

# Robert Redford: A Legendary Actor and Director



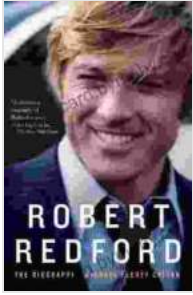
**Robert Redford: The Biography** by Michael Feeney Callan

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

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Robert Redford is an iconic American actor, director, and producer who has starred in some of the most beloved films of all time. From his early roles in *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* to his Oscar-winning performance in *Ordinary People*, Redford has consistently delivered captivating and memorable performances.

Redford was born on August 18, 1936, in Santa Monica, California. He attended the University of Colorado, where he studied drama. After college, he moved to New York City to pursue an acting career. He made his Broadway debut in 1959 in the play *Tall Story*. Redford's breakout role came in 1969 when he starred alongside Paul Newman in *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*. The film was a critical and commercial success, and Redford became a household name.

Throughout the 1970s, Redford continued to star in a number of hit films, including *The Way We Were* (1973), *All the President's Men* (1976), and *Out of Africa* (1985). He also made his directorial debut in 1979 with the film *Ordinary People*. The film won the Academy Award for Best Picture, and Redford won the Academy Award for Best Director. Redford continued to direct and star in a number of films throughout the 1980s and 1990s. In

2002, he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Film Institute.

Redford is a true Hollywood legend. He has starred in over 50 films, directed 10 films, and produced over 20 films. He has won two Academy Awards, three Golden Globe Awards, and a BAFTA Award. Redford is also known for his philanthropy and environmental activism. He is the founder of the Sundance Institute, a non-profit organization that supports independent filmmakers.

## **Early Life and Career**

Robert Redford was born on August 18, 1936, in Santa Monica, California. His father, Charles Robert Redford, was an accountant, and his mother, Martha Woodruff Redford, was a homemaker. Redford has an older sister, Lois, and a younger brother, William. Redford's family moved to Malibu when he was four years old. He spent much of his childhood exploring the Santa Monica Mountains and the Malibu coastline. Redford's parents divorced when he was 11 years old, and he lived with his mother for the next few years.

Redford attended Santa Monica High School, where he was a star athlete. He played football, basketball, and track. He also participated in drama club. After graduating from high school, Redford attended the University of Colorado, where he studied drama. He dropped out of college after two years to pursue an acting career in New York City. Redford studied acting with Stella Adler and Lee Strasberg. He made his Broadway debut in 1959 in the play *Tall Story*.

Redford's breakout role came in 1969 when he starred alongside Paul Newman in *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*. The film was a critical and commercial success, and Redford became a household name.

## Film Career

Robert Redford has starred in over 50 films, including some of the most iconic films of all time. Here is a look at some of his most memorable roles:

- **Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid** (1969): Redford plays the Sundance Kid, a legendary outlaw who teams up with Butch Cassidy (Paul Newman) to rob banks and trains. The film was a critical and commercial success, and Redford became a household name.
- **The Way We Were** (1973): Redford plays Hubbell Gardiner, a college football star who falls in love with Katie Morosky (Barbra Streisand), a Jewish girl from Brooklyn. The film was a critical and commercial success, and Redford earned an Academy Award nomination for Best Actor.
- **All the President's Men** (1976): Redford plays Bob Woodward, a young reporter who investigates the Watergate scandal with Carl Bernstein (Dustin Hoffman). The film was a critical and commercial success, and Redford earned an Academy Award nomination for Best Actor.
- **Out of Africa** (1985): Redford plays Denys Finch Hatton, a British aristocrat who falls in love with Karen Blixen (Meryl Streep), a Danish woman who owns a coffee plantation in Kenya. The film was a critical and commercial success, and Redford won the Academy Award for Best Director.

- **A River Runs Through It** (1992): Redford plays Norman Maclean, a Presbyterian minister who reflects on his childhood and his relationship with his brother (Brad Pitt). The film was a critical and commercial success, and Redford earned an Academy Award nomination for Best Director.

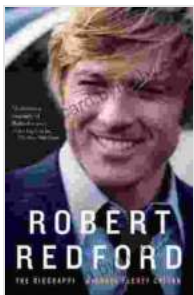
In addition to his acting career, Redford has also directed 10 films, including *Ordinary People* (1980), *The Milagro Beanfield War* (1988), and *Quiz Show* (1994). Redford has also produced over 20 films, including *The Sting* (1973), *All the President's Men* (1976), and *Out of Africa* (1985).

## **Awards and Recognition**

Robert Redford has won two Academy Awards, three Golden Globe Awards, and a BAFTA Award. He has also received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Film Institute.

- Academy Award for Best Picture: *Ordinary People* (1980)
- Academy Award for Best Director: *Ordinary People* (1980)
- Golden Globe Award for Best Actor – Motion Picture Drama: *Ordinary People* (1980)
- Golden Globe Award for Best Director – Motion Picture: *Ordinary People* (1980)
- Golden Globe Award for Cecil B. DeMille Award: 2002
- BAFTA Award for Best Film: *Ordinary People* (1980)
- American Film Institute Lifetime Achievement Award: 2002

Redford is a true Hollywood legend. He has starred in some of the most iconic films of all time, and he has won numerous awards for his work. Redford is also known for his philanthropy and environmental activism. He is a true inspiration to us all.



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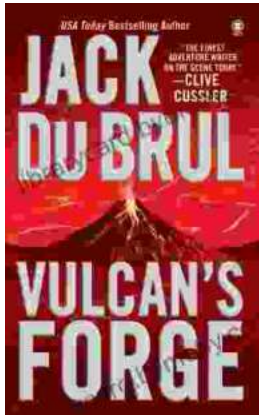
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