

Table Of Contents

Foreward

Introduction

PART 1

Chapter 1

THE END

The gutter; jail; bottom of the barrel.

Chapter 2

THE BEGINNING

Something about my spurious birth; forced delivery; respiratory problems; eczema; earliest memories; how Destiny maneuvered me into such an unusual profession — against my will! No father; the battle for life during the war years; sister given up for adoption; front page news on the day of my birth, Dec. 6, 1943: “CHURCHILL, FDR, STALIN — BIG THREE MEET AT YALTA CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS END OF WAR!”

Chapter 3

CABBAGE TOWN

The rooming house...left alone with prostitutes, pimps, pariahs and drunks; foster homes... where the female “caregivers” beat me for wetting the bed; the crying... the loneliness, etc....

Chapter 4

SCHOOL DAZE

Rats! Bats! Roaches! Growing up in abject poverty in the slums of “Olde CabbageTown,” where life in the projects — notoriously known as Regent Park — was in fact no life at all.

Chapter 5

TORONTO’S MECA

My earliest memories begin with the giant traveling extravaganza that is “Conklin Shows!” The show’s fortune-telling gypsy tells me “You will rise very high in society, some day...as a prophet!”

Chapter 6

HITHER, THITHER AND YON...

Chapter 7

THE HUCKLEBERRY FINN SYNDROME

Life on Toronto Islands during the 1950’s; watching Marilyn Bell — the first and youngest swimmer ever to cross Lake Ontario — stroke her way to glory: I go out to meet her in my old dilapidated row boat — no oars, just pieces of wood to row with — to greet her, and sink! We survive Hurricanes Hazel and Connie!

Chapter 7

THE MORE-MOVING CONTINUUM

“Hey, wop! Greaseball!” Racism rears its ugly head. Ostracized at school for being “slow,” “stupid,” a condition now recognized as spatial dyslexia; finding my niche as “the class clown” which eventually I parlay into a full-time livelihood as an entertainer. I meet the great pantomimist Marcel Marceau, backstage at the Royal Alexandra Theater after being chosen best mime at (Mandala) Park

Public School. I am mesmerized by this magnificent theater! What a contrast to Cabbagetown — and what a culture shock!

Chapter 9

**THE ELEVENTH HOUR CHILD*

I fail 8th grade, am told I will not graduate with the class, then informed that I won the city-wide (Women's Auxiliary) Board of Education essay contest (which was compulsory for all grade eights); principal forced to apologize in front of entire student body and faculty members (for failing me), as two Board members present me with high school books; how I got locked in an underground crypt (for Bishops) — with a ghost! — in St. James' Cemetery.

Chapter 10

MACK'S GYM

"The strongest man in the world" (pound-for-pound) takes me under his wing, saves me from the street.

Chapter 11

HIGH SCHOOL

I win coveted bodybuilding titles of Mr. Canada, Mr. Ontario, Mr. Toronto, Mr. Hercules, Mr. Wasaga Beach — plus become the hit of the school variety show as "circus strong man"; my head becomes swelled and then gets knocked off its block by a scrawny Golden Gloves boxing champion; once again, I eat humble pie — not to mention mother earth. At seventeen, I discover the shocking truth about my birth — and nationality... "You mean I really am a wop!!!" — then drop out of school, totally confused — but suddenly developing a 'craving for spaghetti'!

Chapter 12

LOUNGE LIZARDS: BOOZE, BROADS AND BOORS

John F. Kennedy is assassinated November 22, 1963, the day I take my first sax lesson and begin my musical career while working for the United Appeal, aka United Community Fund (where I meet legendary comedian Bob Hope); demonstrating bodybuilding and weightlifting atop the CHUM radio station booth at the CNE (Canadian National Exhibition, inside the “Princes’ Gates”), along with comedians “Larry and Garry” (Larry Solway and Gary Ferrier).

Chapter 13

SHALL WE DANCE?

The great Cab Calloway (the “Hi-dee-hi-dee-hi-dee-ho” man), then touring with the incredible Harlem Globetrotters, suddenly yanks me from my Maple Leaf Garden’s seat and forces me to do the twist with him (“The Twist?” — Boy, am I ever dating myself!); the crowd gives me a standing ovation. (Coincidentally, I had just recently won a twist contest); I bow... show business! — I’m hooked!!

Chapter 14

AC/DC

I spend several years in a “gay/lesbian” band (indeed, a book in itself). Flying down the highway in the dead of night from Kapuskasing in Northern Ontario with the eighteen-year-old “woman” that I had just practically “kidnapped” (actually, it didn’t take much coaxing — we were so hot for each other that they had to throw cold water on us just to break us apart!); followed in hot pursuit down the highway by her five crazy French brothers and ex-boyfriend (a former Ontario wrestling champion!).

