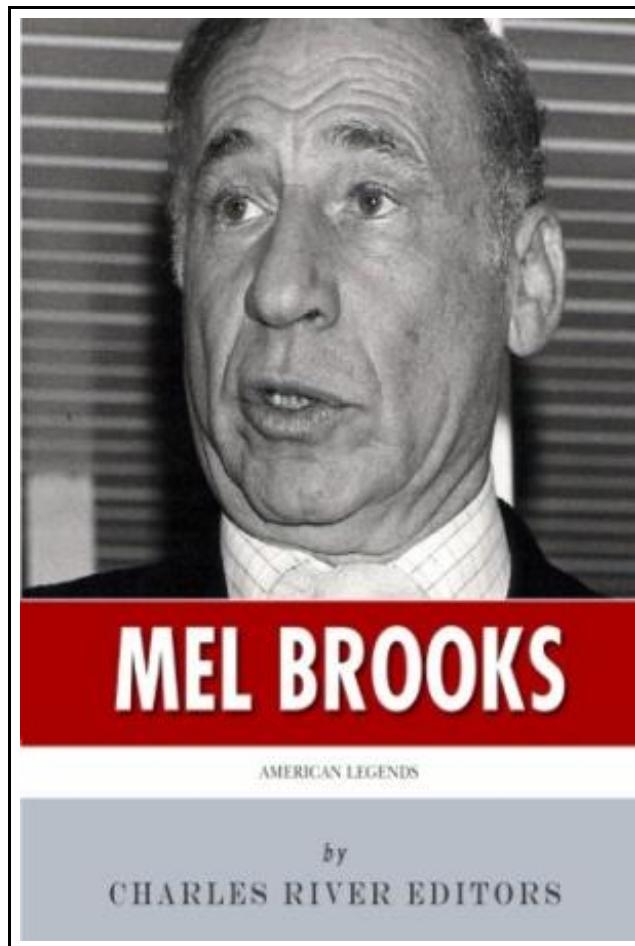


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Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Includes pictures \*Includes Brooks quotes about his life and career \*Includes a bibliography for further reading If you're quiet, you're not living. You've got to be noisy and colorful and lively. - Mel Brooks A lot of ink has been spilled covering the lives of history's most influential figures, but how much of the forest is lost for the trees? In Charles River Editors American Legends series, readers can get caught up to speed on the lives of America's most important men and women in the time it takes to finish a commute, while learning interesting facts long forgotten or never known. One of the more well-known Mel Brooks quips is his statement, in reference to his birth, that We were so poor, my mother couldn't afford to have me; the lady next door gave birth to me. While obviously fabricated, the story is worthy of note, as it illustrates Brooks' self-deprecating Jewish humor and his way of transforming a childhood of deep adversity into fodder for comedy. This is, of course, one among many famous Mel Brooks remarks, and over his decades-long career, Brooks has built a veritable treasure chest of them. Although many of his forebears in the Jewish comedy tradition built their success on slapstick comedy (here one thinks of the Marx Brothers and Jerry Lewis in particular), Brooks' humor has always been more verbal than physical, closer to Woody Allen than Jerry Lewis. Indeed, his jokes and famous one-liners rank among those of Woody Allen in the pantheon of great Jewish verbal wit. As much as Brooks invites comparison to other Jewish comedians, there also is no doubt...

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