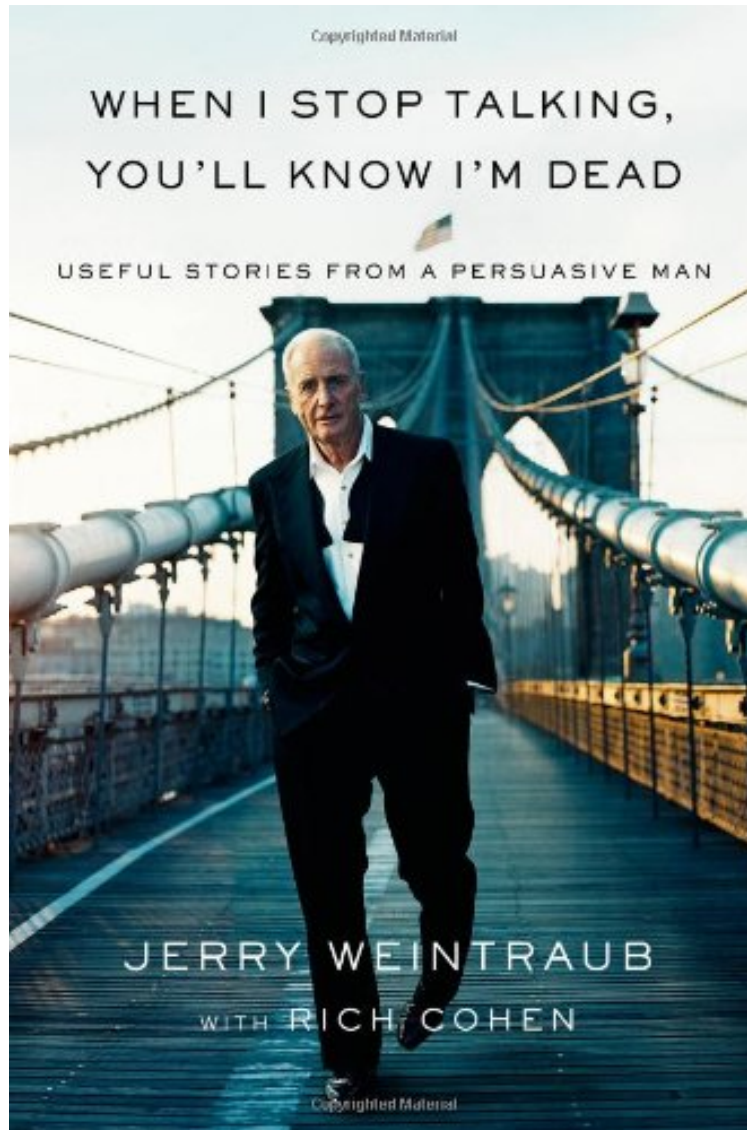


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When I Stop Talking, You'll Know I'm Dead: Useful Stories from a Persuasive Man

Jerry Weintraub

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Jerry Weintraub : When I Stop Talking, You'll Know I'm Dead: Useful Stories from a Persuasive Man before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised When I Stop Talking, You'll Know I'm Dead: Useful Stories from a Persuasive Man:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Interesting read.By KingKongKdubA very interesting read, and I liked it. Its something when you find you don't identify with someone nor feel inclined to like them very much, yet

still take a profound interest in their story. Truly you'll either like Jerry or hate 'em, regardless there's a great story in this book, and he wouldn't care about your opinion of him either way. I don't know how people can be so condescending with their reviews, saying he does nothing but showboat and aggrandize himself. He tells his story in his own way, as he would talk to you about his life in person. People somehow get caught up vilifying him from some detail they didn't find honorable (braggart, egomaniac...) and end up missing the story which is quite engaging. Only four stars because though I liked it, I didn't feel I'd reread it any time soon. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. One of the best stories on ground up development of a business and ...By A. Hudson One of the best stories on ground up development of a business and networking empire that I've ever read. Jerry brings a candid and unselfish history of, what many of us know, his rise to becoming one of the most influential talent agents in the entertainment world. If you are new to networking or want a look at a real "whatever it takes" mindset...read this. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book By Derek Gallardo Jerry shows you that you don't need to be the smartest in the room to succeed in life. Networking and perseverance will get you far.

Here is the story of Jerry Weintraub: the self-made, Brooklyn-born, Bronx-raised impresario, Hollywood producer, legendary deal maker, and friend of politicians and stars. No matter where nature has placed him--the club rooms of Brooklyn, the Mafia dives of New York's Lower East Side, the wilds of Alaska, or the hills of Hollywood--he has found a way to put on a show and sell tickets at the door. "All life was a theater and I wanted to put it up on a stage," he writes. "I wanted to set the world under a marquee that read: 'Jerry Weintraub Presents.'" In *WHEN I STOP TALKING, YOU'LL KNOW I'M DEAD*, we follow Weintraub from his first great success at age twenty-six with Elvis Presley, whom he took on the road with the help of Colonel Tom Parker; to the immortal days with Sinatra and Rat Pack glory; to his crowning hits as a movie producer, starting with Robert Altman and Nashville, continuing with *Oh, God!*, *The Karate Kid* movies, and *Diner*, among others, and summing up with Steven Soderbergh and *Ocean's Eleven*, *Twelve*, and *Thirteen*. Along the way, we'll watch as Jerry moves from the poker tables of Palm Springs (the games went on for days), to the power rooms of Hollywood, to the halls of the White House, to Red Square in Moscow and the Great Palace in Beijing--all the while counseling potentates, poets, and kings, with clients and confidants like George Clooney, Bruce Willis, George H. W. Bush, Armand Hammer, Brad Pitt, Matt Damon, Bob Dylan, Led Zeppelin, John Denver, Bobby Fischer . . . well, the list goes on forever. And of course, the story is not yet over . . . as the old-timers say, "The best is yet to come." As Weintraub says, "When I stop talking, you'll know I'm dead." With wit, wisdom, and the cool confidence that has colored his remarkable career, Jerry chronicles a quintessentially American journey, one marked by luck, love, and improvisation. The stories he tells and the lessons we learn are essential, not just for those who love movies and music, but for businessmen, entrepreneurs, artists . . . everyone.

