



## Her Again: Becoming Meryl Streep

By Michael Schulman

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NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

A portrait of a woman, an era, and a profession: the first thoroughly researched biography of Meryl Streep—the “Iron Lady” of acting, nominated for nineteen Oscars and winner of three—that explores her beginnings as a young woman of the 1970s grappling with love, feminism, and her astonishing talent.

In 1975 Meryl Streep, a promising young graduate of the Yale School of Drama, was finding her place in the New York theater scene. Burning with talent and ambition, she was like dozens of aspiring actors of the time—a twenty-something beauty who rode her bike everywhere, kept a diary, napped before performances, and stayed out late “talking about acting with actors in actors’ bars.” Yet Meryl stood apart from her peers. In her first season in New York, she won attention-getting parts in back-to-back Broadway plays, a Tony Award nomination, and two roles in Shakespeare in the Park productions. Even then, people said, “Her. Again.”

*Her Again* is an intimate look at the artistic coming-of-age of the greatest actress of her generation, from the homecoming float at her suburban New Jersey high school, through her early days on the stage at Vassar College and the Yale School of Drama during its golden years, to her star-making roles in *The Deer Hunter*, *Manhattan*, and *Kramer vs. Kramer*. *New Yorker* contributor Michael Schulman brings into focus Meryl’s heady rise to stardom on the New York stage; her passionate, tragically short-lived love affair with fellow actor John Cazale; her marriage to sculptor Don Gummer; and her evolution as a young woman of the 1970s wrestling with changing ideas of feminism, marriage, love, and sacrifice.

Featuring eight pages of black-and-white photos, this captivating story of the making of one of the most revered artistic careers of our time reveals a gifted young woman coming into her extraordinary talents at a time of immense transformation, offering a rare glimpse into the life of the actress long before she became an icon.

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## Her Again: Becoming Meryl Streep By Michael Schulman Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

“[A] rollicking history of Streep’s early years...a love letter to a great actress and a behind-the-scenes study of iconic movies like *Kramer vs. Kramer*.” (**People (book of the week)**)

“[A]n admiring but frank Hollywood origin story. Following Streep in her long journey from New Jersey cheerleader to Oscar winner (her first for the 1979 film *Kramer vs Kramer*), this is above all a tribute to smart, steadfast professional judgment.” (**Financial Times** (A Summer Pick of 2016))

“Schulman provides such vivid examples of the relentless sexism [Streep] faced...[He] also paints a vivid picture of Manhattan in the 70s when the streets were filled with garbage and the stars were DeNiro, Hoffman and Redford.” (**Christian Science Monitor**)

“An insightful portrait...appreciative readers will undoubtedly hope that a follow-up volume is in the works.” (**Publishers Weekly**)

“Drawing on theater memoirs, conversations with Streep’s colleagues and friends, and heaps of interviews that Streep has given over the years, Schulman has fashioned a lively narrative....Schulman’s sensitive handling of Streep’s personal life rounds out the portrait of a superbly talented woman. A brisk, gossipy, and entertaining biography.” (**Kirkus Reviews**)

“Michael Schulman shares delightfully entertaining stories surrounding Meryl Streep’s early rise to stardom in *Her Again*. . . . It’s an enchanting look into the intricate details of how a young girl from New Jersey became a force in the entertainment industry.” (**Associated Press**)

“Schulman’s balanced portrait of Streep’s unwavering dedication and demanding work ethic makes this a must-read for fans and aspiring actors.” (**Booklist**)

“Talent attracts talent, and in Michael Schulman, Meryl Streep has gotten the biographer she deserves—canny, fluent, a pleasure to read, and perfectly suited to capturing America’s greatest screen actress on the cusp of her brilliant career.” (**Peter Biskind, author of *Easy Riders, Raging Bulls***)

“*Her Again* is not only a captivating biography but a look at the alchemy of great acting. Through comprehensive research and contagious enthusiasm, Michael Schulman celebrates Streep’s artistry while humanizing an icon.” (**Tavi Gevinson, founder and editor-in-chief of *Rookie***)

“*Her Again* is a beautifully observed, deeply affectionate portrait of an astonishing actress on the cusp of everything. It captures not merely Streep’s beginnings, but an era. A delightful, respectful, and essential book for anyone interested in Meryl, Hollywood, theater, or just being ridiculously, passionately young.” (**Paul Rudnick, author of *The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told***)

“A thoughtful and insightful chronicle of the early life and career of remarkable Meryl.” (**Jane Alexander, actress and author of *Command Performance***)

From the Back Cover

## **A portrait of a woman, an era, and a profession: the first thoroughly researched biography of Meryl Streep that explores her beginnings as a young woman of the 1970s grappling with love, feminism, and her astonishing talent**

“When they called my name,” Meryl Streep said in her 2012 Oscar speech, “I had this feeling I could hear half of America going, ‘Ohhh, no. Oh, come on—why? *Her. Again.*’” By now, it’s hard to remember a time when her name wasn’t synonymous with the title Greatest Living Actress. But who was she before she was the “Iron Lady” of acting? How did she learn to do what she does? What happens when we look at her again, not as a celebrated diva but as a limpid twentysomething burning with talent and ambition?

In 1975, Meryl Streep was a promising young graduate of the Yale School of Drama, just finding her place in the New York theater scene. She rode her bicycle everywhere, kept a diary, napped before performances, and stayed out late “talking about acting with actors in actors’ bars.” Yet Meryl stood apart from her peers. In her first season in New York, she appeared in back-to-back Broadway plays, headlined Shakespeare in the Park, and earned a Tony Award nomination. One thing she knew she would never be: a movie star.

*Her Again* is an intimate look at the artistic coming-of-age of the greatest actress of her generation, from the homecoming float at her suburban New Jersey high school through her discovery of the stage at Vassar College and the Yale School of Drama to her star-making roles in *The Deer Hunter*, *Manhattan*, and *Kramer vs. Kramer*. *New Yorker* contributor Michael Schulman charts her heady rise to stardom on the New York stage, her passionate, tragically short-lived love affair with fellow actor John Cazale, and her evolution as a young woman of the 1970s wrestling with changing ideas of feminism, marriage, love, and sacrifice.

Featuring eight pages of arresting black-and-white photos, some never before seen, this captivating story reveals a gifted young woman coming into her extraordinary talents at a time of immense transformation, offering a rare glimpse into the life of the actress long before she became an icon.

### About the Author

Michael Schulman is a contributor and arts editor at the *New Yorker*. His work has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Believer*, and other publications. He lives in New York City.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Greg Little:**

Do you one among people who can't read pleasant if the sentence chained from the straightway, hold on guys this aren't like that. This *Her Again: Becoming Meryl Streep* book is readable by means of you who hate the straight word style. You will find the details here are arrange for enjoyable reading experience without leaving perhaps decrease the knowledge that want to offer to you. The writer involving *Her Again: Becoming Meryl Streep* content conveys prospect easily to understand by lots of people. The printed and e-book are not different in the articles but it just different by means of it. So , do you even now thinking *Her Again: Becoming Meryl Streep* is not loveable to be your top listing reading book?

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**William McNeill:**

Is it you actually who having spare time after that spend it whole day by watching television programs or just telling lies on the bed? Do you need something new? This *Her Again: Becoming Meryl Streep* can be the response, oh how comes? The new book you know. You are and so out of date, spending your spare time by reading in this completely new era is common not a nerd activity. So what these books have than the others?

**Stephen Lee:**

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