

# dolly parton my life and other unfinished business

Dolly Parton My Life and Other Unfinished Business: A Glimpse into the Icon's Journey

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business** is more than just a phrase—it's a window into the remarkable life and career of one of country music's most beloved icons. Dolly Parton's story is filled with warmth, resilience, and an unyielding spirit that has inspired millions around the world. Her memoir, aptly titled *\*My Life and Other Unfinished Business\**, invites readers to explore the many facets of her life—both personal and professional—and the dreams and goals that continue to shape her journey.

If you've ever been curious about how Dolly Parton rose from humble beginnings in rural Tennessee to become a global superstar, entrepreneur, and philanthropist, this book and topic offer rich insights. Let's delve into what makes *\*Dolly Parton My Life and Other Unfinished Business\** such a compelling read and uncover the lessons embedded in her life story.

## The Heart of Dolly Parton's Memoir

Dolly Parton's memoir stands out because it reveals the human side of a legend who is often seen only through the lens of her music and public persona. In *\*My Life and Other Unfinished Business\**, Dolly shares candid stories about her upbringing, family, and the challenges she faced while pursuing her dreams. The title itself suggests an ongoing journey—a life filled with goals yet to be fully realized, which makes her story relatable to anyone striving for personal growth.

## From Humble Beginnings to Stardom

Born in 1946 in a one-room cabin in Sevier County, Tennessee, Dolly's early life was marked by poverty but rich in love and creativity. She describes her childhood with affection and humor, painting a vivid picture of growing up in a large family where music was a constant companion. The memoir captures how her passion for singing and songwriting blossomed in this environment, setting the stage for a career that would span decades.

## Unfinished Business: Beyond Fame and Fortune

While Dolly Parton's success in music, film, and business is well documented, her memoir highlights the "unfinished business" she still carries. These

include personal ambitions, philanthropic projects, and the desire to keep evolving as an artist. The book emphasizes that despite achieving monumental success, Dolly remains grounded, continually working towards new goals with the same enthusiasm as when she first started.

## **Key Themes Explored in Dolly Parton My Life and Other Unfinished Business**

The memoir touches on several themes that resonate deeply with readers and fans alike. These elements contribute to why Dolly's story feels authentic and inspiring.

### **Resilience and Perseverance**

One of the most compelling aspects of Dolly's life story is her resilience. From facing financial hardships to overcoming industry challenges, her determination never wavered. *\*Dolly Parton My Life and Other Unfinished Business\** showcases how setbacks can be transformed into stepping stones, reminding readers that persistence is a vital ingredient in any success story.

### **The Power of Family and Community**

Dolly's strong ties to her family and community play a central role in the memoir. She credits much of her strength and values to the support she received from her parents and siblings. This emphasis on relationships underscores the importance of having a solid foundation, no matter how far one's ambitions reach.

### **Creativity as a Lifelong Journey**

Creativity pulses through every chapter of Dolly's memoir. Whether writing songs, acting, or building her business empire, she views creativity not as a static talent but as a continuous process. This perspective encourages readers to embrace their own creative pursuits with patience and joy.

## **Understanding Dolly Parton's Impact Beyond Music**

While Dolly is primarily known for her contributions to country music, her

influence stretches far beyond the stage.

## Philanthropy and Social Impact

One of the most inspiring aspects discussed in *\*My Life and Other Unfinished Business\** is Dolly's dedication to philanthropy. She has been instrumental in causes such as literacy, education, and healthcare—most notably through her Imagination Library, which provides free books to children. Her commitment to giving back reflects her belief in using success as a platform to uplift others.

## Breaking Barriers as a Female Artist

Dolly Parton's career also serves as a powerful example of breaking gender norms in a male-dominated industry. Her memoir delves into the challenges she faced as a woman striving to be taken seriously as a songwriter and businesswoman. Her story encourages aspiring female artists to pursue their dreams unapologetically.

## Entrepreneurship and Branding

Beyond singing and acting, Dolly has shown remarkable business acumen. The memoir touches on how she cultivated her unique brand—combining authenticity, humor, and savvy marketing—to build a lasting legacy. This aspect of her life offers valuable lessons for anyone interested in personal branding and entrepreneurship.

