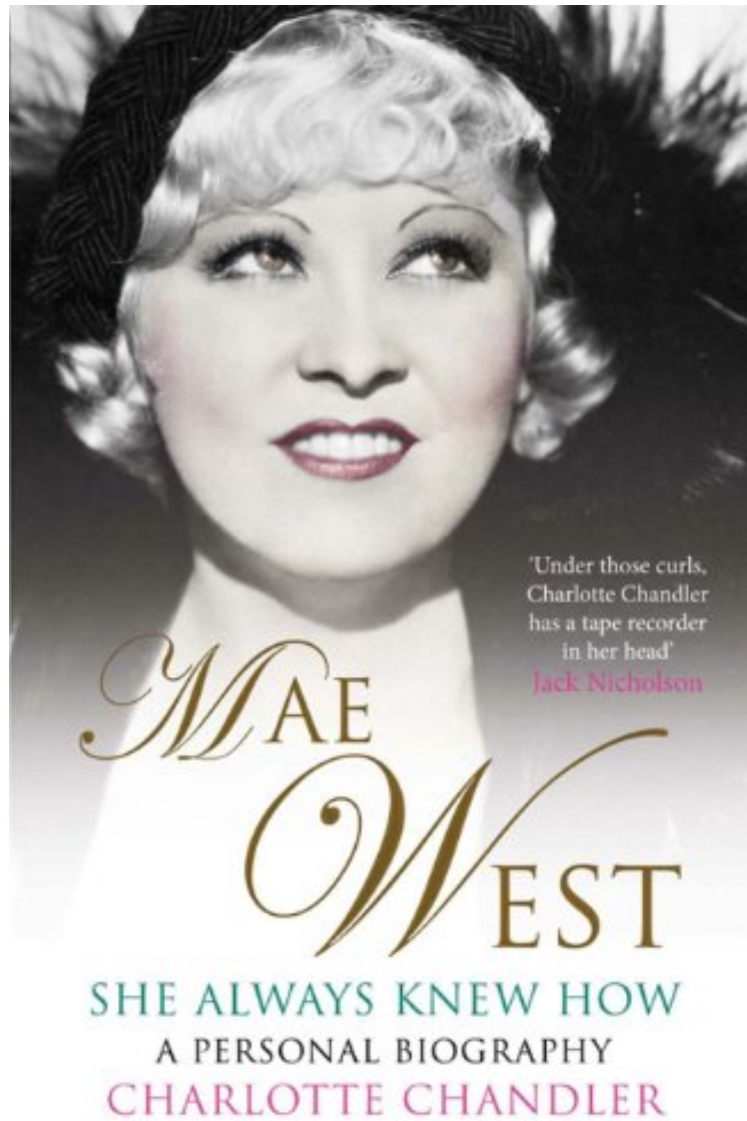


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## She Always Knew How: Mae West, a Personal Biography (English Edition)

Von Charlotte Chandler

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**Von Charlotte Chandler :** She Always Knew How: Mae West, a Personal Biography (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised She Always Knew How: Mae West, a Personal Biography (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Die brillante SexgtinVon NaneInterviews, die Mae West der Autorin kurz vor ihrem Tod im Jahr 1980 gegeben hat,

bilden die Grundlage für diese Biografie. Ein munterer Rückblick, überwiegend in wirtlicher Rede, auf ein langes Leben (1893-1908) voll mit frivolem Ehrgeiz und entsprechendem Erfolg. Mae West konnte nicht nur ihre geliebten Brillanten blitzen lassen, sondern auch ihren Verstand. Sie schrieb ihre Texte für Bühnenstücke und Filmdialoge selbst. Kurzfassungen finden sich im Buch. Manches wirkt heute schrullig, aber lesen Sie selbst und schauen sich die Fotos an! Der englische Text ist leicht zu bewältigen.

**Kurzbeschreibung** In *She Always Knew How*, her wonderful new biography of legendary actress Mae West, acclaimed biographer Charlotte Chandler draws on a series of interviews she conducted with the star just months before her death in 1980. From their first meeting, where West held out a diamond-covered hand in greeting and lamented her interviewer's lack of jewels, to their farewell, where the star was still gamely offering advice on how to attract men, Mae West and Charlotte Chandler developed a warm rapport that glows on every page of this biography. Actress, playwright, screenwriter, and iconic sex symbol Mae West was born in New York in 1893. She created a scandal -- and a sensation -- on Broadway with her play *Sex* in 1926. Convicted of obscenity, she was sentenced to ten days in prison. She went to jail a convict and emerged a star. Her next play, *Diamond Lil*, was a smash, and she would play the role of *Diamond Lil* in different variations for virtually her entire film career. In Hollywood she played opposite George Raft, Cary Grant (in one of his first starring roles), and W. C. Fields, among others. She was the number one box-office attraction during the 1930s and saved Paramount Studios from bankruptcy. Her films included some notorious one-liners -- which she wrote herself -- that have become part of Hollywood lore: from "too much of a good thing can be wonderful" to "When I'm good, I'm very good. When I'm bad, I'm better." Her risqué remarks got her banned from radio for a dozen years, but behind the clever quips was Mae's deep desire, decades before the word "feminism" was in the news, to see women treated equally with men. She saw through the double standard of the time that permitted men to do things that women would be ruined for doing. Her cause was sexual equality, and she was shrewd enough to know that it was perhaps the ultimate battleground, the most difficult cause of all. In addition to her extensive interviews of Mae West, Chandler also spoke with actors and directors who worked with and knew the star, the man with whom she lived for the last twenty-seven years of her life, as well as her closest assistant at the end of her life. Their comments and insights enrich this fascinating book. *She Always Knew How* captures the voice and spirit of this unique actress as no other biography ever has.

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**Synopsis** Sex goddess Mae West is responsible for some of the most quoted lines in film history: \* Is that a gun in your pocket or are you just happy to see me? \* When I'm good, I'm very good, but when I'm bad, I'm better. \* It's not the men in my life that counts - it's the life in my men. She was a performer from childhood and debuted on Broadway in a play she wrote entitled "Sex" which was a success until it was raided for immorality and Mae was jailed for ten days. This book is packed with stars from George Raft to Cary Grant and W.C. Fields, with whom she made "My Little Chickadee", the most successful film of Fields' career. Charlotte Chandler recorded Mae West over a period of roughly a month towards the end of the star's life. She was still as vital and lively as ever, and this book will convey all of Mae West's legendary attitude.