Chapter 15

THE LOST YEARS

Drunken orgies...booze, drugs, fights, etc. Nick Drury, my bass player — and I mean “base” — who is the personification of The Bad Seed; David Clayton Thomas (front singer for Blood, Sweat & Tears); “Rompin” Ronnie Hawkins and life on the Yonge Street strip; The Hawk’s Nest, The Brown Derby Tavern (“Joe King and the Zaniaks”), the Colonial, the Zanzibar, the Town Tavern, and the Le Coq’dor.... Ford Hotel (across from the old Bus Terminal on Bay Street).

Chapter 16

A CASE OF PREMONITION

An eerie tale of clairvoyance that saves a young woman’s life — in the nick of time!

Chapter 17

THE SLIPPERY SLOPE

Disastrous marriage; death of a child; divorce; dissolution of band; 24-then 48-hour drinking binges; Montreal (Queen Elizabeth Hilton), Churchill Falls, Goose Bay, Labrador — near plane crash! Nervous breakdown; trying to get back home, broke and destitute during one of the worst snow storms of the century — Christmas, 1973; hitting the first of several spiraling levels of bottom, in a long series of nervous breakdowns.... I’m so low, I have to jump *up* — just to touch bottom!

PART 2

Chapter 18

PAUL RIMSTEAD

I meet Paul “The Rimmer” Rimstead... a big-hearted, eccentric, two-fisted-drinking, Toronto Sun columnist; he saves me from

myself by setting me on the road to an exciting new career as “Anthony Carr, The World’s Most Documented Psychic!” which ultimately carries me to the very pinnacle of success as, according to Phil Donahue, “...the darling of the talk show circuit.”

Chapter 19

THE ADOPTION TRIANGLE

Reunited with my sister — after 30 years!

Chapter 20

TORONTO SUN YEARS

I write a syndicated palmistry column, “Hands of Destiny”...but first have to go back to school, since my command of basic grammar is at the primary level.

Chapter 21

TELEVISION: LOOKING GREAT, SOUNDING MORONIC

I am introduced to television through a meeting with Allen Spraggett, godfather of modern-day parapsychology and author of fourteen books on the subject; “LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!”...I am petrified! Frozen with fear — I numbly nod my head in assent to all of his questions. (Thank God Spraggett has verbal diarrhea! — I didn’t have to say a word.)

Chapter 22

RE-EDUCATION

The arduous task of learning stuff I should have learned back in grade school.... AGONIZING! is the only word for it. I turn down an offer from ‘Simon and Shuster’ of Canada to do a palmistry book because I insist on doing my own writing; the editor presses and gets fired for exceeding his budget trying to convince me to change my mind; we go on a three day drunk!

Chapter 23

DRINKING & WRITING

Menage-a-drunks!.... Haunted Bed! — 1,2,3; “Curse of the Haunted Bed!” Ghost-writing for Allan Spraggett...Countess D’Salega (direct descendent of Vlad The Impaler — Dracula!)

Chapter 24

BEN E. KING

Meeting the legendary R & B singer/composer Ben E. King (of “Stand By Me” fame), who hires me to play in his band; many years later, after he suffers a long slump, I predict his meteoric rise — back to world prominence!

Chapter 25

CRIME/HOMICIDE

I become involved in several murder investigations — including those of Beaches area lawyer, Barbara Schliefer, Jenny Isford (Argo Sunshine Girl), B. Hanson (co-ed student in Barrie, Ontario), and rapist — child murderer, Paul Bernardo (whose hand-prints I possess). “Ghoul Friends”: I visit morgues in Toronto, New York and Los Angeles to obtain hand-impressions of murder victims in an attempt to investigate the connection, if any, between violent death and the length of the life-line.

PART 3

Chapter 26

ROYALTY — INCLUDING CROWNED HEADS — POLITICAL AND CRIMINAL!

I meet, read for, and get “royally” blasted with “Lady Iris” Mountbatten (cousin to Queen Elizabeth II); I am introduced to, and read for, Count Alex von Svoboda, the world’s most prominent sculptor/artist/architect who regularly visited and designed sever-

al medallions for His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, and who designed the great Toronto cathedral for mining czar Steven Roman in commemoration of the Pope's visit to Toronto. (I used to refer to Steven Roman's occasional business failures as "The Fall of the Roman Empire".... And I ask, "Why were you slobbering all over the Pope's ring?")

I tell Roman — to his face — that he will die in his 63rd year. (He is pissed off.) I tell von Svoboda that some day he will come face-to-face with the Pope; prophecy is fulfilled several years later when he is commissioned to design new Vatican coins for His Holiness! My very private interview with Maggie (Margaret) Trudeau, former 'off-the-wall' wife of one-time Canadian Prime Minister, Pierre Elliot Trudeau. I read the palms of Queen Juliana of the Netherlands. I predict the coming state of "impoverished gentility" for Hungarian Baroness, von Vittorach. I am compromised by Countessa d'Salaga, a direct descendant of Count Vladimar ("Vlad The Impaler" — Dracula!), who amazes me with her psychic prowess and artistic gifts.... A great lady, indeed!

