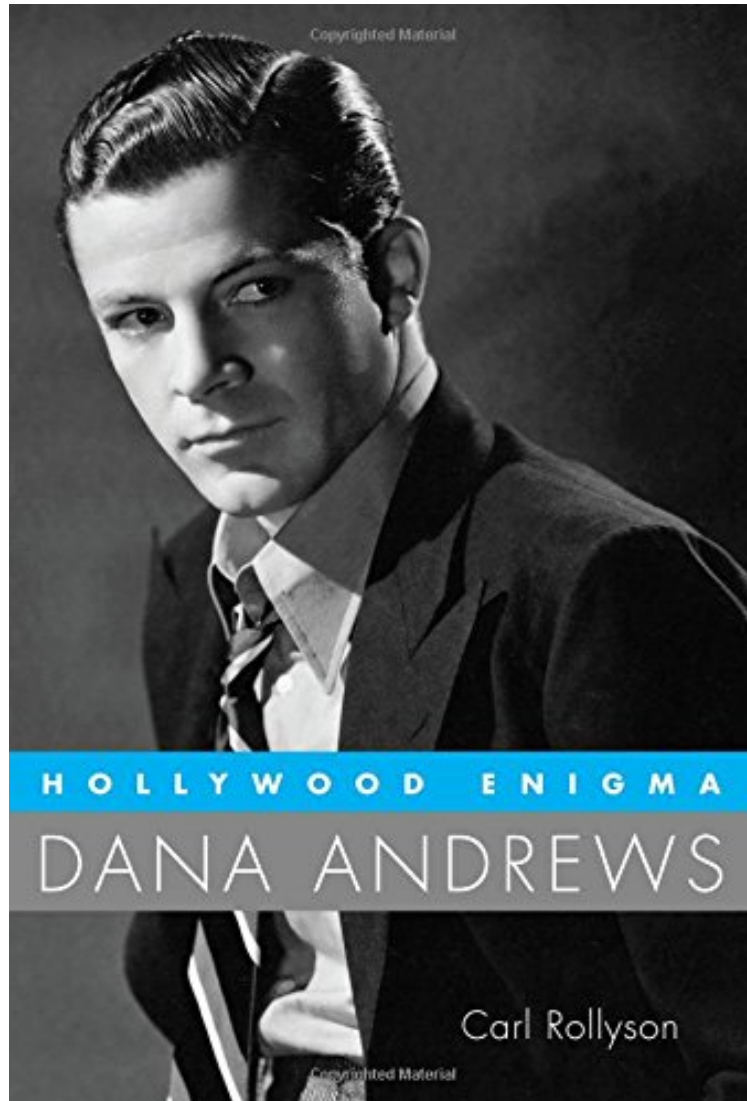


(Download ebook) Hollywood Enigma: Dana Andrews (Hollywood Legends Series)

Hollywood Enigma: Dana Andrews (Hollywood Legends Series)

Carl Rollyson

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Carl Rollyson : Hollywood Enigma: Dana Andrews (Hollywood Legends Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hollywood Enigma: Dana Andrews (Hollywood Legends Series):

165 of 169 people found the following review helpful. More Than a Tribute to My FatherBy A CustomerSome have written that Dana Andrews, my father, should have been nominated for or won an Academy Award. I know that Dad would have considered this biography at least as great an honor. Carl Rollyson saw his 'minimalist' performances for what they were: considered and deliberate, rather than 'wooden'. My father would have found the exhaustive research,

attention to detail, sensitive interpretation of his acting, recognition of his determination and complexity, as well as of his decency and devotion to his family, to be an extraordinary tribute. That's not what Rollyson set out to do, though. While he had our family's cooperation, all agreed that the biographer would go wherever his story took him. He didn't avoid personal failings or some less than memorable performances. He uncovered so much which we would never have known about our father's work and our parents' lives. This unexpected, extended visit with Dad over the last few years, through visits with Rollyson, close to a thousand e-mails, and the results of his tireless no-stone-unturned efforts, has been a joyful one for me. 30 of 31 people found the following review helpful. Fine Biography of Andrews By Maurice Bendrix Fine biography of the film star Dana Andrews. The actor's most important legacy is his (1) work in film noir, particularly his work on *Laura*, *Where the Sidewalk Ends*, *Fallen Angel*, *Boomerang*, *Ox-Bow Incident*, *While the City Sleeps*, and *Beyond a Reasonable Doubt*, and (2) his performance in *The Best Years of Our Lives*. Biography's strong points include coverage of Andrews' background and an analysis of Andrews' best films, particularly *The Best Years of Our Lives* and, perhaps surprising (to some), *Fallen Angel*. Rollyson makes a strong case for Andrews' impressive screen presence at his peak, and we can hope that this book leads to a reanalysis of Andrews' noir work particularly in the context of the leading directors with which he worked--Lang, Preminger, Milestone. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. "Hollywood Enigma" Dana Andrews' story a tale you should read By Abbe Buck Carl Rollyson has knocked it out of the park. The sheer essence of telling this man's story, yet not the psychological angst of the addiction he had, but the duality in having to live with it and having, day in and day out, to soldier on and be responsible for his family, is an example to anyone who finally had to face, and extinguish a lifelong demon. Dana Andrews was an alcoholic for over 40 years. He remained an actor, husband, father, friend, and more. Did the addiction affect things that he may have done even greater? Sure. But that he survived and is remembered with his story by Rollyson and assistance from his children is one great tale. And yes, he should have been nominated for an Oscar in 1946.

Dana Andrews (1909-1992) worked with distinguished directors such as John Ford, Lewis Milestone, Otto Preminger, Fritz Lang, William Wyler, William A. Wellman, Mervyn Le Roy, Jean Renoir, and Elia Kazan. He played romantic leads alongside the great beauties of the modern screen, including Joan Crawford, Elizabeth Taylor, Greer Garson, Merle Oberon, Linda Darnell, Susan Hayward, Maureen O'Hara, and most important of all, Gene Tierney, with whom he did five films. Retrospectives of his work often elicit high praise for an underrated actor, a master of the minimalist style. His image personified the male mask of the 1940s in classic films such as *Laura*, *Fallen Angel*, and *Where the Sidewalk Ends*, in which he played the masculine ideal of steely impassivity. No comprehensive discussion of film noir can neglect his performances. He was an actor's actor. Here at last is the complete story of a great actor, his difficult struggle to overcome alcoholism while enjoying the accolades of his contemporaries, a successful term as president of the Screen Actors Guild, and the love of family and friends that never deserted him. Based on diaries, letters, home movies, and other documents, this biography explores the mystery of a poor boy from Texas who made his Hollywood dream come true even as he sought a life apart from the limelight and the backbiting of contemporaries jockeying for prizes and prestige. Called one of nature's noblemen by his fellow actor Norman Lloyd, Dana Andrews emerges from *Hollywood Enigma* as an admirable American success story, fighting his inner demons and ultimately winning.

"With countless others, I have always admired Dana Andrews; now, Carl Rollyson has shown, in this scholarly and immensely readable book, why our admiration is not misplaced." -- Donald Spoto, author of biographies of Alfred Hitchcock, Laurence Olivier, Marilyn Monroe, Ingrid Bergman, Audrey Hepburn