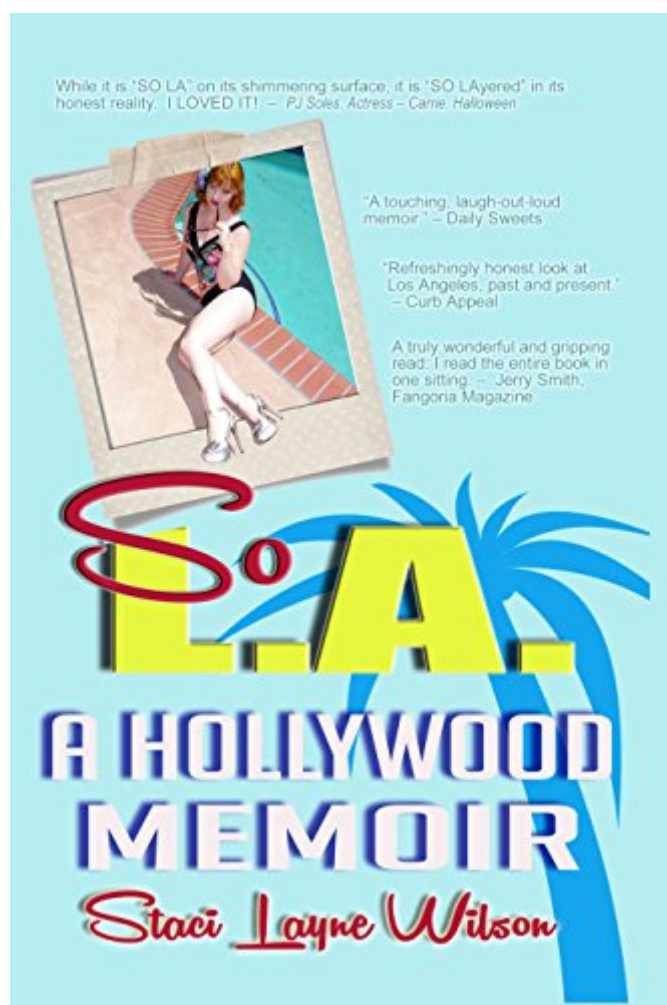


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So L.A. - A Hollywood Memoir: Uncensored Tales By The Daughter Of A Rock Star & A Pinup Model



Synopsis

Cool, Hot Hollywood Tales Want sex, drugs, and rock n roll? It's all here. But what is so moving about Staci Layne Wilson's unconventional coming-of-age story is that in spite of her rocky childhood, she describes her parents with deep affection, generosity, and pride. Hers is a story of triumph over a legacy of alcoholism, suicide, and Hollywood burnout, but more than that, it's a tender, gripping tale of unconditional love (with a healthy dose of humor). Despite the downsides, her upbringing gave her the powerful determination to carve out a successful life on her own terms.

Vintage Los Angeles Staci Layne Wilson tells tales of bygone eras as she grew up with showbiz parents in L.A. in the sixties and seventies, had ponies in the backyard and a psychotic monkey in the house, mingled with the stars on the Sunset Strip rock scene in the eighties, partied at the Playboy Mansion, nearly died (twice!). She ultimately found love, purpose, and success as an author, film director, screenwriter, pop culture pundit and notable red carpet reporter has interviewed the biggest celebs in the world.

First-hand stories about: The Doors, Led Zeppelin, Guns N' Roses, Metallica, Keanu Reeves, Heath Ledger, Liam Neeson, Jennifer Lawrence, Denzel Washington, Ben Stiller, Mia Farrow – to name just a few! Dozens of full-color photos (in Kindle version; black and white in paperback).

PRAISE “A touching, laugh-out-loud memoir.” —*Daily Sweets* “Refreshingly honest look at Los Angeles, past and present.” —*Curb Appeal* “Charming, self-deprecating.” —*Los Angeles Readers & Writers* “As a music fanatic, I was in heaven over all the inside stories about The Ventures (through their 50+ year career!), Metallica, Led Zeppelin, and the glam-rock scene on the Sunset Strip. There's also a whole master class on the heavy metal hangouts of Hollywood: The Rainbow, The Roxy, The Troubadour | Staci's seen it all! —*Gene Katz*, director of *The Hair Band Tease* If you want to read a time capsule of a specific period in Southern California pop cultural history, look no further. If you want to read a book that's as delightful as it is insightful, one that stays with you long after you close its covers, this is that book. If you want to be simultaneously educated and entertained, you won't find a better reference than this one. Staci Layne Wilson not only has a penchant for detail, she has a memory like a bear trap. Nothing escapes her notice, and she has been kind enough to let us see the world through her keen, sentimental (but never maudlin) eyes. The book should come with one caveat emptor, however: if you read it at night, you can forget about sleeping. Not all the coffee in the world can knock down the reading hangover you're going to have the next day after flipping page after page the night before.” —*Stacey Keith*, author of *Stripped Down: A Naked Memoir*

