

Five Came Back A Story of Hollywood and the Second World War

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Reviews

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FIVE CAME BACK A STORY OF HOLLYWOOD AND THE SECOND WORLD WAR



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Penguin Books. Paperback. Condition: New. 528 pages. Dimensions: 0.0in. x 0.0in. x 0.0in. N 0.0in. Pictures at a Revolution, Mark Harris turned the story of the five movies nominated for Best Picture in 1967 into a landmark work of cultural history, a book about the transformation of an art form and the larger social shift it signified. In Five Came Back, he achieves something larger and even more remarkable, giving us the untold story of how Hollywood changed World War II, and how World War II changed Hollywood, through the prism of five film directors caught up in the war: John Ford, William Wyler, John Huston, Frank Capra, and George Stevens. It was the best of times and the worst of times for Hollywood before the war. The box office was booming, and the studios control of talent and distribution was as airtight as could be hoped. But the industrys relationship with Washington was decidedly uneasyhearings and investigations into allegations of corruption and racketeering were multiplying, and hanging in the air was the insinuation that the business was too foreign, too Jewish, too un-American in its values and causes. Could an industry this powerful in shaping Americas mind-set really be left in the hands of this crew Following Pearl Harbor, Hollywood had the chance to prove its critics wrong and did so with vigor, turning its talents and its business over to the war effort to an unprecedented extent. No industry professionals played a bigger role in the war than Americas most legendary directors: Ford, Wyler, Huston, Capra, and Stevens. Between them they were on the scene of almost every major moment of Americas war, and in every branch of servicearmy, navy, and air force; Atlantic and Pacific; from Midway to North Africa; from Normandy to the fall of Paris and the...

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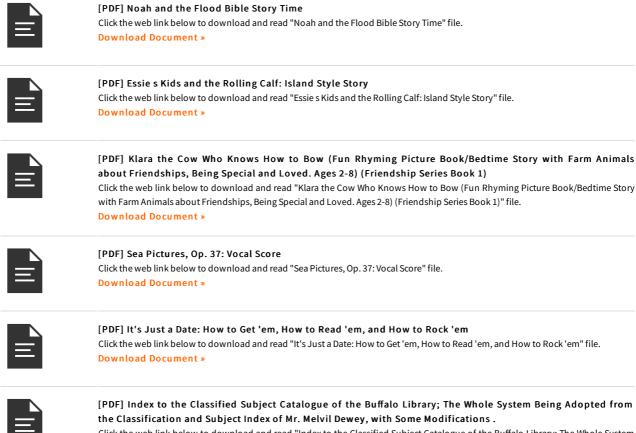
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