## Why Readers Connect with Dolly Parton *My Life and Other Unfinished Business*

The charm of Dolly Parton's memoir lies in its honest, approachable tone. She writes as if she's sharing stories with friends, making the book feel intimate and engaging. Here are some reasons why this memoir stands out:

- **Authenticity:** Dolly doesn't shy away from discussing her flaws and mistakes, which makes her story relatable.
- **Humor:** Her witty storytelling lightens even the toughest moments, making the memoir a joyful read.
- **Wisdom:** The lessons she imparts about life, love, and work offer

timeless advice.

- **Inspiration:** Her journey encourages readers to pursue their passions despite obstacles.

## Tips for Embracing Your Own “Unfinished Business”

Inspired by Dolly’s approach, here are some insights on how to manage your own “unfinished business” in life:

1. **Set Clear Goals:** Identify what you want to achieve, but remain flexible.
2. **Stay Resilient:** Expect setbacks but don’t let them define you.
3. **Celebrate Small Wins:** Recognize progress along the way to stay motivated.
4. **Keep Learning:** Embrace creativity and growth as ongoing processes.
5. **Give Back:** Use your successes to help others, creating a positive ripple effect.

## The Legacy of Dolly Parton My Life and Other Unfinished Business

In the end, Dolly Parton’s memoir is more than a biography—it’s a testament to living a full, authentic life. The phrase “unfinished business” reminds us that life is a continuous adventure, filled with opportunities to grow, create, and give back. Dolly’s story encourages us to embrace our past while eagerly pursuing the future, making her journey as relevant today as ever.

Whether you’re a longtime fan or new to Dolly’s world, *\*My Life and Other Unfinished Business\** offers a heartfelt glimpse into the life behind the legend—a life still unfolding with purpose and passion.

## Frequently Asked Questions

## **What is the book 'Dolly Parton: My Life and Other Unfinished Business' about?**

The book is an autobiography by Dolly Parton where she shares stories from her life, career, and personal experiences, offering insights into her journey and reflections on unfinished projects and goals.

## **When was 'Dolly Parton: My Life and Other Unfinished Business' published?**

The book was published in October 2023.

## **What themes does Dolly Parton explore in 'My Life and Other Unfinished Business'?**

Dolly Parton explores themes of family, perseverance, faith, creativity, and balancing personal life with a demanding career.

## **Does Dolly Parton discuss her music career in the book?**

Yes, Dolly Parton shares many anecdotes and behind-the-scenes stories from her extensive and successful music career.

## **Are there any new revelations or stories in the book that fans might not know?**

Yes, Dolly Parton includes personal reflections and previously unrevealed stories that give fans a deeper understanding of her life and work.

## **Is 'My Life and Other Unfinished Business' suitable for all ages?**

The book is written in a family-friendly manner, suitable for adult readers interested in Dolly Parton's life and legacy.

## **Where can I buy 'Dolly Parton: My Life and Other Unfinished Business'?**

The book is available for purchase at major bookstores, online retailers like Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and in digital formats such as Kindle and audiobooks.

## **Has Dolly Parton done any promotional events or**

## **tours for the book?**

Yes, Dolly Parton has participated in interviews, book signings, and media appearances to promote the book.

## **Does the book include photos or additional content?**

The book includes some photographs and personal memorabilia that enrich the storytelling experience.

## **What makes 'My Life and Other Unfinished Business' different from Dolly Parton's previous memoirs?**

This book offers a more intimate and reflective look at her life, focusing on lessons learned, ongoing ambitions, and personal growth beyond just recounting events.

## **Additional Resources**

Dolly Parton My Life and Other Unfinished Business: A Reflective Journey into the Icon's Memoir

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business** offers an intimate glimpse into the multifaceted life of one of country music's most enduring legends. The memoir, published in 2020, stands as a candid reflection of Dolly Parton's journey beyond her public persona, revealing personal insights, triumphs, challenges, and the complexities that have shaped her storied career. As a significant contribution to celebrity autobiographies, this book invites readers to engage with Parton's narrative in a way that blends storytelling with thoughtful introspection.

## **Exploring the Depths of Dolly Parton's Memoir**

Dolly Parton's autobiography is more than a chronological recounting of her rise to fame; it is an analytical exploration of identity, resilience, and the nuances of a life lived in the spotlight. The title, *\*My Life and Other Unfinished Business\**, suggests a duality—while Parton reflects on her past achievements, she also acknowledges ongoing personal and professional aspirations. This framing positions the memoir as both a retrospective and a forward-looking document.

