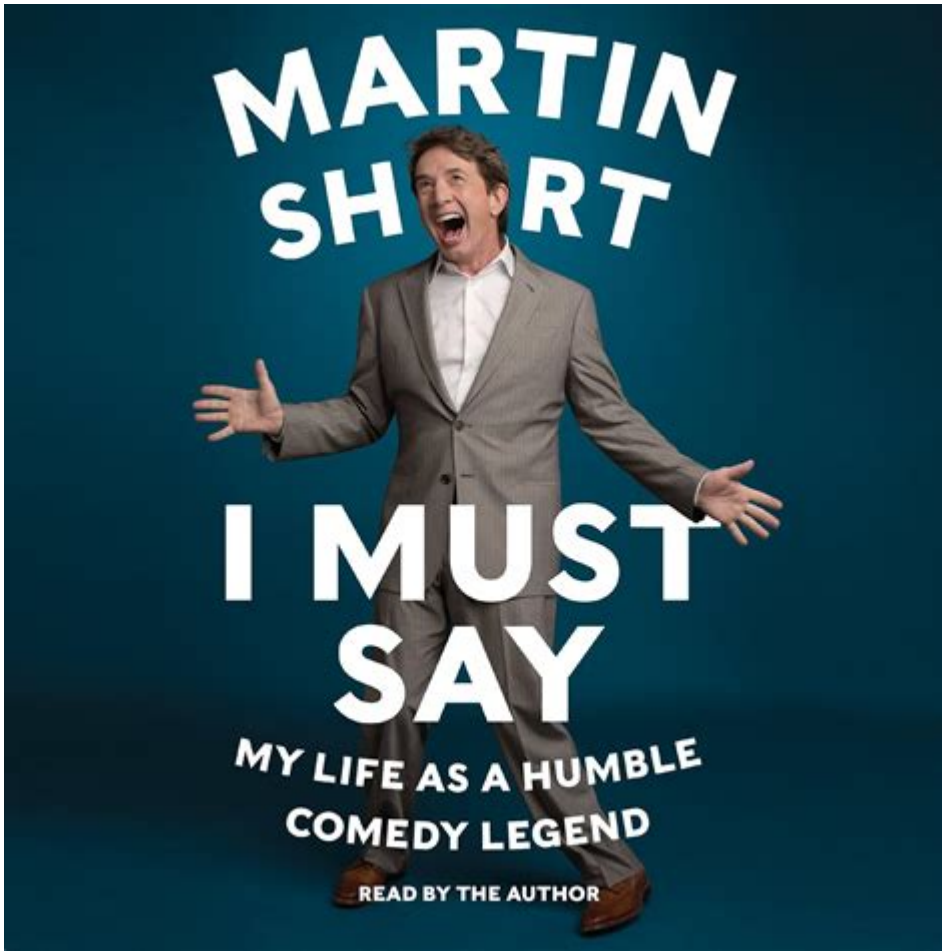


# Martin Short I Must Say



Martin Short *I Must Say* is a delightful exploration of the life, career, and comedic genius of one of the most beloved figures in entertainment. Martin Short, an actor, comedian, writer, and producer, has captivated audiences for decades with his unique blend of humor, charm, and versatility. From his early days in Canada to his illustrious career on Broadway, television, and film, Short's journey is a testament to his talent and tenacity. Through his memoir "*I Must Say: My Life as a Humble Comedy Legend*," Short shares personal anecdotes and insights that reveal not only his professional accomplishments but also the challenges and triumphs of his personal life.

## Early Life and Career Beginnings

### Canadian Roots

Martin Short was born on March 26, 1950, in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. He was the youngest of five children in a tight-knit family, where humor and creativity were encouraged. Short's early exposure to the arts came from his mother, who was a concert singer, and his father, who was a businessman.

- Education: Short attended McMaster University in Hamilton, where he initially studied social work.

However, his passion for performance led him to pursue acting instead.

- Early Performance: He began his career in theater, joining a comedy troupe known as "The Second City," which helped launch the careers of many famous comedians.

## **Breakthrough in Television**

Short's big break came in the late 1970s when he joined the cast of the Canadian television show "SCTV" (Second City Television). The show was a sketch comedy series that parodied television and film, and it quickly gained a cult following.

- Notable Characters: Some of Short's most memorable characters from SCTV include:
  - Ed Grimley: A quirky and iconic character with a distinctive hairstyle and catchphrases.
  - Jackie Rogers Jr.: A flamboyant showbiz personality that showcased Short's ability to embody larger-than-life characters.

This exposure helped Short transition into American television, where he became a household name.

## **Film and Broadway Success**

### **Transition to Film**

Short's success on television paved the way for a flourishing film career. He starred in several hit movies throughout the 1980s and 1990s, solidifying his status as a comedic actor.

- Key Films:
  - "Three Amigos!" (1986): A comedy about three silent film stars who are mistaken for real heroes.
  - "Father of the Bride" (1991): Short played the flamboyant wedding planner Franck Eggelhoff, a role that earned him widespread acclaim.
  - "Innerspace" (1987): A sci-fi comedy where Short plays a store clerk who is miniaturized and injected into a man's body.

These films showcased Short's comedic talent and ability to connect with audiences of all ages.

