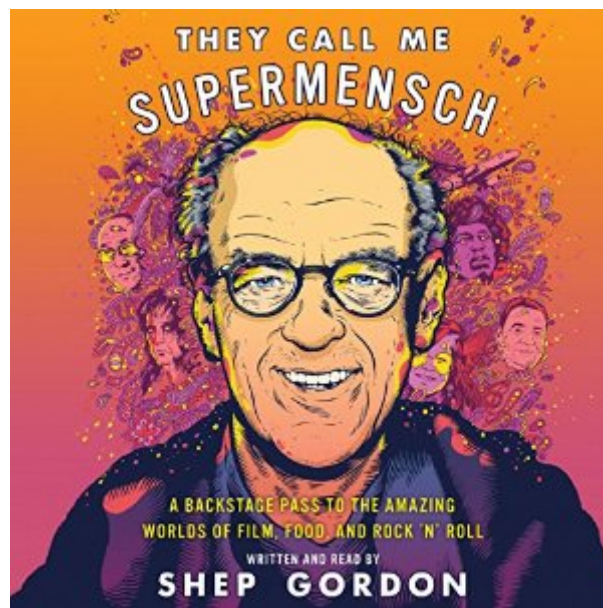


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# They Call Me Supermensch: A Backstage Pass To The Amazing Worlds Of Film, Food, And Rock'n'Roll



## Synopsis

An eye-popping peek into the entertainment industry from the magnetic force who has worked with an impeccable roster of stars throughout his storied career. In the course of his legendary career as a manager, an agent, and a producer, Shep Gordon has worked with and befriended some of the biggest names in the entertainment industry, from Alice Cooper to Bette Davis, Raquel Welch to Groucho Marx, Blondie to Jimi Hendrix, Sylvester Stallone to Salvador Dali, Luther Vandross to Teddy Pendergrass. He is also credited with inventing the "celebrity chef" and has worked with Nobu Matsuhisa, Emeril Lagasse, Wolfgang Puck, Roger Vergé, and many others, including His Holiness the Dalai Lama. In this wonderfully engaging memoir, the charismatic entertainment legend recalls his life, from his humble beginnings as a "shy, no self-esteem Jewish nebbisher kid with no ambition" in Oceanside, Long Island, to his unexpected rise as one of the most influential and respected personalities in show business, revered for his kindness, charisma - and fondness for a good time. Gordon shares riotous anecdotes and outrageous accounts of his freewheeling, globe-trotting experiences with some of the biggest celebrities of the past five decades, including his first meeting with Janice Joplin in 1968, when the raspy singer punched him in the face. Told with incomparable humor and heart, *They Call Me Supermensch* is a sincere, hilarious behind-the-scenes look at the worlds of music and entertainment from the consummate Hollywood insider.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

First off, please note that I received a free advanced copy of the book in exchange for my honest

feedback. I was so excited to get this opportunity and when I got my copy, I couldn't put it down. Over the past few years, many of my favorite artists have released their autobiographies. It is so enjoyable to read the stories behind the idols I had discovered along my rock and roll journey. I've also been thrilled to see the release of autobiographies of those connected to those that inspired me throughout my life and Shep Gordon's "They Call Me Supermensch" is certainly one of those. The most important thing I look for when reading these autobiographies is that the author must not only be able to tell the story that the fans already know but to do it in a way that is unique to the author's personality and Shep Gordon certainly does this. The way he relates his story is genuine and sincere. When I began reading the book, it was as if he and I were sitting down having a wonderful conversation about his life. I enjoyed the magnificent stories, the anecdotes and the reoccurring theme of various lessons on life. I hadn't read too far into the book when I ran across the statement, "create history, don't wait for it to happen." At that point I knew there would be many gems to follow and was not disappointed. I also need the author to relate something new to stories I am familiar with and again, Shep Gordon manages to do so. Whether it was his initial meeting with the Alice Cooper Group or the Dalai Lama, he was able to bring, not only a different perspective to the event, he was able to share some new information and in most cases an after-story to go with it. When reading autobiographies, I am also looking for inspiration.

Shep Gordon is the Four I's: Intelligent, Irreverent, Intuitive and Irresistible. I don't know Shep Gordon personally but have been hearing about him for years through mutual friends and they all seem to share widely divergent stories with the same exact post script: "Shep is just such a great guy." I say this because while I received a free advanced copy of the book asking for my feedback, I've never met him but strangely, I feel like I should. After seeing the film, "Supermensch" a few years ago, I added him to the "top 10 people I'd like to have coffee with list" which includes the Dalai Lama, Nelson Mandela and Vaclav Havel. And after three chapters of this book, Gordon got bumped to the "top 5" and not just because Mandela and Havel are dead but because like all of the above, Gordon has lived life 'full on' with contrast, contradiction and introspection. But that's not all that surprising for someone who has brushed up against the veil for a few moments and grasped that who we truly are is that which cannot be seen. And that probably why celebrity seems to carry a different meaning for this star cluttered philanthropic mensch. Without embarrassment or self consciousness, Gordon invites, coaxes and goads us into a front row seat and offers us a cocktail of excess, celebrity and insanity shaken and

stirred with insight and revelation. With humor, precision and compassion--extended to even the remotest of strangers--Gordon seems to find the energy (and the inclination) to reflect back love and humanity to everyone in his path. And for a guy who has embraced the moniker "Supermensch"™, there is humility and grace in his recollections--which are surprising and profound.

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