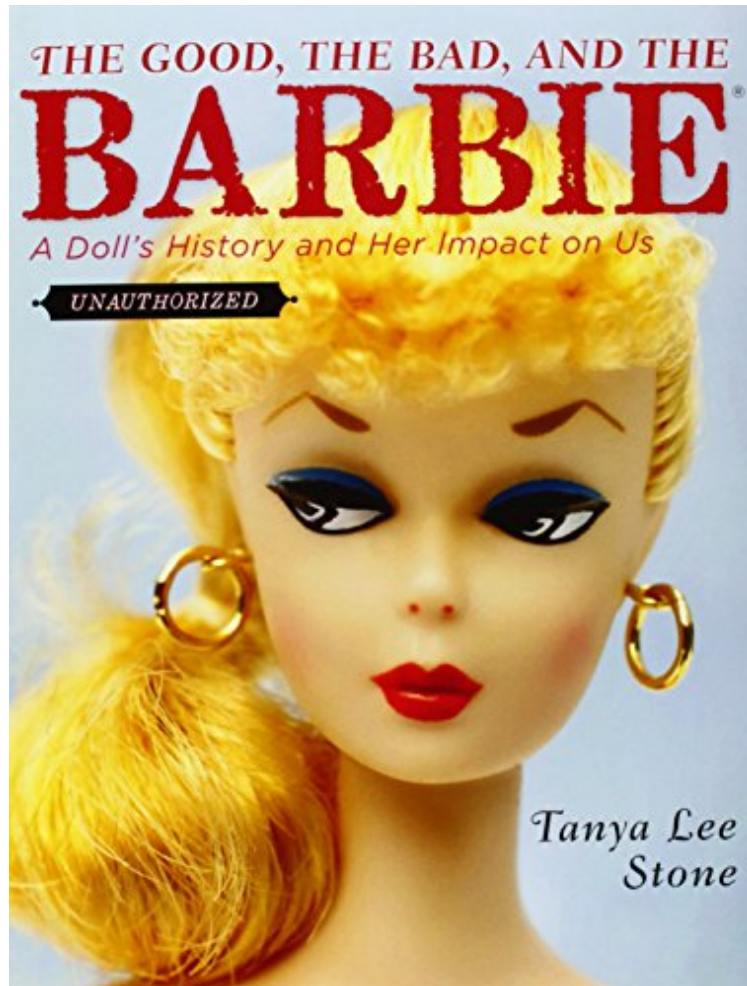


The Good, the Bad, and the Barbie: A Doll's History and Her Impact on Us

Tanya Lee Stone

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#240723 in Books Viking Juvenile 2010-10-14 2010-10-14Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 10.00 x .50 x 7.751, 1.38 #File Name: 0670011878130 pages | File size: 78.Mb

Tanya Lee Stone : The Good, the Bad, and the Barbie: A Doll's History and Her Impact on Us before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Good, the Bad, and the Barbie: A Doll's History and Her Impact on Us:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Review AssignmentBy CustomerThe Good, The Bad, And The Barbie introduces characters such as Ruth Handler, Isadore Elliott Handler, Harold Matson, and Barbie. The main character of this book is Barbie because she is the doll that everyone is influenced by and has many different opinions about. Ruth Handler and Isadore Handler, also known as "Elliott" are also very important because they are the main reasons why Barbie became Barbie. If it wasn't for them going out of their way and starting from a simple project "Plexiglass" assigned for schoolwork, Barbie wouldn't be here. Harold Matson also helped the company Mattel

become Mattel because Harold chose to work with his old co-workers and start a business that ended up being a company known by many. The main conflict throughout this book is Ruth trying to please everyone's liking. Everyone has their own opinions but some opinions that get out can shut down Mattel. There have been protests and feminist statements towards Barbie about her body size, height, facial features, etc. Some people throughout the world didn't feel that Barbie left a bad influence on them but some of them did. Solving this conflict wasn't very easy especially because it is towards everyone's feelings. During this problem they have made more mistakes by putting a weight scale that said 110 pounds for her size, and voice input saying "I don't know how to do math." which left a negative vibe towards body issues and blonde stereotypes. Two important plot events was when Isadore got assigned to do an art project with Plexiglass and started making doll furniture and Ruth decided to start making dolls after seeing a very well known doll in Europe called the Lilli Doll. The second one would be naming the dolls official names after their daughter and son, Barbara and Kenneth "Ken". I loved *The Good, The Bad, And The Barbie* because it shows how many people in the world have different opinions. This story is a great way to look at a problem in different perspectives because when you are in a situation you really only listen to your side and the other person's story but in this book you get to listen to a lot more people's perspective. One part of the book I loved was when Ruth dated Isadore then broke up with him then got back together then broke up then became married because it shows how much she has been through other than the company. Another part I loved was the naming of the dolls. Naming the dolls after her daughter and son was pretty awesome because even though she was super busy and wasn't really a motherly figure at the time she still named the money-making dolls after her children. The last part I liked about the story was listening to all the negative vibes from people, especially teenagers. They showed that a lot of people are self-conscious about themselves and it is a very negative thing. I would recommend this book to feminist and people who love perspective stories because this story contains a lot of those two things. Feminism is the biggest part of this book so it would be amazing to read if you contribute towards that.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Gave it to my niece for her Birthday and she loved it!

