



# Not My Father's Son: A Memoir

By Alan Cumming

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**Not My Father's Son: A Memoir** By Alan Cumming

**“Equal parts memoir, whodunnit, and manual for living . . . a beautifully written, honest look at the forces of blood and bone that make us who we are, and how we make ourselves.” --Neil Gaiman**

In his unique and engaging voice, the acclaimed actor of stage and screen shares the emotional story of his complicated relationship with his father and the deeply buried family secrets that shaped his life and career.

A beloved star of stage, television, and film—“one of the most fun people in show business” (*Time* magazine)—Alan Cumming is a successful artist whose diversity and fearlessness is unparalleled. His success masks a painful childhood growing up under the heavy rule of an emotionally and physically abusive father—a relationship that tormented him long into adulthood.

When television producers in the UK approached him to appear on a popular celebrity genealogy show in 2010, Alan enthusiastically agreed. He hoped the show would solve a family mystery involving his maternal grandfather, a celebrated WWII hero who disappeared in the Far East. But as the truth of his family ancestors revealed itself, Alan learned far more than he bargained for about himself, his past, and his own father.

With ribald humor, wit, and incredible insight, Alan seamlessly moves back and forth in time, integrating stories from his childhood in Scotland and his experiences today as a film, television, and theater star. At times suspenseful, deeply moving, and wickedly funny, *Not My Father's Son* will make readers laugh even as it breaks their hearts.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

Alan Cumming's moving memoir NOT MY FATHER'S SON is a beautiful book—sad, funny, haunting, surprising, suspenseful, gut-wrenching, endearing. It will linger inside of you long after you turn the final page. (Harlan Coben, author of New York Times bestsellers *Missing You* and *Six Years*)

“Equal parts memoir, whodunnit, and manual for living, NOT MY FATHER'S SON is a beautifully written, honest look at the forces of blood and bone that make us what we are, and how we make ourselves. I was completely sucked in.” (Neil Gaiman, author of *American Gods* and *Ocean at the End of the Lane*)

#### From the Back Cover

Dark, painful memories can be put away to be forgotten. Until one day they all flood back in horrible detail.

When television producers approached Alan Cumming to appear on a popular celebrity genealogy show, he hoped to solve the mystery of his maternal grandfather's disappearance that had long cast a shadow over his family. But this was not the only mystery laid before Alan.

Alan grew up in the grip of a man who held his family hostage, someone who meted out violence with a frightening ease, who waged a silent war with himself that sometimes spilled over onto everyone around him. That man was Alex Cumming, Alan's father, whom Alan had not seen or spoken to for more than a decade when he reconnected just before filming for *Who Do You Think You Are?* began. He had a secret he had to share, one that would shock his son to his very core and set into motion a journey that would change Alan's life forever.

With ribald humor, wit, and incredible insight, Alan seamlessly moves back and forth in time, integrating stories from his childhood in Scotland and his experiences today as the celebrated actor of film, television, and stage. At times suspenseful, at times deeply moving, but always incredibly brave and honest, *Not My Father's Son* is a powerful story of embracing the best aspects of the past and triumphantly pushing the darkness aside.

#### About the Author

Alan Cumming is an award-winning actor, singer, writer, producer, and director. He recently starred in an acclaimed one-man staging of *Macbeth* on Broadway, and appears on the Emmy Award-winning television show *The Good Wife*. He won a Tony Award for his portrayal of the Emcee in the Broadway musical *Cabaret*, a role he reprised in 2014. He hosts *Masterpiece Mystery!* on PBS and has appeared in numerous films, including *Spy Kids*, *Titus*, *X2: X-Men United*, *The Anniversary Party*, *Any Day Now*, and *Eyes Wide Shut*. He lives in New York and London.

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**Robert Alcock:**

In this time globalization it is important to someone to find information. The information will make someone to understand the condition of the world. The condition of the world makes the information much easier to share. You can find a lot of references to get information example: internet, paper, book, and soon. You can see that now, a lot of publisher this print many kinds of book. The particular book that recommended to you personally is Not My Father's Son: A Memoir this publication consist a lot of the information in the condition of this world now. This kind of book was represented so why is the world has grown up. The words styles that writer use to explain it is easy to understand. Often the writer made some investigation when he makes this book. That's why this book ideal all of you.

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