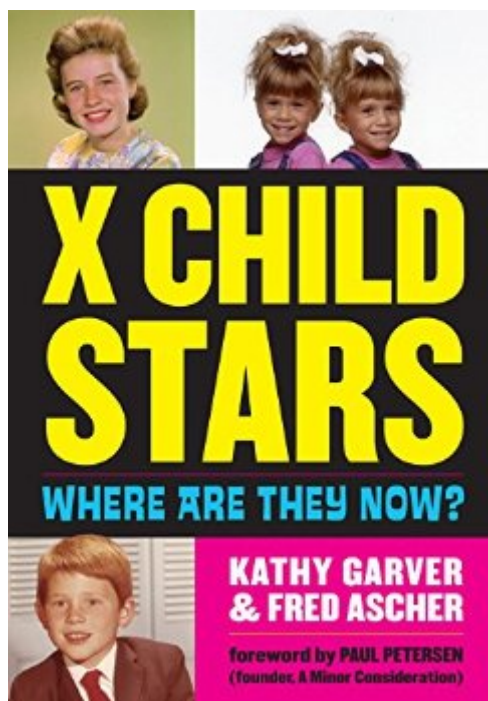


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# X Child Stars: Where Are They Now?



## Synopsis

This enlightening book is the go-to guide for fans for biographical information, rare photos, and interesting trivia about their favorite child stars, shows, series, networks, and the times that defined the shows. Spanning forty years of television history, this book details both the success stories and misfortunes of many child stars. Included in this book are the stories of Anissa Jones, Buffy on Family Affair, who tragically died from a drug overdose at the age of eighteen, as well as Ron Howard, who starred in both The Andy Griffith Show and Happy Days, and who later became an Academy Award-winning director. A child star herself, Kathy Garver profiles these and other legends of classic television in a book that will answer the question: Where are they now?

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Very disappointing book. The author padded her brief information about each person by double spacing. She never lets the reader really know anything about the child stars at all. You never feel that you know much of anything about the actors and actresses mentioned in the book. I was disappointed that she didn't discuss Elinor Donahue as one of the children of "Father Knows Best."

She has a very poor writing style and her use of the word "episodics" over 100 times makes the reader say "What is that word and why is it used so much?"

Rowman & Littlefield and NetGalley provided me with an electronic copy of X Child Stars, in exchange for an honest review. Smartly laid out by decade, X Child Stars: Where Are They Now? is a virtual "who's who" of child television actors and actresses. The authors did a good job of displaying the shows in which the child actors starred, with the episode count, the network, and the number of years the show was on air. I particularly liked the show descriptions and, where applicable, the accompanying photos. Official photographs should have been included for each, as they would have been a good frame of reference for the less popular shows. It also would have been nice for updated pictures of the former child stars to be included. There are a couple of areas where X Child Stars could have been more successful, especially with regards to editing. The writing style was not all that professional, with short sentences and off the cuff comments. The authors spent too much time describing their personal connections to some of the actors, leaving some of the book unbalanced. In the end, the authors tried to cover too much ground in this book, ending up giving no more information than what a reader could find on certain legitimate internet websites. X Child Stars does provide that nostalgic look into some of history's most beloved shows, but it just did not go far enough.

I really enjoy this book, it tells me about some child stars I loved watching on television. I was unhappy to see that Angel Flores, a child star from The New Mickey Mouse Club had passed away. I used to think he was so cute.

This book was ok, it would've been 100% better if there had been pictures of the people as child stars and a more current picture. I also noticed that some child stars were left out. For example the actor that played Patty Duke's brother on the Patty Duke show wasn't mentioned, just Patty Duke and the actor that played her boyfriend. Otherwise it was a good very short snippets of child stars and what they did after childhood.

X Child Stars: Where Are They Now? by Kathy Garver, Fred Ascher is a highly recommended guide that answers the titular question. The entries are short and succinct, which allows many, many entries and coverage of a large number of TV shows. The book covers forty years of television history, starting with early shows from the 1950's, such as "I Love Lucy" and "The Adventures of

Ozzie and Harriet" through to more recent series from the 1980's, like "The Wonder Years," "Growing Pains," and "Rosanne." Each entry has how many seasons, the number of episodes were made, the network, if it was in black and white or color, the debut date and the ending date. This is followed by a brief description of the show, some entries have a cast photo from the show, and then a concise summary of what life held for each the child stars afterward the show ended. There are some stories of great success and accomplishments later in life, like Ron Howard. There are many stars that left acting and went on to pursue other activities as adults. And there are some tragedies. Many children struggled with making the transition after their show ended and turned to drugs or alcohol. Many handled the transition with much more ease. Many of these childhood stars know each other, so there are anecdotal references and personal comments about some of the individuals. Kathy Garver was Cissy on "Family Affair" so she knows the subject and many of the people included in this guide. This is a fun, quick look at many child stars from a forty year span. Do expect brief summations; don't expect current photos or in depth entries. Disclosure: My Kindle edition was courtesy of Taylor Trade Publishing for review purposes.[...]

Another great book from Kathy Garver. This book gives those of us who love trivia and an interest in the pop culture, what ever happened to these young stars that we grew up and sharing time with them in our homes. The thing that is refreshing about Kathy's approach, is that it is written in the kind spirit that she has. Some of the stories will make you smile, while others will show you that the glimmer of Hollywood is sometimes etched in our minds and we lose touch with the real world. Do I recommend this book? You bet, from the moment I picked it up, I found it hard to put down. In just having the book for 2 days I have read over half of it. So if you have a dad or grad that loves classic TV shows, this is the perfect gift for them this year.

X Child Stars by Kathy Garver and Fred Ascher was received direct from the publisher in exchange for an honest review. Wow, what a thorough collection of former child stars and their short biographies. Many of those listed are still in the "business." Further, the authors DID NOT just dwell on tho child actors who's lifes may have taken a wrong turn, they cover many I had never heard of. If you are interested in what happened to "that kid from the Rifleman, etc," this is the book for you are someone you know with an interest in child actor history. Lastly though, and most importantly, where are the Little Rascals?

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