By CustomerA very different take on Barbie dolls. Gave it to my niece for her Birthday and she loved it!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Very good book on Barbie.

By J. SheaBought for my mom's birthday. Impressed with the overall quality of this book. I am not an expert on the subject, but I read through it and was impressed.

During her unparalleled fifty-year history, Barbie has been the doll that some people love-and some people love to hate. There's no question she's influenced generations, but to what end? Acclaimed nonfiction author Tanya Lee Stone takes an unbiased look at how Barbie became the icon that she is, and at the impact that she's had on our culture (and vice versa). Featuring passionate anecdotes and memories from a range of girls and women, a foreword by Meg Cabot, and original color photographs, this book explores the Barbie phenomenon in a brand-new light.

From School Library JournalGr 6 Up-In the prologue, Meg Cabot describes her desire for a Barbie and her mother's reluctance to purchase one, basically summing up the conflict surrounding the doll since its introduction in 1959. Readers learn about Mattel Toys and the background behind Barbie's concept and development, how it was a solution for girls who wanted to imagine adult roles rather than just play mother, and details about inventor Ruth Handler. But more than that, Stone reveals the pathos behind so many relationships of girls with Barbie: those who cherished her and those who were negatively influenced. Was she a destructive role model or just a toy? Experts disagree. In this balanced overview, both sides of the quandary are addressed. Barbie's different roles, graduating from nurse to surgeon, stewardess to pilot, and always a woman of her own means, reflect societal changes over the past 50 years as well. Numerous black-and-white photos feature the doll in her various incarnations, while eight center pages deliver color versions as well as images of Barbie-inspired art. Inset quotes appear on a Barbie handbag icon. The author maintains her signature research style and accessible informational voice and includes extensive source notes and bibliographical information.

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From Booklist*Starred * Everyone knows Barbie. And almost everyone has an opinion of her. Stone has done her homework and offers a particularly well-researched read. But she has also gotten many women (and men) to reminisce, comment, and argue about Barbie, and these voices add sparkle. Stone starts things off on a biographical note as she introduces Ruth Handler, Barbie's creator and a shrewd businesswoman who instinctively understood the Barbie concept would be a success even as detractors, mostly male, told her it wouldn't. The focus then moves to Barbie herself, in all her vast and varied incarnations. Much of Barbie's story is one of evolution, and readers will find it particularly fascinating to read that although Barbie was a leader in diversity, cloned into various roles and cultures, some customers still didn't find her ethnic enough, most often lamenting that no matter her color, Barbie usually had "good" hair. Near the end of the book, just when one wonders if Stone will mention what went on under Barbie's clothes, she goes there in a chapter called, "Banning, Bashing, and in the Buff." Closing on a higher plane, the book concludes with "Barbie as Art."

Source notes, a bibliography, and lots of images, including an inset of color photos, add to an offering that pleases and intrigues. Grades 7-10. --Ilene Cooper Winner of the Golden Kite Award"History writers don't get better than Tanya

Lee Stone. *The Good, the Bad, and the Barbie* is balanced, funny, provocative—and most of all, important for anyone wanting to understand girlhood in America.”—E. Lockhart, New York Times bestselling author of *We Were Liars* “This is no mere Barbie book. This is a how-to manual about being a girl: a strong, sparky, awesome girl, with Barbie in hand or in the nearest deumpster!”—Lauren Myracle, New York Times bestselling author * “Stone has done her homework and offers a particularly well-researched read. But she has also gotten many women (and men) to reminisce, comment, and argue about Barbie, and these voices add sparkle.”—Booklist, starred review * “Stone reveals the pathos behind so many relationships of girls with Barbie: those who cherished her and those who were negatively influenced...In this balanced overview, both sides of the quandary are addressed... Accessible...and includes extensive source notes and bibliographical information.”—School Library Journal, starred review * “Stone tantalizes with her intriguing survey of Barbie. indicating an audience of teens and adults rather than children. The striking cover, open design with numerous photographs and collegial voice will appeal to younger readers.”—Kirkus, starred review “Stone calmly covers Barbie's creation by Ruth Handler, the formation of Mattel, and the doll's unpromising launch among sexpot-resistant buyers at a national toy fair. From there on, though, the gloves come off, and Stone allows the voices of women and teens, scholars and collectors, lovers and haters to thrash out whether Barbie has single-handedly set an unattainable standard of female beauty, joined forces with manipulative media to trash adolescent self-esteem, acted as the progressive model for girls to envision gender barrier-crashing careers, or reigned as-duh-just a really cool doll with really pretty clothes...Notes, index, and an extensive bibliography may lure report writers into unconsidered territory, and teen book clubs might want to nominate this as a fiery nonfiction selection.”—BCCB “Stone takes an unapologetic look at Barbie's life, documenting the changes in Barbie through the years, her impact on society and the numerous controversies surrounding her existence.”—Children's Literature “Stone's evenhanded, eye-opening cultural history examines [Barbie] quoting a myriad of sources to reveal the devotion and loathing generated by a fifty-plus-year-old hunk of molded plastic.”—The Horn Book “Filled with photographs of Barbie dolls past and present as well as quotes about her from nationally known figures and children alike, Stone's fascinating and balanced account reveals a toy of almost unmatched influence.”—Publishers Weekly