

# ICONIC JEWISH WOMEN OF OLD HOLLYWOOD



# THEDA BARA

Born Theodosia Burr Goodman in 1885, Theda Bara was the daughter of a Polish Jewish tailor and a Swiss homemaker.

She grew up in Avondale, Ohio, a largely Jewish community just outside of Cincinnati. Known as the “vamp” for her and seductive roles in silent films, she is often cited as the first sex symbol of early film.



# SYLVIA SIDNEY

Born Sophia Koscow in 1910 to a Russian Jewish father and a Romanian Jewish mother, Sylvia Sidney began acting at 15 and made her Broadway debut at 16. She appeared in several films throughout the 1930s. At one point in time, she was one of the highest paid actresses in Hollywood. When she was 77 years old, she appeared as the ghostly case worker Juno in *Beetlejuice*.



# HEDY LAMARR

Born Hedwig Eva Maria Kiesler in 1914, Hedy Lamarr was one of the most iconic actresses of the 1940s after fleeing Austria for Paris. She was also an inventor; with musician George Antheil, they developed an early frequency-hopping system that would later become the basis for Wi-Fi and Bluetooth technologies. During her lifetime, her inventing career was overlooked and dismissed.



# LAUREN BACALL

Born Betty Joan Perske in 1924, Lauren Bacall was the only child born to Jewish parents living in the Bronx. After meeting Humphrey Bogart on set of *To Have and Have Not*, the two had a romance that would last until his death in 1957. In 2004, she provided the voice for the Witch of the Waste in the English dub of *Howl's Moving Castle*.



# MARILYN MONROE

Born Norma Jeane Mortenson in 1926, Marilyn Monroe is one of the most famous actresses of all time. She was raised Christian, but distanced herself from the faith as an adult. In 1956, she married Jewish writer Arthur Miller and converted to Judaism. Though the two split in 1961, she held onto her Judaica until her death in 1962.

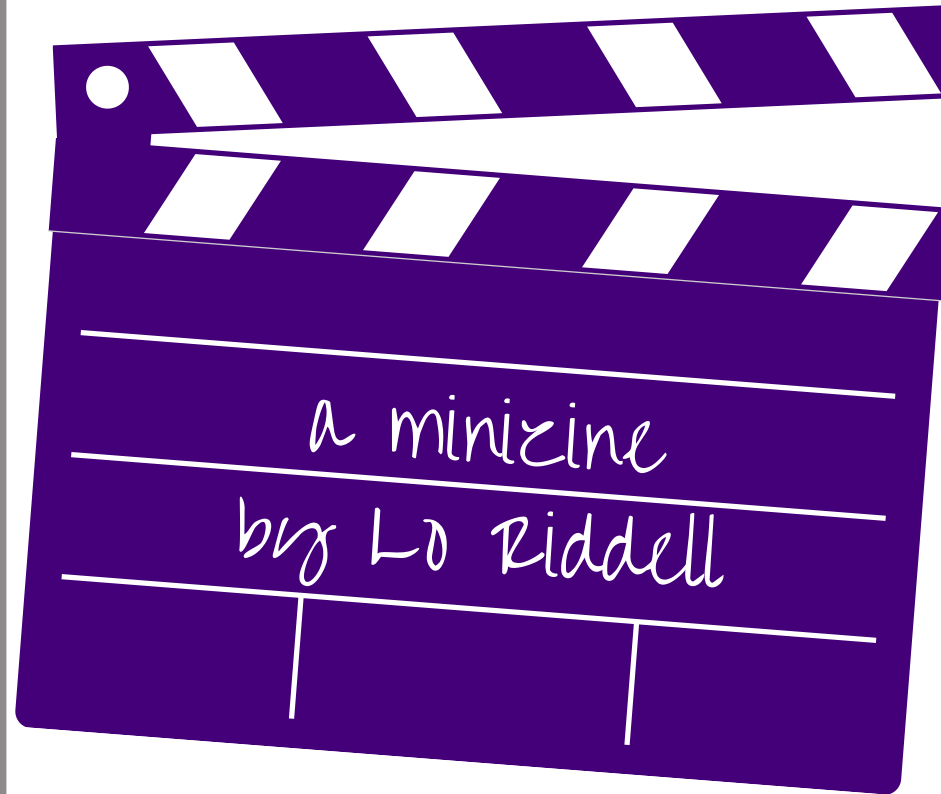


# ELIZABETH TAYLOR

Born in 1932 to Christian Scientists, Elizabeth Taylor began her career as a child actress before blossoming into one of the most iconic sex symbols of the late 1950s and early 1960s. In 1959, she converted to Judaism, and two of her seven husbands were Jewish (Mike Todd and Eddie Fisher)! In the 1980s, Elizabeth dedicated herself to HIV/AIDS activism.



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