



PRESS RELEASE

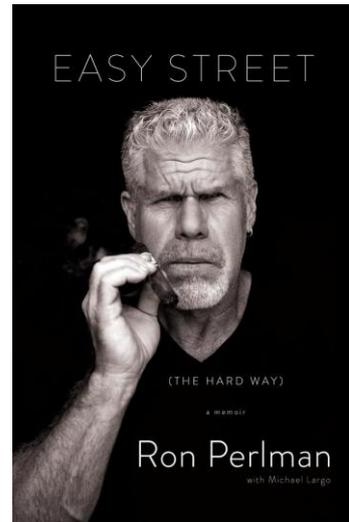
EASY STREET (THE HARD WAY)

A Memoir

By Ron Perlman

Published by Da Capo Press, 25 September, £17.99, HB

*'I called my agent with an edict: no more roles in which I am obscured by heavy make-up. That's when he decided to send me a script for a new TV pilot that was beginning to cast. Curiously it was called *Beauty and the Beast*. I called my manager, saying, 'This is for the role of the Beauty, right?'*



Ron Perlman has one of the most recognisable faces in Hollywood. A classically-trained actor, he cut his teeth in the off-Broadway theatres of his native New York, until being offered his first film role, playing a caveman in *Quest for Fire*. But it was playing Vincent in the TV series *Beauty and the Beast* that was his breakthrough role, and earned him a Golden Globe. He went onto many starring roles including in the *Hellboy* films, *Drive*, *Pacific Rim*, and *Sons of Anarchy* but his path to success was not straight-forward.

In his candid, hilarious and inspiring memoir, **EASY STREET**, Perlman talks about the early days growing up in a tough New York neighbourhood, the son of European Jewish émigrés. Always the odd kid out, he was taunted for his looks, but it was his love for the movies, a passion he shared with his father, that proved his way out.

Perlman talks frankly, and with a great deal of humour, about his struggle to make a living as an actor. He gives revealing insights into the ins-and-outs of filmmaking, and how he nearly got kicked off his first film set for not being able to climb a tree! He talks about working with iconic actors such as Sean Connery and Marlon Brando, and how he became best friends with Sammy Davis Jr. and discovered that Frank Sinatra never missed an episode of *Beauty and the Beast*.

In his personal life he writes movingly about how his father's early death affected him, his brother's manic depression, and eventual suicide, and the love of his wife, Opal, who he married in 1981, and with whom he has two children.

With nearly 200 film credits during a 40-year career, Perlman's story clearly demonstrates the power of persistence, and provides inspiration to the next generation of performers.

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