A book that rivals the best of Huell Howser's TV shows digging up

the cherished as well as perished landmarks of the City of Angels. Speaking of angels, the author's parents were not, but that is the theme of this story, that all that glitters is not necessarily gold. But what a treasure for us to read a firsthand account about growing up in a fairytale turned inside out. The delight here are the dizzying details not only of her personal childhood story, and of her glamorous parents, but also of the city of Los Angeles, the city where most people come to from somewhere else to make their dreams come true. But this is a native's narrative, born and bred in LA, and while it is "SO LA" on its shimmering surface, it is "SO LAYered" in its honest reality. I LOVED IT! -PJ Soles, Actress "Carrie, Halloween

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Customer Reviews

So L.A. is really two memoirs in one: half of Wilson's epic story is actually about her parents' lives--her parents being Don Wilson of the Ventures and model/pin-up/entertainment journalist Nancy Bacon. Wilson's own story, when it takes over, doesn't appear all that unusual at first, considering she was raised by two famous parents who were struggling with their own demons. Her memoir hits its stride when she shares stories of her own years of being an entertainment journalist.

She is unusually candid about her celebrity encounters, naming those who were rude, inappropriate or strange, but also including many sweet moments, like her conversations with an endearingly awkward Heath Ledger. Wilson may have been surrounded by stars throughout her life, but she's extremely relatable and not shy about detailing her challenges to find a fulfilling career and true love in a city that has a rep for being shallow and superficial. Her lack of ego is refreshing, as is her lack of vices--this is not the typical child-of-famous-parents memoir you may expect. Instead, she writes honestly about her love, respect, and gratitude for her parents and the life they gave her, refusing to drag them through the mud or do more than briefly touch on some of their failings. In short, she has class. If Wilson is truly "So L.A." the celebrated city has a lot more substance than the rest of us have been led to believe.

Wow! What a great read! This fascinating memoir/expose' history of Los Angeles and Hollywood, written by one of its denizens who grew up drenched in the lure and lore of rock and roll, Hollywood stardom and movie mania is a real page-turner. Staci, the daughter of a rock legend and a pinup girl who matured into a writer, gives us an amazing read backstage and behind the scenes of her own life and the wild side of the entertainment industry. The memoir aspect of this multi-level book is moving. The celebrity gossip is eye-opening, and the history is a love letter to Los Angeles and Hollywood. No one could write this but Staci. It's written from her unique perspective growing up behind the scenes in the music and entertainment industries. I loved every page.

What a joy to read *Legends & Lipstick*, then go straight to *So L.A.* Staci's memoirs are just as fascinating as her mother's, yet seeing Hollywoodland from a diversely different perspective. As the daughter of famous parents with "issues", Staci has not fallen into the same trap of so many other offspring of famous parents. After taking a while to find her feet and living on the wild side of LA, she has forged a successful career as an author, journalist, interviewer of many of the biggest movie stars of yesterday, today and tomorrow, and becoming a successful writer, producer, director of her own. A fascinating memoir on living and forging a career in LA from the 80s to the present, Staci has led an amazing life and career in one of the most competitive towns and business in the world.

I would trade a year of my childhood for a week in hers. Seriously, my growing up in suburbia Texas seems so mundane in comparison to growing up in Hollywood. The stories she has to tell are absolutely fascinating, yet at the same time, a tinge of sadness living in the wake of two larger than life parents. Staci has hobnobbed with legends we have heard about our entire lives, but with

her stories, the legends become real people and dare I say it... become human. Staci clearly has fond memories of her childhood - everything from having pet horses to roam around the Hollywood Hills, but she doesn't shy away from the hard parts of her childhood. And why should she? All of these aspects of her growing up molded her into who she is today. To me, that was the most relatable part of the book. I may not have lived a life of glitz and glamour like Staci, but I wouldn't be the person I am now had I lived a different life. On a side note: I loved reading the stories of her father's band The Ventures, whom I didn't know were responsible for some of the surf classics we revere today.

Having been a movie buff and a Ventures fan for over 50 years, I may be a bit biased, but I found this book so fascinating, entertaining, and educational that it was difficult to put down. Cleverly woven between a plethora of Hollywood's lesser known history, I found a riveting account of a horse crazy young girl's rise from a broken-home upbringing to being a successful magazine journalist, movie reviewer, celebrity interviewer, red carpet reporter, very stylish writer, and finally a filmmaker. As So L.A. contains a preview of Staci's mother's latest tell-all, I look forward to even more details about the family of one of my favorite musicians, Mr. Don Wilson.

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