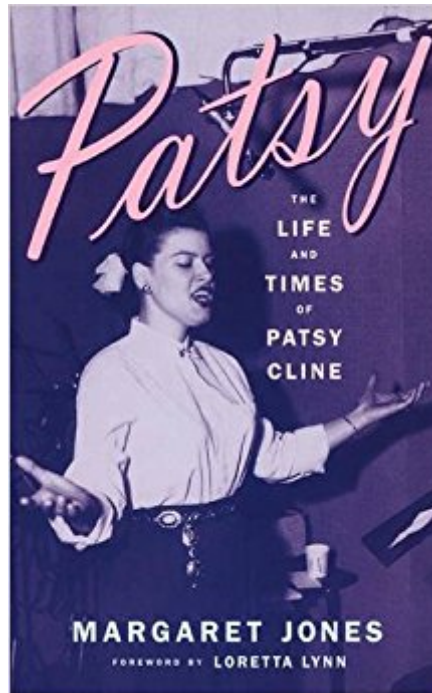




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# Patsy: The Life And Times Of Patsy Cline



## Synopsis

More than thirty-five years after her tragic death in a plane crash at age thirty, Patsy Cline (1932–1963) remains one of the greatest voices of this century. Her soulful torch-song ballads—'Walkin' After Midnight,' 'I Fall to Pieces,' 'Crazy,' and 'Sweet Dreams'—bought her worldwide fame as both a country and pop star, while her life and career were immortalized in the 1985 film, *Sweet Dreams*. In *Patsy*, Margaret Jones chronicles the life of Patsy Cline (nee Virginia Hensley) from her impoverished childhood and abuse by her father, through the struggle for her success and her exploitation by record producers to her phenomenal but short-lived recording career. The book is based on extensive interviews with country music's greatest—Loretta Lynn, June Carter, Dottie West, Barbara Mandrell, Faron Young, Roy Clark, Jimmy Dean, Johnny Western, Tompall Glaser, songwriters Harlan Howard and Donn Hecht, and record men Owen Bradley and Don Pierce. The result is the first fully drawn portrait of this crossover superstar, as well as a vivid picture of the ever-expanding country music world. Hard-living and hard-loving, bawdy and ballsy, Patsy Cline surmounted unimaginable odds in a male-dominated industry to become the most popular female country singer in recording history.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The turbulent life of the country music star whose popularity continues long after her death in 1963 is chronicled in this biography with compelling sympathy and an attention to detail that will appeal to

fans. Cline's struggle to develop a unique country act began in Winchester, Va., in a musical, if dysfunctional, family. According to Jones, a PW contributing editor, "a home environment charged with guilt, shame and fear" led by an abusive father had a direct bearing on the marital problems and hard drinking of Cline's adult years. At the time of her death in a car accident at age 30, Cline was a headliner at Nashville's Grand Ole Opry, a multimillion-dollar recording star and an influence on a generation of country singers with classics like "Crazy" and "Walking After Midnight." This sad story follows the grueling hardships and remarkable triumphs of a legendary country musician. Discography included. Photos not seen by PW. \$25,000 ad/promo; author tour. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Every pop-music star who comes to an untimely end becomes a legend, it seems, and eventually inspires some respectable enough biographies, not to mention the inevitable hagiographies, for our entertainers constitute the pool of prospects from which we select our martyrs and saints. That Cline (1932-63), the husky-voiced country singer who had barely arrived in the first circle of popularity when she died in a plane crash, really is a modern martyr Jones quickly establishes by marshaling evidence that Cline was sexually abused by her father. Cline's sanctity established, Jones continues the story of her drive to success via extensive extracts from interviews with many of her country-music associates, such as June Carter, Tompall Glaser, Wanda Jackson, Faron Young in short, a who's who of the generation of country music stars now in their sixties. Fans should find the book fascinating, while others may think it's a bit much. Ray Olson --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I'm reading the book now & I've really enjoyed it. I have found out a few things about Patsy Cline I didn't know. #1 She had an abortion in 1955. I didn't know they even had them back then. & #2 She was an Elvis Presley fan. #3 Her hit song "Walking After Midnight" Sold 2 & a half million copies & she was cheated out of all the royalties. She never made a dime off that song. #4 Loretta Lynn sat with Patsy Cline's body the night she died. That was kind of sad.

This is an excellent biography of Patsy Cline, the crossover sensation who would blaze a trail of hits across the country and pop charts of her time. This hard living, hard loving, country diva would become known as one of the most emotive voices in the history of popular music. This book chronicles her life, grounding it in the context out of which she emerged. Well-researched and lovingly written, it paints a portrait of both the artist and the woman. There is little doubt that Ms.

Cline had a hard scrabble childhood. Yet, despite her struggle to gain musical recognition in an era in which female country singers were really no more than backdrops for the men and ripe for exploitation by record industry professionals, Patsy Cline's belief in her talent would help her overcome the odds. She would go on to become one of most popular singers of all time, country or pop. The author manages to paint a portrait of Ms. Cline that will resonate with the reader. A honky tonk angel who would brook nothing and no one in her way, Patsy Cline was a generous, outspoken, and tough country gal who knew she could sing and would not allow the sexist attitudes of the time to paint her into a corner. She eventually sang her way to stardom, turning the music industry on its ear with her popularity, only to be cut down in the prime of her life by a tragic plane crash. This is, indeed, a book about the life and times of Patsy Cline: her men, her money, her music. With a touching and personal foreword by Loretta Lynn and sixteen pages of black and white photographs, it is a book that all Patsy Cline fans will enjoy, as will those who enjoy a well-written and well-researched biography.

GREAT

Great

This is well written and researched. I lived very close to where Patsy was born and the band director of my highschool was Bill Peer. Very interesting reading. If you are a Patsy Cline fan, this book is a must.

I really enjoyed reading this well written book on Patsy Cline and I found it to be very interesting too. This book also has alot of good photos of Patsy and she's a beautiful person and I love her voice, I'm so glad I found this book on here!

I've written a chapter on Patsy Cline for the second edition of "Remarkable Virginia Women," and found it useful as a reference.

I had high hopes for this book- especially considering the forward was penned by Loretta Lynn. However, I'm not a big fan of this work whatsoever. It's not an easy read and I certainly never felt that 'I just can't put this book down' feeling. The author veers off too often onto long side-tracks about the recording industry...tangents that I found boring. Obviously some info is necessary-

considering Patsy was a recording artist, after all. I just found myself skipping a lot of pages in an attempt to get back the main story line. I purchased this book at the same time as Ellis Nassour's 'Honky Tonk Angel: The Intimate Story of Patsy Cline.' I've started reading it- and I can say it's already a lot more interesting and captivating. It seems that Jones' borrows a LOT from Nassour's work. On the fair side- there was information in Jones' book that was interesting- particularly in the last half. You just had to wade through a lot to get to it.

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