

Georgia Durante



*Georgia Durante has
written a gripping,
fastpaced insider's
look at an underworld
she knew only too well.
Breathtakingly readable.*
—Sidney Sheldon

Her beauty led her into the world of modeling. Her daring led her into the world of The Mob. Her will helped her survive an abusive marriage.



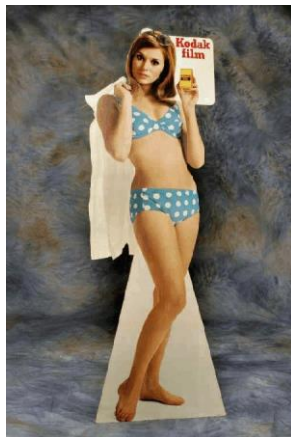
Georgia Durante's story of survival and determination teaches and inspires others to reach for their dreams and build their successes.

Contact Georgia Durante
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Stuntlady@me.com



Georgia Durante's life has been full of adventures, challenges and successes. Her life's path has crossed with the dangerous and the inspirational.

Georgia's story, as told in her best-selling book *The Company She Keeps*, started in Rochester New York. Her teen years led this young woman to take her first steps into the world of modeling and The Mob. Georgia's beauty won her attention. Her quest for adventure led her to fame. She became known nationally as The Kodak Girl. She was known in The Mob as a trustworthy driver.



The life of glamour Georgia lived on the outside became threatened by her life of marriage to a man that became her abuser. Georgia reveals in *The Company She Keeps* just what it takes to live in, survive and escape an abusive marriage.

Georgia's new life led her to Hollywood where she not only became a successful stunt driver but also the owner of her own stunt company. She's led a team of precision drivers whose work has been featured in many top Hollywood productions and memorable TV commercials.

Today Georgia travels around the country speaking to people and sharing her life lessons.



Georgia Durante presents life with a passion that's contagious. Her will, desires and achievements inspire all who hear and learn from them.

Georgia also makes herself available on a one-to-one basis via her website to share her experience and offer her advice.



Georgia can speak on these topics:

- Domestic Violence
- Spiritual Rebirth
- Life In the Mafia
- Life After Trauma
- Owning A Successful Business
- Parenthood
- Women In Business
- The Movie & TV Industry
- Parenthood

Let Georgia Durante add inspiration, electricity and fun to your event or group meeting.

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Georgia Durante travels the country sharing her story of survival and success as told in her best-selling book, *The*

Company She Keeps. No matter whether it's students in a college or women in a prison, Georgia's message is one that all people can connect with. It's a message that offers guidance and inspiration for whoever hears it.

When you present Georgia Durante at your event, you'll bring to those who attend a spark for their lives that will ignite a world of possibilities and opportunities.



Contact Georgia Durante today and learn how bringing this dynamic speaker to your audience will make your event or meeting unforgettable.

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Georgia has shared her story and inspired audiences for groups and organizations including.

Twin Towers Correctional Facility -
Los Angeles

Haven House Women's Shelter -
California

Cannon Air Force Base - New Mexico

National Writers Guild - Los Angeles

Star of Hope Mission - Houston

Little House Drug Rehabilitation Center

University of Oregon - Religious Studies

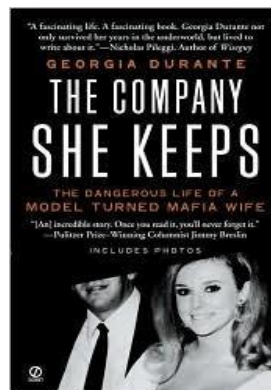
Juvenile Home - San
Antonio

Good Shepherd
Women's Shelter -
Los Angeles

Hartley House
Shelter

Women In Film - Los
Angeles

Safe Passage Women's Shelter -
California



Georgia's Media Appearances



Georgia Durante has years of media appearance experience. She has told her story and shared her message successfully on both a national and local level. Here is a selection of Georgia's previous media appearances.



Television

The O'Reilly Factor
Larry King Live
Montel Williams
America's Most Wanted
Politically Incorrect
E! True American Story
Lifetime
A&E
Discovery Channel
Celebrity Justice
Jay Leno's Garage – Getaway Girl
Los Angeles, Boston, Philadelphia,
Chicago, Miami and LasVegas

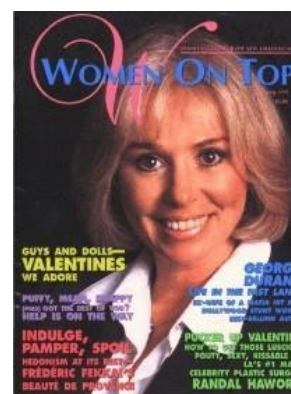


Radio

Howard Stern
Art Bell
G. Gordon Liddy
KRLA Los Angeles
WKZN New Orleans
KHMV Houston
KJSA Dallas-Ft. Worth
WPLR New Haven
WQBQ Orlando
WBNW Boston
WJJG Chicago
WILI Hartford
KPQ Seattle



Magazines
People
Glamour
American Woman
Screen Magazine



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The Company She Keeps by Georgia Durante

Life is expected to present challenges that a person hopefully learns from and grows. The life Georgia Durante led has indeed presented challenges. They were challenges that Georgia hoped to survive just so she would see another day.