What distinguishes *\*Dolly Parton My Life and Other Unfinished Business\** from typical celebrity memoirs is its meticulous balance between glamour and grit. Parton's storytelling avoids the pitfalls of self-aggrandizement, instead opting for a tone that is both approachable and sincere. This approach enhances the memoir's credibility and appeal, particularly among readers

seeking a more nuanced portrayal of fame and success.

## Personal Narratives and Cultural Context

The memoir delves deeply into Parton's upbringing in rural Tennessee, painting a vivid picture of poverty, family dynamics, and the cultural environment that informed her values and ambitions. These early chapters provide crucial context, illustrating how her humble beginnings fueled both her work ethic and her philanthropic inclinations. By situating her personal narrative within the broader socio-economic backdrop, Parton's story resonates with themes of perseverance and community.

Moreover, the memoir addresses Parton's experiences as a woman navigating the male-dominated music industry of the 1960s and beyond. Her reflections on gender dynamics, industry politics, and creative control enrich the book's analytical value. This candid discussion offers valuable insights for readers interested in the intersections of gender, power, and artistic expression in country music.

## Artistic Evolution and Career Milestones

A substantial portion of *\*Dolly Parton My Life and Other Unfinished Business\** is dedicated to charting the artist's evolution—from her early days performing at local venues to her emergence as an international superstar. Parton provides detailed accounts of pivotal moments, such as her breakthrough hits, collaborations with other artists, and ventures into film and business.

The memoir also sheds light on Parton's songwriting process, revealing how personal experiences and cultural influences converge in her music. Readers gain an appreciation for the craftsmanship behind iconic songs like "Jolene" and "I Will Always Love You," understanding their emotional and narrative underpinnings.

## Thematic Elements and Literary Style

Parton's narrative style in *\*My Life and Other Unfinished Business\** is characterized by a conversational yet polished tone, making complex emotions accessible without sacrificing depth. The memoir employs vivid imagery and anecdotal storytelling, which serve to humanize the celebrity and invite empathy from readers.

Several themes emerge consistently throughout the book:

- **Resilience:** Overcoming adversity, both personal and professional.
- **Authenticity:** Maintaining one's identity amidst public scrutiny.
- **Philanthropy:** Commitment to giving back, particularly through education and literacy initiatives.
- **Legacy:** Considerations of what it means to leave a lasting impact beyond fame.

These thematic strands not only enrich the memoir's narrative but also align with key aspects of Dolly Parton's public persona, reinforcing the authenticity of her self-portrayal.

## Impact on Fans and the Music Industry

The release of *\*Dolly Parton My Life and Other Unfinished Business\** resonated strongly with both longtime fans and newcomers to her music. The memoir's candid revelations and behind-the-scenes anecdotes provide a fresh perspective that deepens appreciation for Parton's artistic contributions.

From an industry standpoint, the book serves as a valuable case study in longevity and brand management. Parton's ability to reinvent herself while maintaining core values offers lessons applicable to artists and entrepreneurs alike. Her narrative underscores the importance of adaptability and authenticity in sustaining a dynamic career over decades.

## Critical Reception and Comparative Insights

Critics largely praised the memoir for its honesty and warmth, highlighting its capacity to blend entertainment with meaningful reflection. Reviewers noted that while *\*Dolly Parton My Life and Other Unfinished Business\** adheres to the conventions of celebrity memoirs, it distinguishes itself through Parton's distinctive voice and storytelling finesse.

When compared to other autobiographies in the country music genre, such as Willie Nelson's *\*It's a Long Story\** or Loretta Lynn's *\*Coal Miner's Daughter\**, Parton's memoir stands out for its comprehensive coverage of both personal and professional spheres. Her willingness to address vulnerabilities without sensationalism contributes to a narrative that is both relatable and inspiring.



## Strengths and Limitations

- **Strengths:** Engaging prose, insightful reflections, detailed career chronology, and balanced tone.
- **Limitations:** Some readers may desire deeper exploration of controversial topics or more critical self-analysis.

Despite these minor critiques, \*Dolly Parton My Life and Other Unfinished Business\* remains a compelling addition to the canon of music autobiographies, offering a rich, multi-dimensional portrait of its subject.

## Legacy and Ongoing Influence

As Dolly Parton continues to influence music, culture, and philanthropy, this memoir captures a snapshot of her life at a particular juncture, while hinting at future endeavors yet to be fulfilled. The “unfinished business” in the title resonates as a thematic promise, reflecting Parton’s enduring drive and adaptability.

