews and a different kind of reputation—happily wrote about money for money, and about sex for sex." —*The New Yorker* 

From the author of *The New York Times* #1 best seller *The Carpetbaggers* comes a novel of passion, intrigue, power, and money. With 11 weeks on *The New York Times* best sellers list, *The Dream Merchants* provides a fascinating look at the early days of the world's most glamorous industry—Hollywood. It was the latest "gold rush"—when ambitious, if unscrupulous, men and women flooded California to turn cinematic dreams into reality, regardless of the moral cost.

Johnny Edge, a former carnival barker, schemes and plots his way to the top while Peter Kessler turns his back on a staid life of small-town stability to stake his fortune on the movie business. Beautiful starlet Dulcie Warren is willing to use her sexuality and to play dirty to get to the top, if that's what it takes. When the lives of these three ambitious, determined characters collide, they have the potential to build a dream—or shatter one.

### About the Author

Harold Robbins (1916–1997) is one of the best-selling American fiction writers of all time, ranking 5th on the World's Best-Selling Fiction Author List just behind William Shakespeare and Agatha Christie. He wrote over 25 best-selling novels, sold more than 750 million copies in 42 languages and spent over 300 weeks combined on *The New York Times* best sellers list. His books were adapted into 13 commercially successful films and also television series that garnered numerous Oscar®, Golden Globe® and Primetime Emmy® nominations starring Steve McQueen, Elvis Presley, Laurence Olivier, Bette Davis, Robert Duvall, Tommy Lee Jones and more.

The self-proclaimed "world's best writer in plain English," Robbins wrote novels that resonated with audiences due to their graphic depictions of sex, violence, power and drugs, and the multilayered complexities of his characters, as evidenced by his best-selling novels *Never Love a Stranger, The Carpetbaggers, Where Love Has Gone*, and *The Adventurers*. He once said in an interview: "People make their own choices every day about what they are willing to do. We don't have the right to judge them or label them. At least walk in their shoes before you do."

Robbins' personal life was as fascinating to the public as his novels. An enthusiastic participant in the social and sexual revolution of the 1960s, Robbins cultivated a "playboy" image and maintained friendships with stars including Frank Sinatra, Clint Eastwood, Tony Bennett, Sammy Davis, Jr., Dino De Laurentiis, Robert Evans, Ringo Starr, Barbara Eden, Lena Horne and Quincy Jones, and was one of the first novelists to be prominently featured in gossip magazines, earning him the title of "The World's First Rock Star Author."

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