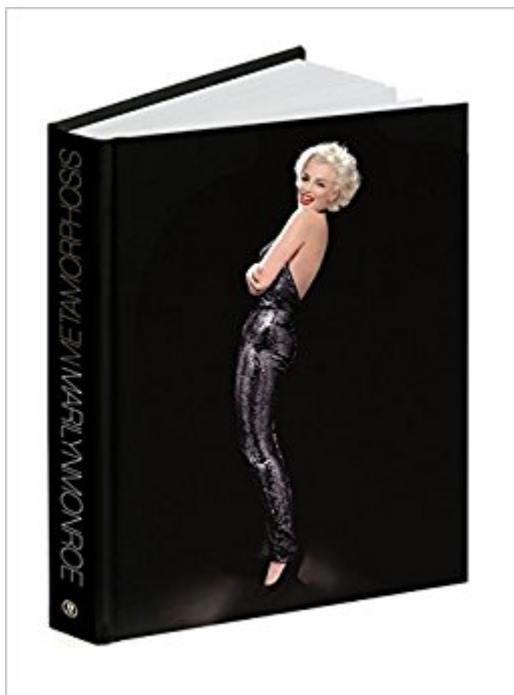


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# Marilyn Monroe: Metamorphosis



## Synopsis

At your fingertips is the most lavish and comprehensive collection of Marilyn Monroe photographs ever assembled—more than half of which have never been published before. Norma Jeane Baker's transformation into one of the most emulated and iconic Hollywood stars is an epic American story—one that careens from a troubled childhood into the bright national spotlight before descending into an irrevocable depression. In this stunning, one-of-a-kind volume, David Wills offers a captivating photographic journey through Monroe's meteoric rise and tragic downfall. Featuring the highest-quality images of Marilyn available anywhere in the world, from candid to film stills to modeling headshots, the images in *Marilyn Monroe: Metamorphosis* will reawaken casual fans and collectors alike to Marilyn Monroe at her living best.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

There have been many Marilyn Monroe photo books—but nothing like this. Curator and photographic preservationist David Wills has amassed one of the world's largest independent archives of original Marilyn Monroe photographs. Now, in *Marilyn Monroe: Metamorphosis*, he has gathered spectacular, museum-quality work from Marilyn's key photographers—Richard Avedon, George Barris, Cecil Beaton, Bernard of Hollywood, Andre de Dienes, Elliott Erwitt, Milton Greene, Philippe Halsman, Tom Kelley, Douglas Kirkland, Willy Rizzo, Sam Shaw, and many others—to create this dazzling portfolio of images from every period of Marilyn Monroe's adult life, from her wedding day in 1942 till just weeks before her death two decades later. *Marilyn Monroe: Metamorphosis* pays homage to her continually evolving style and extraordinary beauty.

Among the highlights: Previously unseen Kodachrome, dye transfer, and Carbro prints of Norma Jeane from her modeling career. Classic portraits and pinups in luscious full color, digitally restored from the original transparencies. Never-before-seen photos from the sets of *The Seven Year Itch*, *Some Like It Hot*, *The Misfits*, and *Something's Got to Give*. Rare candid photos of Marilyn with Marlon Brando, Clark Gable, Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall, Ronald and Nancy Reagan, Queen Elizabeth II, Joe DiMaggio, Arthur Miller, and others. Previously unpublished photos by Richard Avedon, George Barris, Cecil Beaton, David Conover, Elliott Erwitt, John Florea, Tom Kelley, Richard C. Miller, Frank Powolny, Willy Rizzo, Zinn Arthur, and many others. Pairing more than two hundred first-generation photos with reflections on Marilyn from her friends, work associates, and admirers—and including her last interview, in which she reflects on her life and fame—*Marilyn Monroe: Metamorphosis* is an unforgettable showcase of the actress's transformation from an unknown factory worker to one of the most recognized faces in history.

Australian-born David Wills is an author, independent curator, photographic preservationist, and editor who has accrued one of the world's largest independent archives of original photographs, negatives, and transparencies. He has contributed material to many publications and museums, including the Museum of Modern Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Phoenix Art Museum, and the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. Wills has produced a series of photography exhibitions based on images from his archive. His shows include *Murder, Models, Madness: Photographs from the Motion Picture Blow-Up*; *Edie Sedgwick: Unseen Photographs of a Warhol Superstar*; *Blonde Bombshell*; *James Bond*; *Women with Issues: Photographs from the Motion Picture Valley of the Dolls*; and *Warhology*. Wills's books include *Ara Gallant*; *Marilyn Monroe: Metamorphosis*; *Audrey: The 60s*; *Hollywood in Kodachrome*; and *Seventies Glamour*. He is also the co-author of *Veruschka*. His books and exhibitions have received major profiles in the *Los Angeles Times*, the *New York Times*, *Vanity Fair*, *American Photo*, *Vogue*, *Interview*, and *Time*. He has also written articles on photography and popular culture for publications including the *Huffington Post*, *V Magazine*, and *Palm Springs Life*.