### **Broadway Stardom**

In addition to film and television, Martin Short has made a significant impact on Broadway. He has starred in several successful productions, demonstrating his versatility as a performer.

- Notable Productions:
  - "The Goodbye Girl": Short received a Tony Award nomination for his role in this musical adaptation of Neil Simon's film.
  - "Fame Becomes Me": A one-man show that celebrated his life and career, blending storytelling with music and comedy.

His performances on stage have earned him critical acclaim and a dedicated fan base, further cementing his status as a comedy legend.

## Television Return and Later Career

### Television Comeback

After making a name for himself in film and theater, Short returned to television in the 2000s with various projects that showcased his comedic prowess.

- "Primetime Glick" (2001-2003): A mock talk show where Short played the outrageous host Jiminy Glick, allowing him to interview celebrities in a humorous and absurd manner.
- "Maya & Marty" (2016): A variety show that featured sketches and musical performances, highlighting Short's ability to adapt to new formats and trends in comedy.

These projects not only kept Short relevant in the ever-changing landscape of television but also introduced him to a new generation of fans.

### Collaborations with Steve Martin

One of the most notable aspects of Short's career is his long-standing friendship and collaboration with fellow comedian Steve Martin. The two have worked together on numerous projects, including:

- "The Three Amigos!"
- Stage Shows: Their joint comedy tours, such as "An Evening You Will Forget for the Rest of Your Life," have been met with critical acclaim and commercial success.
- Television Specials: They have appeared in various specials that showcase their chemistry and comedic timing.

Their partnership is a testament to the power of friendship and collaboration in the entertainment industry.

## Personal Life and Challenges

### Family and Relationships

Martin Short has been married to his wife, Nancy Dolman, since 1980, and together they have three children. Their marriage was known for its love and support, with Dolman often being a source of inspiration for Short's work. Tragically, Nancy passed away in 2010 due to ovarian cancer, which deeply affected Short.

- Coping with Loss: In his memoir, Short candidly discusses the grief he experienced and how he found solace in his work and the love of his family.

## **Advocacy and Philanthropy**

Throughout his life, Short has been involved in various charitable endeavors. He has supported causes such as cancer research, education, and the arts. His philanthropic efforts reflect his desire to give back to the community and make a positive impact on the world.

## **Legacy and Influence**

### **Impact on Comedy**

Martin Short's influence on the world of comedy is undeniable. He has inspired countless comedians and actors with his unique style, characterized by:

- Physical Comedy: Short is known for his expressive body language and facial expressions that enhance his comedic performances.
- Character Work: His ability to create memorable and relatable characters has set a standard for character-driven comedy.
- Improvisation Skills: Short's background in improv allows him to adapt and respond to situations in real-time, making each performance unique.

### **A Lasting Career**

As of 2023, Martin Short continues to entertain audiences through various projects, including appearances on popular talk shows and special events. His enduring presence in the entertainment industry speaks to his talent and dedication.

- Continued Projects: Short is involved in several upcoming film and television projects, ensuring that he remains a beloved figure for years to come.

## **Conclusion**

Martin Short I Must Say encapsulates the essence of a man who has dedicated his life to comedy and performance. From his humble beginnings in Canada to becoming a household name, Short's journey is filled with laughter, resilience, and a deep love for his craft. Through his memoir and ongoing work, he continues to inspire and entertain, reminding us all of the power of humor and the importance of cherishing the moments that make life truly special. With a career spanning over four decades, Martin Short is not just a comedy legend; he is a cultural icon whose impact will be felt for generations to come.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## What is 'Martin Short: I Must Say' about?

'Martin Short: I Must Say' is a comedic memoir by Martin Short, where he shares stories from his life and career, offering insights into his experiences in show business and his personal anecdotes.

## What makes Martin Short's storytelling unique in 'I Must Say'?

Martin Short's storytelling is unique due to his comedic timing, wit, and ability to blend humor with heartfelt moments. He often incorporates his experiences with other celebrities and personal challenges, making it relatable and entertaining.

## Are there any notable celebrity stories in 'I Must Say'?

Yes, the book features numerous anecdotes about Martin Short's interactions with famous personalities, including his friendships and collaborations with stars like Steve Martin, Jiminy Glick, and others in the entertainment industry.

## How does Martin Short discuss his childhood in 'I Must Say'?

In 'I Must Say', Martin Short reflects on his childhood in Ontario, Canada, recounting formative experiences that shaped his sense of humor and passion for performance, often with a humorous twist.

## What themes are prevalent in 'Martin Short: I Must Say'?

Themes of friendship, the importance of laughter, resilience in the face of adversity, and the joy of creativity are prevalent throughout the book, showcasing Short's optimistic outlook on life.

## How has 'I Must Say' been received by critics and readers?

'I Must Say' has been well received, with critics praising Martin Short's humor and storytelling style. Readers have appreciated the blend of comedy and personal reflection, making it a popular choice among fans of memoirs.

## Is 'Martin Short: I Must Say' suitable for all ages?

While 'I Must Say' contains humor that may appeal to a broad audience, some adult themes and language may make it more suitable for mature readers, particularly those familiar with Short's comedic style.

## What can readers learn from 'I Must Say'?

Readers can learn about the importance of perseverance, the value of laughter in overcoming life's challenges, and insights into the entertainment industry, all delivered through Martin Short's engaging and humorous perspective.

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