



Furious Love: Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton, and the Marriage of the Century

By Sam Kashner, Nancy Schoenberger

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From veteran entertainment reporter Sam Kashner and biographer Nancy Schoenberger comes the definitive account of the greatest Hollywood love story ever told—the romance of Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton. Kashner has interviewed Elizabeth Taylor numerous times and is the only journalist given access to her extensive collection of personal letters and journals, and he and Schoenberger have also interviewed the Burton family at length, including Burton's actress daughter Kate. This is truly an authorized and singularly informed biography of these two larger-than-life stars, and of their glamorous, volatile, and audacious relationship.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Life outdoes movie melodrama in this raucous, intimate, dual biography of Hollywood's ultimate It Couple. As told by journalist Kashner (*Sinatraland*) and biographer Schoenberger (*Dangerous Muse: The Life of Caroline Blackwood*), the romance between the glittering Tinseltown diva and the sonorous, self-loathing Shakespearean reprises their co-starring movie roles: it has the passion of *Cleopatra* (the Vatican condemned their on-set adultery as erotic vagrancy), the riotous merriment of *The Taming of the Shrew*, the poisonous marital fights of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* and a cast of thousands of paparazzi and shrieking fans. The well-researched narrative—the authors make good use of Burton's engaging love letters and diary entries—offers juicy details of his epic alcoholism and her towering tantrums, and is fascinated with the jewelry pieces, like the Taj Mahal diamond that Taylor famously extracted from Burton as tribute or penance. But from the binges and bling emerges a revealing portrait of the magnetic qualities—her vulgar warmth, his soulful virility—that glued the couple together. Here is that rare love story that holds one's interest beyond the wedding—and a reminder, after the thin gruel of *Brangelina*, of what a feast celebrity can be. Photos. (June 1)

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From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

Offering up "Brangelina" as the 21st century's lackluster answer to "Liz and Dick," critics likened the contemporary pair to *I Love Lucy*'s Fred and Ethel Mertz. Those unfamiliar with "the brawling Burtons" will find juicy anecdotes in abundance here, but *Furious Love* rises above mere celebrity gossip by humanizing the mythic couple, taking readers deep into their A-list world of conspicuous consumption and private pain. Despite some repetitive, cliché-ridden prose, reviewers were still captivated by this powerful portrait of doomed love. Less successful, they noted, were the authors' attempts to connect Hollywood's emerging celebrity culture to the relationship, ceaselessly scrutinized by the tabloids. An "addictive page-turner" (*Providence Journal*), *Furious Love* is a behind-the-scenes tour of one of the most tempestuous romances of the 20th century.

From [Booklist](#)

In this dual biography of the two legendary film stars, the authors draw upon new information, including interviews with Elizabeth Taylor and with the Burton family, to capture the famously passionate and tumultuous relationship between the legendary couple. Already well known for her multiple marriages when she met him, Elizabeth Taylor added fuel to the flame of her own celebrity in 1964 by embarking on an affair with her married Cleopatra leading man, Richard Burton. The two became inseparable, and their personal charisma, scandalous love affair, and tempestuous relationship captured the attention of the press and the public worldwide, giving rise to the paparazzi phenomenon. It's a mesmerizing tale, but it's also sad, and sometimes ugly, as the two stars engaged in vicious fights, nursed their jealousies and insecurities, and descended into alcoholism while outwardly living a life of glamour and sophistication. --Kathleen Hughes

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Bernice Fugate:

Have you spare time for any day? What do you do when you have far more or little spare time? Yeah, you can choose the suitable activity with regard to spend your time. Any person spent their very own spare time to take a wander, shopping, or went to often the Mall. How about open or read a book allowed Furious Love: Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton, and the Marriage of the Century? Maybe it is to become best activity for you. You know beside you can spend your time with the favorite's book, you can wiser than before. Do you agree with the opinion or you have various other opinion?

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Rebecca Beal:

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