Readers and scholars alike may find the book a valuable resource for understanding the complexities of celebrity identity, the socio-cultural dynamics of country music, and the interplay between personal history and public image.

In conclusion, \*Dolly Parton My Life and Other Unfinished Business\* stands as a thoughtful, well-crafted memoir that transcends typical celebrity storytelling. It provides a nuanced exploration of one of America’s most beloved entertainers, offering insights that are as educational as they are engaging.

## [Dolly Parton My Life And Other Unfinished Business](#)

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business:** Dolly Dolly Parton, 1995 The successful country singer reveals her life since leaving home at the age of eighteen to pursue a singing career, while discussing her personal philosophies, her marriage, her friendships, and her achievements

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business: Dolly Parton** Tracey E. W. Laird, 2023-10-24 Dolly Parton: 100 Remarkable Moments in an Extraordinary Life is a beautifully illustrated celebration of a timeless icon who has shaped what it means to be a superstar.

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business: The Faith of Dolly Parton** Dudley Delffs, 2018-06-05 Dolly Parton has entertained, educated, and inspired millions of fans for over five decades. Whether she's writing songs, performing live, recording new albums, or helping children

around the world learn to read with her Imagination Library nonprofit, the Queen of Country Music has never been shy about crediting her Christian faith for her success. Tennessee native, lifelong Dolly fan, and award-winning writer Dudley Delffs spotlights ten faith lessons as evidenced in Dolly's life, music, interviews, and attitude, giving you the tools you need to: Know when to stretch your wings Let your roots keep you grounded Dream your way forward Sometimes poignant, sometimes funny, frequently surprising, and always true to Dolly's down-home spirit of joyful generosity, *The Faith of Dolly Parton* will delight her millions of fans as well as anyone seeking a fresh, faith-filled role model. Praise for *The Faith of Dolly Parton*: Dudley's book gives great insight into why so many people around the world love Dolly Parton. While Dolly is one of the biggest superstars, she has never forgotten who she is and where she came from and the faith that anchors her life. --Bill Haslam, former governor of Tennessee You may know Dolly Parton as a legendary singer, songwriter, music producer, actor, author, philanthropist, or entrepreneur. But those external successes are born out of a deep personal faith in Jesus Christ. In *The Faith of Dolly Parton*, award-winning author Dudley Delffs guides you through ten powerful lessons based on the music, character, and heart of this entertainment legend. Delffs's insight into the sincere faith of Dolly Parton will warm your heart and inspire you to become more vulnerable as you grow stronger in your faith. --Craig Groeschel, pastor of Life.Church and New York Times bestselling author

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business:** *I am Dolly Parton* Brad Meltzer, 2022-06-07 An instant New York Times Best Seller! The legendary country musician, reading advocate, and philanthropist Dolly Parton is the 28th in the New York Times bestselling picture book biography series for ages 5 to 8. This book spotlights Dolly Parton, known for her beloved country songs, who has also sent over 150 million free books to children through her Imagination Library. This friendly, fun biography series inspired the PBS Kids TV show *Xavier Riddle and the Secret Museum*. One great role model at a time, these books encourage kids to dream big. Included in each book are: • A timeline of key events in the hero's history • Photos that bring the story more fully to life • Comic-book-style illustrations that are irresistibly adorable • Childhood moments that influenced the hero • Facts that make great conversation-starters • A virtue this person embodies: Dolly Parton's love is seen in everything she does. You'll want to collect each book in this dynamic, informative series!

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business:** *Dolly Parton's Jolene* Lydia R. Hamessley, 2025 *Jolene* is one of Dolly Parton's most well-known and beloved songs. Released in 1974 as the title song of Dolly's thirteenth studio album, it has become a cultural phenomenon. Often seen as a cheating song, *Jolene* is compelling because of its ambiguity: Who is *Jolene*? Is she a heartless homewrecker or an unwilling recipient of attention from a guy who will cheat on his partner? What does she decide? Does she want to have an affair? Is *Jolene* sung by a narrator who is fearful and weak? Or is the singer taking matters into her own hands? In *Dolly Parton's Jolene*, author Lydia R. Hamessley offers readers new perspectives on the song through a close look at Dolly's stories about the song's origins and its place on her album *Jolene*. Hamessley offers multiple ways of understanding the lyrics and includes a detailed musical analysis. The book explores notable covers of the song, including Olivia Newton-John's recording of *Jolene* and the duet version of *Jolene* that she and Dolly recorded just months before Newton-John's death. Hamessley also looks at covers by Mindy Smith, The White Stripes, The Congo Cowboys, Lil Nas X, Gloria Ann Taylor, and Chiquis and Becky G, as well as the *Jolene* episode from Dolly's 2019 television series, *Heartstrings*, and several answer songs, including *You Can Have Him Jolene* by Chapel Hart. How has one song had the flexibility to embrace so many versions, responses, and reimagining? Hamessley argues that these are possible because the song is, in a sense, unfinished: my happiness depends on you and whatever you decide to do, *Jolene*.