An amazingly beautiful book. Any Marilyn Monroe fan should own this. The photographs are so real looking you feel like you could really touch her. Just absolutely stunning book. It's very classy too with the black and gold colors. The quality of the paper is amazing too. They are so thick and feel so good to the touch and I love the smell of the book. Book lovers will know what I mean by that.

If you were to ever buy just one book which contained beautiful black & white, and colour photos of Marilyn Monroe in chronological order, in a LARGE format that you will label as a "keeper" for your personal collection...THIS IS THE ONE ! But it is much more than just "photos":Well-researched, well-documented, much info from those who knew her, worked with her, and were friends with her.In reality, her original brown/brunette hair color was just fine. And, those early, innocent photos showing her in her "natural" state prove the love that the camera showed her...the lense captured her young, glowing beauty way before she was given the "Hollywood Treatment" of blonde hair & studio makeup artists.I remember vividly the day she was found dead, August 5, 1962...just 8 days before my 21st birthday. I could not believe it. A decade older than me...but SO young. And now she was dead.Like the death of James Dean at his early age, both myself and my peers seemed to be losing our "current" popular film icons...just as the age previous to us had lost Thelma Todd, Jean Harlow, and, Carole Lombard.I had just come back from my first trip to Los Angeles & Hollywood. I was preparing to be an Actor and would move out to California a year later to study at the Pasadena Playhouse. And, I could tell from the environment I had witnessed there that it was NOT an easy place to be in if you wanted to remain "who you really were", and this excellent volume on Marilyn verifies my original thoughts.This book was my personal Christmas Gift to myself, and I've already recommended it to a number of my friends...just as I recommend it to you !BTW: This was purchased through "Free Shipping" and came earlier than I had expected...thanks, ! Packing was cool too...so, don't just read this: If you want something right now, order it and enjoy it before the Holidays are over !

Unequivocally the BEST book on Monroe (photography-wise) I've ever seen. There is literally no way you'd be disappointed owning this. It's gorgeous and there are SO many photos that I'd never even seen!

A spectacular, stunning coffee table book that you will treasure for its glorious photography of one of the world's most beautiful women. Excellent color reproduction, good selection of rare photographs. I find myself picking up this book time and again just to leaf through it, and I do indeed have it on my coffee table! Visitors to my home invariably notice it and get drawn into looking at it too. A fine tribute to this unforgettable actress whose death was most definitely NOT accidental and NOT a suicide.

I am a huge MM fan, and have a very large collection of books and memorabilia. After reading

several reviews here, I knew I had to have it. There are so many books about her, but some are just shoddy and seem thrown together for the sole purpose of making money. This is really the ultimate "coffee table" book. It has a great concept...literally her metamorphosis from Norma Jeane to Marilyn throughout her too short life. This is not the book for someone doing research or wanting to read a lot about her. There are some well chosen quotes, but it is all about the gorgeous photos. Yes, some are very familiar, but there are some I've never seen before. And the photos are what tell the "story" here of her changing looks over the years. The quality is very high, the photos are stunning, and I love the cover. This would be a great gift for any MM fan, but be sure to get a copy for yourself!

I bought this book as a Christmas present for my wife, but i must admit i had an interest in it also. We are both in awl of this beautiful lady, her talents as a model and her abilities as an actress. Her movies did not show off the depths of her spirit sadly and unfortunately. She was underrated to say the least. That said, i only wish the book explored her early life and career in greater depth. But there other books out that address this and we intend to buy those also. I can't say enough about the quality of the photographs, they are exquisite in every way. If you love her as much as we do, purchase this book and leave it out on your coffee table. It will cheer you every day. As Bernie Taupin said in his song "wish i could have known you, but i was just a kid" , we have to be content with knowing her through her pictures. Marilyn, you live in our hearts and you will never be forgotten

Absolutely wonderful book! A must for any serious Marilyn Monroe fan. You can really tell how much time and effort the author put into this book. The photos are amazing, especially the ones from her early modeling days in the mid 40s. I am a huge Marilyn Monroe fan, and there was even some photos in here I am never seen!

If you've always been a Marilyn fan, or even a sort-of fan, and you think you might buy a good photo book of her if you saw one you liked, this is it. The quality of the printing is amazing, and of course the subject is completely captivating. It's as if there's no camera between you and Marilyn. She brings you to where she is. I don't see how any human can not fall in love with her. When I die, I think I want to be buried clutching this book to my chest. I give it a squillion stars.

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