

Here's what the critics are saying about

JUST OUTSIDE THE SPOTLIGHT: Growing up with Eileen Heckart

by Luke Yankee

"In a 48-holder box of spectrum-color Crayolas, Eileen Heckart was always the fire engine red. Now Luke Yankee fills in the black and white. In this sensitively remembered and meticulously catalogued memoir, a great actress comes to life wearing many faces. This is her story, told by the one who knew her best. It is also the intimate revelation of a very special relationship between a mother and son that is warm enough to make you cry, funny enough to make you laugh, intimate enough to make you blush, and painful enough to make your heart ache. More than an observer, the candid writing makes you a willing participant in an extraordinary adventure."

-- Rex Reed, syndicated columnist

"One of the most compassionate, illuminating showbiz books ever written."

-- Michael Musto, The Village Voice

"It shouldn't be overlooked when you start heading off on vacation with some good reads in tow...fascinating...as star-laden as it is charming and chatty."

-- Robert Osborne, The Hollywood Reporter

"A delightful book...catnip for anyone who ever worked in or loved theater, movies and TV."

-- Liz Smith, The New York Post

"The biography is very much like an Eileen Heckart performance: honest, on-target, immensely entertaining and leaves you wanting more."

-- Michael Buckley, Playbill Magazine

"These stories form an entertaining, touching, valuable chapter in the history of Broadway's golden age. (Starred review)"

-- Kirkus Review of Books