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business:** *Dolly Parton* Suzanne Sonnier, 2020-12-08 A collection of quotations from one of America's most beloved cultural icons. Curated from Dolly Parton's numerous public statements—interviews, speeches, social media posts, and more—this is a comprehensive picture of her legacy as a musician, businesswoman, and

philanthropist. Since her career began in the Nashville music scene of the 1960s, Parton has become revered for her work as a singer, multi-instrumentalist, and songwriter, selling over one hundred million records and being inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame. And beyond her musical achievements, she co-owns the Dollywood Company and is renowned for the philanthropic work of her Dollywood Foundation. This collection is a look into the inner workings of the woman known for penning such hits as "I Will Always Love You," "Jolene," and "9 to 5." Now, for the first time, you can find Parton's most inspirational, thought-provoking quotes in one place, providing an intimate and direct look into the mind of this legendary woman.

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business:** *Kitsch und Nation* Kathrin Ackermann, Christopher F. Laferl, 2016-01-15 Das deutsche Wort »Kitsch« ist in den 1940er Jahren zu einem internationalen Begriff geworden, dessen Bedeutung zwischen ideologiekritischer Ablehnung und postmoderner Affirmation oszilliert. Doch meint das Schlagwort in unterschiedlichen nationalen Diskurstraditionen stets dasselbe? Warum werden bestimmte künstlerische oder alltagsästhetische Produkte aus anderen Kulturen als Kitsch bezeichnet, und wie verhält es sich mit dieser »Nationalisierung« von Kitsch? An Beispielen aus Musik-, Literatur-, Kunst- und Filmwissenschaft untersuchen die Beiträge des Bandes die Polaritäten und Paradoxien, denen der Begriff »Kitsch« in verschiedenen Kulturen und Nationen ausgesetzt ist.

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business:** *Pilgrimage to Dollywood* Helen Morales, 2014-06-06 A star par excellence, Dolly Parton is one of country music's most likable personalities. Even a hard-rocking punk or orchestral aesthete can't help cracking a smile or singing along with songs like "Jolene" and "9 to 5." More than a mere singer or actress, Parton is a true cultural phenomenon, immediately recognizable and beloved for her talent, tinkling laugh, and steel magnolia spirit. She is also the only female star to have her own themed amusement park: Dollywood in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Every year thousands of fans flock to Dollywood to celebrate the icon, and Helen Morales is one of those fans. In *Pilgrimage to Dollywood*, Morales sets out to discover Parton's Tennessee. Her travels begin at the top celebrity pilgrimage site of Elvis Presley's Graceland, then take her to Loretta Lynn's ranch in Hurricane Mills; the Country Music Hall of Fame and the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville; to Sevierville, Gatlinburg, and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park; and finally to Pigeon Forge, home of the "Dolly Homecoming Parade," featuring the star herself as grand marshall. Morales's adventure allows her to compare the imaginary Tennessee of Parton's lyrics with the real Tennessee where the singer grew up, looking at essential connections between country music, the land, and a way of life. It's also a personal pilgrimage for Morales. Accompanied by her partner, Tony, and their nine-year-old daughter, Athena (who respectively prefer Mozart and Miley Cyrus), Morales, a recent transplant from England, seeks to understand America and American values through the celebrity sites and attractions of Tennessee. This celebration of Dolly and Americana is for anyone with an old country soul who relies on music to help understand the world, and it is guaranteed to make a Dolly Parton fan of anyone who has not yet fallen for her music or charisma.

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business:** *The Advocate*, 1994-11-29 The Advocate is a lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) monthly newsmagazine. Established in 1967, it is the oldest continuing LGBT publication in the United States.

