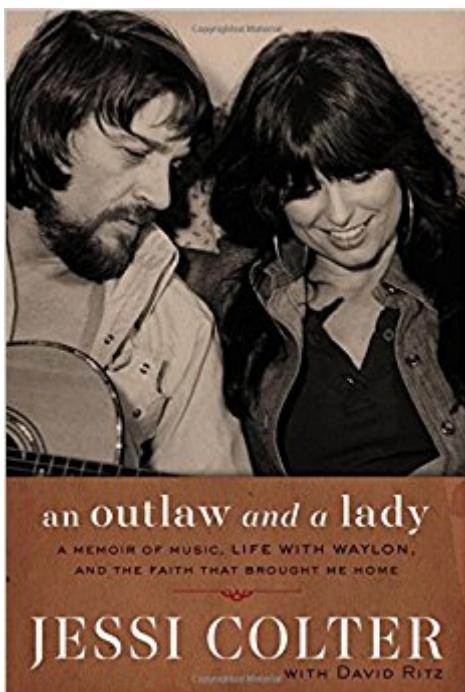


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# An Outlaw And A Lady: A Memoir Of Music, Life With Waylon, And The Faith That Brought Me Home



## Synopsis

Renowned songwriter, singer, and wife of Waylon Jennings writes an intimate, enormously entertaining memoir of American music, of life with Waylon and the Outlaws, and of faith lost and found. The daughter of a Pentecostal evangelist and a race-car driver, Jessi Colter played piano and sang in church before leaving Arizona to tour with rock-n-roll pioneer Duane Eddy, whom she married. Colter became a successful recording artist, appearing on American Bandstand and befriending stars such as the Everly Brothers and Chet Atkins, while her songs were recorded by Nancy Sinatra, Dottie West, and others. Her marriage to Eddy didn't last, however, and in 1969 she married the electrifying Waylon Jennings. Together, they made their home in Nashville which in the 1970s, was ground zero for roots music, drawing Bob Dylan, Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Kris Kristofferson, Shel Silverstein, and others to the Nashville Sound. And Jessi was at the center of it all, the only woman on the landmark *Wanted: The Outlaws* album, the record that launched the Outlaw Country genre and was the first country album to go platinum. She also tasted personal commercial success with the #1-single "I'm Not Lisa." But offstage, life was a challenge, as Waylon pursued his addictions and battled his demons. Having drifted from the church as a young woman, Jessi returned to her faith and found in it a source of strength in the turmoil of living with Waylon. In the 1980s, Waylon helped launch the super group The Highwaymen with Willie Nelson, Johnny Cash, and Kris Kristofferson, and the hits kept rolling, as did Waylon's reckless living. Amid it all, Jessi faithfully prayed for her husband until finally, at Thanksgiving 2001, Waylon found Jesus, just months before he died. *An Outlaw and a Lady* is a powerful story of American music, of love in the midst of heartache, and of faith that sustains.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Jessi Colter is one of America's most beloved singer-songwriters. Her storied career began in the sixties when, encouraged by her first husband, guitar legend Duane Eddy, she composed hit songs for Dottie West, Nancy Sinatra, and Hank Locklin. Best known for her collaboration with her husband, Waylon Jennings, and for her 1975 country-pop crossover hit "I'm Not Lisa," she was the only woman featured on the landmark album *Wanted: The Outlaws* that forever changed American music. She has fifteen major-label albums to her credit, and her songs and records have sold in the tens of millions. She lives near Scottsdale, Arizona. David Ritz, called the "first call celebrity collaborator" by the New York Times, recently wrote Willie Nelson's bestselling *It's A Long Story*. He has collaborated on memoirs with, among others, Ray Charles, Aretha Franklin, and B. B. King. His books include Scott Stapp's *Sinner's Creed*; Nik Wallenda's *Balance: A Story of Faith, Family, and Life on the Line*; and *Messengers: Portraits of African American Ministers, Evangelists, Gospel Singers, and Other Messengers of the Word*. He lives in Los Angeles, California.

In Jessi's awesome new book, you truly get everything: the wild & wonderful husband (or two). The total flashback to that unbelievable 1970s era when these unique people were fighting to make their music and make a difference. The road. The sleepless nights. The parties. The laughter. The success. The joy. The fear. One of the things I liked best was the insight into her mother's sorrows and obstacles, as a female evangelist. For all the contrived labels attached to Colter and her milieu in the '70s, Jessi truly came from that kind of hard-scrabble, wild west Arizona dirt that could actually grow some real mavericks. Her outlaw creds are as gritty, real, and well-earned as Waylon's and Willie's. Colter tells the beautiful story of her unique life in this memoir and she does it with flair and wit and dignity. Waylon fans will rejoice, for sure. He was an overwhelming figure in her existence. But you also get a real glimpse at Jessi's own background, her artistry, and what made her the kind of woman who was actually able to handle a guy like Waylon Jennings. This memoir is a blessing. You'll laugh, cry, and be delighted from start to finish. She tells hard-core truths and doesn't shrink from the difficult times, but the whole thing is rendered with love and spiritual richness.

and heartbreak insight. Buy it, and let the Lady Outlaw tell you one heck of an amazing story. You'll never get an intimate perspective like this again. This is Jessi Colter's side of the story. And it's WONDERFUL.

I've been a Waylon fan for years and loved when he and Jessi sang together. I bought this book mainly because I was super curious about Jessi's half of 'the story'. I could hardly put the book down. Such a tribute to Jessi's dedication to the deep love she had for her man and her love for the Lord. This love story paralleled my own in a few ways so I felt such a connection in so many areas. I am always amazed at how God lays in your lap everything you need right when you need it to help you get to the place He is leading you. I was 2 1/2 years into grieving for my husband and a home remodel that simply needed to be done, not that I really wanted to do it, brought about a cleansing of my soul and allowed me to completely cry my heart out and begin to let go of my man. Although I felt a freeing of my life during this time I was feeling a bit guilty but yet couldn't seem to stop the roller coaster I was on in the letting go process. God laid this book in my lap. I was not looking for it at all. I dropped it on my Kindle simply because I liked these people and they were a happy part of my past. I was amazed at how much my life had been a bit like Jessi's. I had an ornery husband although not to the extreme of Waylon. Beer drinking, cigarette smoking, women appreciating, wife loving, etc. I found myself laughing, crying and every emotion in between during the whole book. But when I got to the last chapter I felt hope for whatever time I have left on this earth. I found honesty in the feelings that come from letting go. I found forgiveness for myself for thinking I might possibly be able to love again although I too am very content living alone and after 51 1/2 years with my guy, he is everywhere I look. He will always be a part of me. But because of this book I am on my way to complete healing. Thank you Jessi for writing this book and thank you God for putting it in my possession.

I read this book last night and it was everything I was hoping it would be. I couldn't put it down. What a love story.

Jessi Colter was a classmate of mine in high school and so after our local paper published a review of the book I purchased it. It did meet my expectations, probably even went beyond them. It was well written and very interesting. It was all in all a good purchase.

I pre-ordered this book and could hardly wait until it came out - and I was not disappointed!! HIGHLY

recommend reading this book; it is a page-turner!

Interesting read

Great read about an amazing women. Truly fascinating story of one of country music's greatest couples. Very good book about your life

Couldn't put it down. I gained a huge amount of respect for Jessi. Her talent, her convictions, her choices and her patience and her journey. Great insight to the music business along the way.

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