Chapter 27

FACE-TO-FACE WITH THE BEAST!

I come head-to-head with Mikhail Gorbachev — and accuse the then most powerful man in Russia of displaying The Mark of the Beast on his forehead, which is mentioned in the book of Revelation (plenty of photographs of us together, since it was carried on international television), and which is always (vainly) covered with makeup. (This tells me he and his handlers must also be cognizant of the Biblical prophecy.)

Chapter 28

SPY VS. SPY

CSIS (Canadian Security Intelligence System), Canada's version of the FBI, investigates me after the "Gorbachev incident" because of my blood relationship (second cousin) to the notorious 1960's "Russian" spy, Gordon Arnold Lonsdale (a.k.a. Colonel Konon Molody of the KGB), about whom several books, plays, and mov-

ies were penned — including the autobiography, *Spy*. It is alleged author Ian Fleming modeled his famous James Bond character after him. CSIS insists he was a Russian-born exported mole, but I prove he was born in Cobalt, Ontario, Canada in 1924, as was my mother, his first cousin.

PART 4

Chapter 29

A GANGSTER STORY — “THE MOB”

The notorious Volpe, Popalia (‘Johnny Pops’), Maggadino, and Roy Pasquale ‘Crime’ families. I predict the violent deaths of Paul Volpe, Roy Pasquale, and Johnny “pops” Papalia — to their faces!

Chapter 30

RAGING BULL

New York: A tête-à-tête with former world middle-weight champion, Jake “The Raging Bull” Lamotta; I read his palm the hard way — fist first!

Legendary silent screen icon, Lillian Gish, takes me to tea and on a memorable tour of filmdom through her Hollywood family album. She turns the pages and each photo evokes bitter-sweet memories for her as a tear betrays long-forgotten emotions.... She becomes lost in her reveries, slipping further and further into the past — forgetting, even, that I’m sitting there until the doorbell of her Manhattan apartment rings and abruptly returns her to the present.

Toronto: Royal York Hotel.... International Swedish actress, Liv Ullman dismisses entire media camp — including Time magazine, much to its chagrin — from her suites atop the Royal York, to ensure a private reading from me.

In Toronto, on the *Shirley Show*, I meet superstar actor Sylvester Stallone’s mom, astrologer Jacqueline Stallone, who takes me to

Hollywood where I meet Stars! — Stars! — and more stars!! As the new kid in town, I am feted like a king! I read the hands of George Raft, James (“you dirty rat”) Cagney, Johnny Weismuller (the original Tarzan), singer Al Jareau (“Baby...we gonna’ make it...this time...”) Jack Klugman (“The Odd Couple”), Vic Damone, Peggy Lee, Jane Powell (on whom I had a crush, since my childhood days on Center Island, remember?), Jane Russell, Tom Cruise, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Eddie Murphy, Sylvester Stallone, Barbara Streisand, Keanu Reeves, Michelle Pfeiffer, Michael Douglas, Cuba Gooding Jr., Whitney Houston, Goldie Hawn, Debbie Reynolds, Larry Fishbourne (“Hoodlum”), Harrison Ford, Liona Boyd (first lady of the classical guitar) — and on and on.

Chapter 31

LAS VEGAS

After I meet Jacqueline (Jackie) Stallone, famed astrologer and mother of superstar movie actor, Sylvester Stallone, she and I hit it off professionally and do many television shows together. She tells me the truth about Stallone’s father who, to say the least, was “different!”

Chapter 32

LA CREME DE LA CREME OF SPECTACULAR SHOWS

How the incredible production of “Wonders of the Unexplained” came about: a two-hour world television premier extravaganza hosted by “ghoul guru”, Vincent Price, and featuring this planet’s most acclaimed psychics and spiritualists — including me! — and was simultaneously broadcasting from Scotland (MacBeth’s castle), the Chicago Police Department, Los Angeles, New York City and Toronto — quite an *undertaking*, indeed!

Chapter 33

THE DSYLECTIC PSYCHIC

How I appeared on the internationally syndicated Shirley Show and predicted, “There will not be a devastating Los Angeles

earthquake this year,” *on the very day it occurred!* Gary Dunford, Toronto Sun, writes: “It’s the most accurate prediction he never made! Even as the streets of San Francisco were rocking and rolling, there he was, his little face peering out from their TV screens assuring them that this was not happening!!” Geraldo said to me, “Either you are the most dyslectic psychic in the world — or the world’s worst!”

Oh well...you can't win 'em all!