



Desilu: The Story of Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz

By Coyne S. Sanders, Tom Gilbert

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“Fans of *The Lucy Show* will find *Desilu* fascinating.” —*San Francisco Chronicle*

“Excellent”—*Entertainment Weekly*

Updated and revised, *Desilu* is the classic insider account of Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz’s romance, collaboration, and success. Hollywood journalist Tom Gilbert and author Coyne Sanders, whose critically acclaimed books on *The Judy Garland Show* and *The Dick Van Dyke Show* offer unparalleled insight into some of classic television’s greatest behind-the-scenes stories, deliver a captivating look at Lucy and Desi’s on-and-off relationship, their creative melding of minds, and their rollercoaster ride of fame and fortune. *Desilu* is an inspiring journey back to the Golden Age of Television, and a winning, unforgettable look at one of TV’s best-loved couples.

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- Sales Rank: #60847 in Books
- Published on: 2011-08-02
- Released on: 2011-08-02
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.25" h x 1.04" w x 6.13" l, 1.00 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 416 pages

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Forty-two years after *I Love Lucy* premiered on TV, this first dual biography of Lucille Ball (1911-1989) and Desi Arnaz (1917-1986) painstakingly details their business and personal dealings. The famed redhead and her Cuban husband, who met as young Hollywood contract players, pioneered TV situation comedy by starring in their own series and founding Desilu Productions, which was responsible for such other hit shows as *Star Trek* and *Mission Impossible*. Colleagues, friends and relatives--particularly daughter Lucie Arnaz--contribute to this telling of the team's successes and failures. Lucille's obsessive involvements with her co-stars and children and Desi's alcoholism and womanizing come to stand out in sharp contrast to the zany TV antics of Lucy and Desi, who remain beloved by the viewing public worldwide. The book will disappoint fans, however, due to excessive attention paid to the finances of Desilu Productions. Sanders is the author of *Rainbow's End: The Judy Garland Show*; Gilbert is an editor for *Daily Variety*. Photos not seen by PW.

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From Library Journal

Claiming to be the first dual biography "supported by family members and close friends," Desilu is actually something more. Here are the familiar stories of the stormy Ball-Arnaz marriage, their phenomenal success with *I Love Lucy*, and their inevitable parting. The real value of this book lies in its detailed charting of the fortunes of the couple's TV studio, which launched *The Untouchables*, *Mission Impossible*, and *Star Trek*, as well as a host of forgettable programs. The authors' something-for-everyone approach--interweaving dishy tales of Lucy's insecurity-fed tantrums and Desi's drinking with yearly accounting of the studio's profits--doesn't always work, but this is still a valuable book about the inner workings of television. Recommended for most public libraries. Previewed in *Prepub Alert*, LJ 10/1/92.

- Thomas Wiener, formerly with "American Film"

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Review

"Well researched and toughly sympathetic" (The Boston Globe)

"Excellent" (Entertainment Weekly)

"A page-turner of the first order ... Desilu is good, gritty, fair but strong and bottom line -- a gripper." (The Hollywood Reporter)

"Provide[s] fresh insights into the performers' personalities . . . Fans of the Lucy show will find Desilu fascinating." (San Francisco Chronicle)

"Lively and informative . . . A thoughtful, candid look at one of the world's most loved, most watched comedy teams -- (The Houston Post)

Filled with juicy details, quotes, backstage insights, rare photos . . . The best bio about America's red-topped funny lady ever" (Beverly Hills (213))

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Rose Cotner:

Do you have favorite book? When you have, what is your favorite's book? Reserve is very important thing for us to be aware of everything in the world. Each e-book has different aim as well as goal; it means that guide has different type. Some people truly feel enjoy to spend their time to read a book. They are really reading whatever they take because their hobby is actually reading a book. Consider the person who don't like studying a book? Sometime, person feel need book after they found difficult problem or perhaps exercise. Well, probably you should have this Desilu: The Story of Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz.

Mildred Wright:

Reading a book to become new life style in this calendar year; every people loves to go through a book. When you go through a book you can get a large amount of benefit. When you read textbooks, you can improve your knowledge, simply because book has a lot of information into it. The information that you will get depend on what types of book that you have read. If you would like get information about your review, you can read education books, but if you act like you want to entertain yourself you are able to a fiction books, this kind of us novel, comics, along with soon. The Desilu: The Story of Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz will give you new experience in studying a book.

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