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business:** *Women Icons of Popular Music* Carrie Havranek, 2008-11-30 Popular music owes greatly to the spirit of rebellion. In all of its diversified, experimental, modern-day micro-genres, music's roots were first watered by good old-fashioned social dissension- its incendiary heights pushed heavenward by radicals and rogue revolutionaries. And perhaps none are more influential and non-conformist than women. Always first in line to give convention a sound thrashing, women in music have penned sonic masterpieces, championed sweeping social movements, and breathed life into sounds yet unimagined. Today's guitar-wielding heroines continue to blaze the trail, tapping reservoirs and soundscapes still unknown to their male counterparts- hell hath no fury like a woman with an amplifier. *Women Icons of Popular Music* puts the limelight on 24 legendary artists who challenged the status quo and dramatically expanded the

possibilities of women in the highly competitive music world. Using critical acclaim and artistic integrity as benchmarks of success, this can't-put-down resource features rich biographical and musical analyses of a diverse array of musicians from country, pop, rock, R&B, soul, indie, and hip-hop. It goes beyond the shorter, less detailed biographical information found in many women in rock compendiums by giving readers a more in-depth understanding of these artists as individuals, as well as providing a larger context-social, musical, political, and personal-for their success and legacy. Highlighted in sidebars throughout are related trends, movements, events, and issues to give readers a broad perspective of the defining moments in music and pop culture history. With discographies, illustrations, and a print and electronic resource guide, *Women Icons of Popular Music* is a rousing, insightful resource for students and music fans alike.

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business: The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture** Bill C. Malone, Charles Reagan Wilson, 2014-02-01 Southern music has flourished as a meeting ground for the traditions of West African and European peoples in the region, leading to the evolution of various traditional folk genres, bluegrass, country, jazz, gospel, rock, blues, and southern hip-hop. This much-anticipated volume in *The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture* celebrates an essential element of southern life and makes available for the first time a stand-alone reference to the music and music makers of the American South. With nearly double the number of entries devoted to music in the original *Encyclopedia*, this volume includes 30 thematic essays, covering topics such as ragtime, zydeco, folk music festivals, minstrelsy, rockabilly, white and black gospel traditions, and southern rock. And it features 174 topical and biographical entries, focusing on artists and musical outlets. From Mahalia Jackson to R.E.M., from Doc Watson to OutKast, this volume considers a diverse array of topics, drawing on the best historical and contemporary scholarship on southern music. It is a book for all southerners and for all serious music lovers, wherever they live.

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business: Gone Dollywood** Graham Hoppe, 2018-03-15 Dolly Parton isn't just a country music superstar. She has built an empire. At the heart of that empire is Dollywood, a 150-acre fantasy land that hosts three million people a year. Parton's prodigious talent and incredible celebrity have allowed her to turn her hometown into one of the most popular tourist destinations in America. The crux of Dollywood's allure is its precisely calibrated Appalachian image, itself drawn from Parton's very real hardscrabble childhood in the mountains of east Tennessee. What does Dollywood have to offer besides entertainment? What do we find if we take this remarkable place seriously? How does it both confirm and subvert outsiders' expectations of Appalachia? What does it tell us about the modern South, and in turn what does that tell us about America at large? How is regional identity molded in service of commerce, and what is the interplay of race, gender, and class when that happens? In *Gone Dollywood*, Graham Hoppe blends tourism studies, celebrity studies, cultural analysis, folklore, and the acute observations and personal reflections of longform journalism into an unforgettable interrogation of Southern and American identity.

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business: Sontag and the Camp Aesthetic** Bruce E. Drushel, Brian M. Peters, 2017-02-15 *Sontag and the Camp Aesthetic: Advancing New Perspectives* marks 50 years of writing and cultural production on the phenomenon of camp since Susan Sontag's 1964 cornerstone essay "Notes on 'Camp'." It provides cutting-edge theory and understanding on ways to read and interpret camp through a collection of essays from historical, theoretical, and cultural perspectives. It includes varied subject areas including camp icons, stylistics periods, and important and representative texts from television, film, and literature. These essays create a scholarly conversation that understands camp as not only signifier or aesthetic but also a language, mode, and style that goes beyond its initial linguistic and semiotic guise. The contributors, representing a diverse group of established and rising scholars, explore camp as a largely queer genre that includes varying modes of understanding of desire and of the self outside a hegemonic model of heteronormativity.

