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Tony Ryan: Irelandrsquo;s Aviator

Richard Aldous
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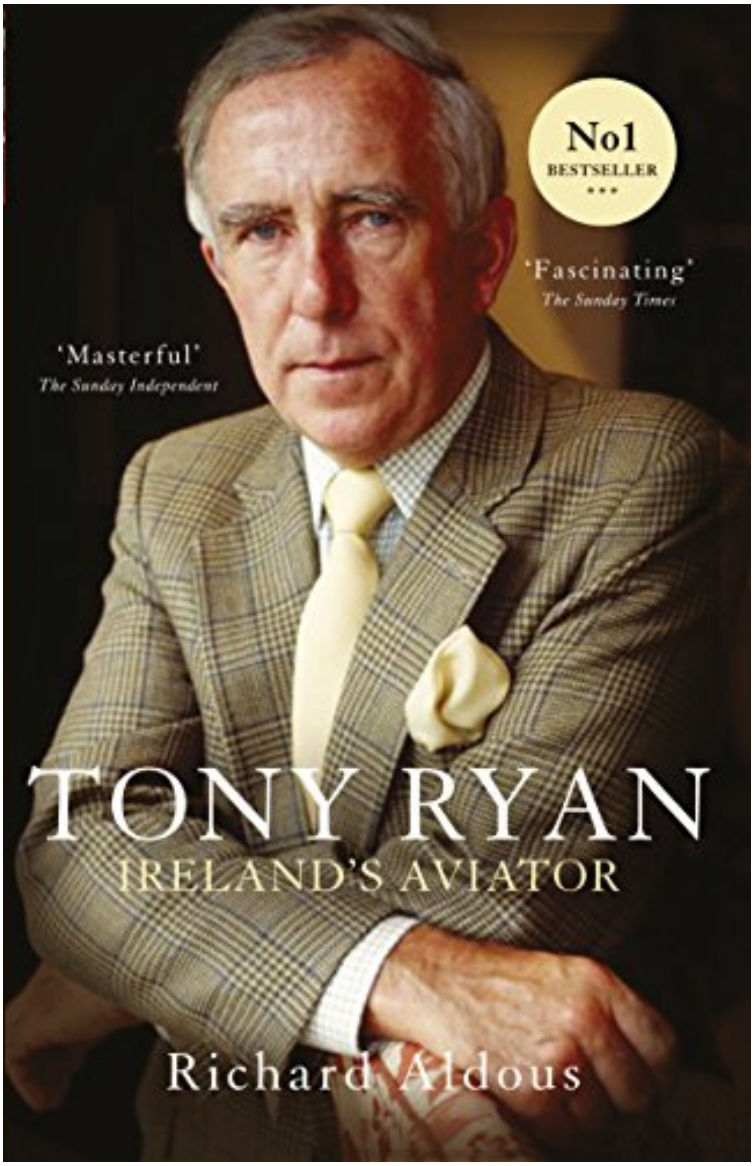

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Richard Aldous : Tony Ryan: Irelandrsquo;s Aviator before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Tony Ryan: Irelandrsquo;s Aviator:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting readBy Alexey+ Was surprised I didn't know about TAR before reading this book and it was extremely interesting to explore the history of commercial aviation leasing business as well as first Ryanair decades.+/- It felt sometimes hard to follow the story as author jumped between years too often0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great story well written a fanciful flight from reality.By

dwanjI learned a lot about Tony Ryan and the energy and enthusiasm he brought to his projects. It was amazing how he kept going in the face of defeat and won out in the end. The research and detail in the book were very worthwhile and helped to bring an understanding of Ryan's world. All things come to an end and all lives do too but Tony Ryan did a lot with his life. imagine if he had applied his talents full time to humanitarian issues.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great read, recommend.By lukejrA fantastic read and a really good business biography with many ups and downs.

In this authorised biography of one of the most remarkable Irishmen of the twentieth century, Richard Aldous is independent in his judgements and frank in his examination of his subjectrsquo;s shortcomings and eccentricities. But most of all, he writes with verve and pace. Tony Ryan was born in a railwaymanrsquo;s cottage and rose to enormous success, overseeing the spectacular making of two business fortunes and the dramatic loss of one. After an early spell in Aer Lingus, he set up an airline leasing company, Guinness Peat Aviation (GPA), which had its headquarters in Shannon and quickly became the largest such enterprise in the world. Ryan was a hard taskmaster and the company reflected his ferocious work ethic. Yet, despite a stellar board of directors, a botched and poorly timed Initial Public Offering in the 1990s saw GPA crash and burn. Ryan lost almost everything. All that remained was a little airline running massive deficits. Ryan set about turning Ryanair around, putting in one of his assistants, Michael Orsquo;Leary, to help knock it into shape. The rest is history. Ryan remade his fortune, lived lavishly and elegantly, was a generous patron of the arts, and in every respect larger than life. His spirit is one that Ireland needs more than ever today. As the nation strives for its own recovery, it can find inspiration in the story of how one of its most famous sons rose and fell, and then rose again. Not one to stand still or lament mistakes, Tony Ryanrsquo;s determination never to give up is the real lesson of this story. He was in so many ways Irelandrsquo;s Aviator.

"A former head of Aer Lingus, Michael Dargan has observed: 'The magnitude of Tony Ryan's success is baffling. The historian may record it, but he can hardly explain it.' Richard Aldous makes a good stab at it." -- Joe Carroll * The Irish Catholic * "Failure and redemption are themes peppered throughout this book as Mr Ryan's ambition, hard work, luck and stubbornness led him to grow a global aircraft owning and leasing entity followed by the world's most profitable low cost carrier." -- Joe Gill, Director of Corporate Broking at Goodbody, Finance Dublin `Tony Ryan biographer Richard Aldous weaves a tapestry of tales about Ryanair's (and the entrepreneur's) fortunes (...). With Aldous having explored the late Tony Ryan's life in the capacity of an official biographer, it's fair to say that one approaches a work such as this with a strong degree of trepidation. Forebodings of a fawning eulogy abounded. But it does reveal the warts as well as the successes of the Tipperary native. -- John Mullingan * Irish Independent * Somehow he managed to leave them still loving him anyway. -- Patricia O'Neill * Irish Independent * It gives an irresistible insight into the machinations of the man who helped to create what is now Ireland's second biggest company - Ryanair. -- John Mulligan * Sunday Independent * Tony lived lavishly and elegantly and was a larger than life character who only knew how to play high risk. This often had disastrous consequences, but his tenacity and determination to succeed are the real lessons of this book and as the nation strives for recovery Tony Ryan's story is an inspirational one. * The Nationalist *About the AuthorRichard Aldous holds the Eugene Meyer Chair at Bard College, New York, having previously taught for fifteen years at UCD. He is the bestselling author of numerous books, including Great Irish Speeches, Reagan and Thatcher and The Lion and the Unicorn: Gladstone vs. Disraeli.