From Publishers Weekly Hollywood power player Weintraub, now 72, is always in control and goes to great lengths to prove it: besides having managed musical legends like Presley, Sinatra and John Denver ("I cooked him from scratch"), Weintraub once closed a deal by faking a heart attack, and won the respect of one of Chicago's most powerful men, Arthur Wirtz, when he cursed Wirtz out for making him wait (Wirtz would go on to become one of Weintraub's mentors). Weintraub's also produced plays, TV shows, movies (from Nashville to the *Ocean's 11* franchise), and more, summing up his talent simply: "When I believe in something, it's going to get done." Edgy and honest but refreshingly spare in his criticism of stars, colleagues and family, Weintraub can be forgiven for glossing over speed bumps in his career (one failed business lost \$30 million before it closed in the mid-'80s) and occasionally showing his age with wandering rumination. As Weintraub repeatedly states, he is not a star, which perhaps that explains the disappointing omission of photos. Still, with a bold voice, a storied career, and a cast of superstars, his memoir makes a rousing insider tour of some five decades in the entertainment industry. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "Now, I could tell you stories about Jerry, but Jerry is the first and best to tell them. He's funny and grumpy and perfectly inappropriate. When it comes to work, nobody works harder. When it comes to charities, nobody guilts better. And when it comes to friendship, he has no peers. That's Jerry's great talent. He doesn't just light up a room, he lights it on fire. He's a great producer, a great organizer, a great friend, and truly the greatest showman on earth." (George Clooney) "He's somebody from another age." (Elliott Gould) Jerry has made a fascinating career for himself by finding ways to put on a show and sell tickets at the door. Jerry has bloomed wherever he's been planted. His life has put him in the company of greats like Elvis Presley, Frank Sinatra, The Rat Pack, Robert Altman, and Steven Soderbergh, to name a few. Jerry's story chronicles his journey that involved a lot of improvising, love, and of course, luck. This story isn't just for music or movie lovers, or entrepreneurs....it's for everyone. So, pick up your copy of *When I Stop Talking, You'll Know I'm Dead* by Jerry Weintraub. If there was a Mount Rushmore of legendary show business figures, he'd be one of them. (Don Imus) "When I Stop Talking is anything but a rote, let-the-record-show memoir . . . Although it's packed with stories he's surely been telling at dinner forever, the book is also a modest set of guidelines for how you too can be a successful mogul . . . it's written with stealth and style, doubtless shaped by his co-writer, Rich Cohen . . . The book, really, is a

performance, a monologue by a guy comfortable hanging with Armand Hammer at Leonid Brezhnev's funeral or with Joey Bishop at a deli. It's a show based on horse pucky on braggadocio. (RJ Smith, LA Times) This is a guy who can tell a story. And boy does he have stories to tell. Weintraub exhibits no false modesty or illusions. Pretend you don't hear the word no, he writes. I have accomplished almost nothing on the first or second or even the third try. It's called chutzpah, and it works. (People Magazine) There are five massive flat-screen TVs hanging on the living room wall of Jerry Weintraub's Beverly Hills mansion. Upstairs in the bedroom there are five more. The reason for all the high-def? I like to bet on football, says the 72-year-old bet producer, straightening his shirtcuffs as he settles into a comfortable sofa. I like it a lot. The guy can afford to lose a few bets. Over the years he has amassed a fortune gambling in the entertainment industry . . . The point is, Weintraub knows a thing or two about placing bets. And his latest venture sounds like a sure thing: an autobiography, pithily titled *When I Stop Talking, You'll Know I'm Dead: Useful Stories from a Persuasive Man* . . . a gripping personal story. (Entertainment Weekly) Old chestnuts from this journey are lovingly, and often hilariously, burnished in Weintraub's new memoir, *When I Stop Talking, You'll Know I'm Dead* . . . The book, which is in no way a scandalous, showbiz tell-all, but a good-humored, and often self-deprecating romp of outrageous will and amazing fortune, also paints a picture of uncanny bliss. (Nicole Laporte, The Daily Beast) It reads at times like a screenplay: a rags-to-riches tale complete with stunning reversals of fortune, punchy dialogue, and star cameos galore . . . Even the lows are enviable. . . In the book's most entertaining stories he not only has to sell an audience on a celebrity but also has to sell the celebrity on himself . . . I'll tell you my biggest talent, says Weintraub. When I believe in something, it's going to get done. No reader of his memoir will need to be convinced of that. (Nathaniel Rich, Vanity Fair)