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business: Impossible Bodies** Christine Holmlund,

2013-11-05 Impossible Bodies investigates issues of ethnicity, gender, and sexuality in contemporary Hollywood. Examining stars from Arnold Schwarzenegger and Clint Eastwood, to Whoopi Goldberg and Jennifer Lopez, Holmlund focuses on actors whose physique or appearance marks them as unusual or exceptional, and yet who occupy key and revealing positions in today's mainstream cinema. Exploring a range of genres and considering both stars and their sidekicks, Holmlund examines ways in which Hollywood accommodates - or doesn't - a variety of 'impossible' bodies, from the 'outrageous' physiques of Dolph Lundgren and Dolly Parton, to the almost-invisible bodies of Asian-Americans, Latinas and older actors.

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business:** The Northeastern Dictionary of Women's Biography Jennifer S. Uglow, 1999 The most comprehensive reference book of its kind, with more than 60 new entries in this third edition.

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business:** Mother Knew Best Elsa Hornfischer, David Hornfischer, 1996 How do our mothers' words shape our lives as adults? This inspiring collection features 101 true stories about the mothers of the famously successful, illustrating how their wisdom, advice, support - and even discouragement - touched and shaped their children's lives. This timeless book - a perfect gift, and a treasury of advice for today's moms - features motherly quotations and anecdotes grouped into seven basic virtues: Ambition, Courage, Devotion, Faith, Perspective, Responsibility, and Self-Discipline. We hear from the mothers of Martin Luther King, Jr. (You must never feel that you are less than anybody else), Elvis Presley (Son, take this guitar - you're not going to get a rifle), and many other moms of children we all know. The first of its kind and full of surprises, this joyous celebration of motherhood is sure to find a place in the hearts of all mothers and their children.

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business:** Top 40 Democracy Eric Weisbard, 2014-11-27 If you drive into any American city with the car stereo blasting, you'll undoubtedly find radio stations representing R&B/hip-hop, country, Top 40, adult contemporary, rock, and Latin, each playing hit after hit within that musical format. American music has created an array of rival mainstreams, complete with charts in multiple categories. Love it or hate it, the world that radio made has steered popular music and provided the soundtrack of American life for more than half a century. In Top 40 Democracy, Eric Weisbard studies the evolution of this multicentered pop landscape, along the way telling the stories of the Isley Brothers, Dolly Parton, A&M Records, and Elton John, among others. He sheds new light on the upheavals in the music industry over the past fifteen years and their implications for the audiences the industry has shaped. Weisbard focuses in particular on formats—constructed mainstreams designed to appeal to distinct populations—showing how taste became intertwined with class, race, gender, and region. While many historians and music critics have criticized the segmentation of pop radio, Weisbard finds that the creation of multiple formats allowed different subgroups to attain a kind of separate majority status—for example, even in its most mainstream form, the R&B of the Isley Brothers helped to create a sphere where black identity was nourished. Music formats became the one reliable place where different groups of Americans could listen to modern life unfold from their distinct perspectives. The centers of pop, it turns out, were as complicated, diverse, and surprising as the cultural margins. Weisbard's stimulating book is a tour de force, shaking up our ideas about the mainstream music industry in order to tease out the cultural importance of all performers and songs.

**dolly parton my life and other unfinished business:** Country Boys and Redneck Women Diane Pecknold, Kristine M. McCusker, 2016-02-08 Country music boasts a long tradition of rich, contradictory gender dynamics, creating a world where Kitty Wells could play the demure housewife and the honky-tonk angel simultaneously, Dolly Parton could move from traditionalist girl singer to outspoken trans rights advocate, and current radio playlists can alternate between the reckless masculinity of bro-country and the adolescent girlishness of Taylor Swift. In this follow-up volume to A Boy Named Sue, some of the leading authors in the field of country music studies reexamine the place of gender in country music, considering the ways country artists and listeners have negotiated gender and sexuality through their music and how gender has shaped the way that music is made

and heard. In addition to shedding new light on such legends as Wells, Parton, Loretta Lynn, and Charley Pride, it traces more recent shifts in gender politics through the performances of such contemporary luminaries as Swift, Gretchen Wilson, and Blake Shelton. The book also explores the intersections of gender, race, class, and nationality in a host of less expected contexts, including the prisons of WWII-era Texas, where the members of the Goree All-Girl String Band became the unlikeliest of radio stars; the studios and offices of Plantation Records, where Jeannie C. Riley and Linda Martell challenged the social hierarchies of a changing South in the 1960s; and the burgeoning cities of present-day Brazil, where college country has become one way of negotiating masculinity in an age of economic and social instability.

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