Georgia Durante's life, as told in **The Company She Keeps**, took her from a loving home in Rochester, New York to the world of modeling in New York City. Her modeling career included a time as the nationally famous Kodak Summer Girl. Georgia's face and figure were seen in Kodak stores across the country.

During this journey she found herself in the world of The Mob. Just like in all parts of her life, Georgia stood out from the rest in the world of the Wiseguys. She became a trusted driver in a part of society where only men played the game.

Georgia's time in The Mob also brought to her the man that stole her heart. He later became the man that wanted to take her life. He was abusive. He was controlling. He was darkness in a human form. He was her husband.

The way that Georgia dealt with the abuse and fear, all while raising a daughter, and made her escape is a story that inspires and empowers all who read it. Georgia takes the old saying, "Watch out for that first step." and transforms it into a message of "Look for that first step." It was a first step that brought her back to a life of her own.

Georgia's escape from her abusive husband and the world of The Mafia led her to Hollywood. She couldn't resume her modeling career with so many people looking for her. Georgia relied on her driving talent to become a stunt driver. **The Company She Keeps** tells how Georgia went from being an employee to an employer by forming and

building her very own successful company, Performance Two, Inc.

Georgia Durante's story in **The Company She Keeps** takes the reader to many dangerous times and glamorous locations. You'll read about...

- What Mob Wars are really about
- The modeling world
- Georgia's rape by a brother-in-law
- How police once handled domestic violence
- Helping a child with a drug addiction

The Company She Keeps is a collection of experiences from the life of one woman that will inspire and help all who read them. It's full of more reality that teaches lessons of true survival than any television reality show you could ever watch.

The Company She Keeps

Hardcover ISBN #0-9746540-0-0

Softcover ISBN #0-97465-401-9

Paperback ISBN #0-45122-568-6

About The Author:

Georgia Durante currently owns and operates Performance Two, Inc., one of Hollywood's most successful stunt and precision driving companies. Georgia also travels around the country to talk to women about surviving domestic violence and abusive relationships. Georgia lives in Southern California.



The Company She Keeps

Chronology of Events

- ❑ By the time Georgia turned 17, as the Kodak Girl, she was considered the most photographed girl in the country.
- ❑ Months later she was raped by her brother-in-law (1967). Her childhood friend, Sammy G, who had risen in rank to the upper echelon of the Mafia, learns of Georgia's rape and wants to have the perpetrator killed. Georgia pleads for his life, and he is spared.
- ❑ Georgia goes to New York to pursue modeling. She meets Frankie, the owner of an after-hours club.
- ❑ While there, Georgia witnesses her first mob shooting. She drives the wounded man to the hospital in record time. Eyebrows were raised at how well she handled the wheel and it was the talk of the town for months to come.
- ❑ During this point in time, (1968 18 yrs old) Georgia meets with Carlo Gambino and starts her involvement as a courier and eventually driving get-a-way cars for the mob.
- ❑ By the age of 20, she has married, had a daughter, Toni, and divorced.
- ❑ On the night she leaves her husband Tom, she meets Joe Lamendola the same night, who becomes her second husband.

- ❑ Georgia witnesses Joe and two other men brutally kill a man, and are beaten by Joe to ensure her silence (1970- 20 years old).
- ❑ Georgia becomes a virtual prisoner. Joe would not let her answer a cry for help from her former sister-in-law, which results in the murder of her sister-in-law and her 4 young children by her former brother-in-law. As Georgia stood in the cemetery surrounded by 6 caskets she becomes acutely aware of how close she is to dying the same kind of death.
- ❑ As part of Joe's continuing games of brutality, he plays Russian roulette with a loaded gun at Georgia's head and hangs her by her ankles from a two-story building.
- ❑ Sammy G sees bruises on Georgia's body and has Joe beaten near death in Georgia's presence.
- ❑ Georgia escapes from Joe, but he tracks her to Las Vegas, and takes her into the desert to murder her. She jumps from the car to escape; they are arrested for the night, but she is then released to Joe's custody (1974).
- ❑ In 1976 (Georgia is 26 years old) a mob war breaks out, Joe and Georgia flee to San Diego.
- ❑ In the face of excessive abuse, Georgia finally breaks the vicious cycle and escapes to LA with her daughter, a full tank of gas and \$7 and lives in her car.
- ❑ Then she meets Steve, who becomes obsessed with Georgia and begins to stalk her when she rejects him. She is hunted down by the mob, an abusive husband who wants her dead, the FBI and the crazed stalker--all at the same time.
- ❑ Steve kidnaps Toni. After seeking the help of the police, to no avail, Georgia enlists a hit man to eliminate Steve from her life, but only allows him to be beaten.

- ❑ Steve contacts the FBI to investigate Georgia. She turns the table on Steve and helps the FBI send STEVE to prison for five years.
- ❑ Georgia cannot pursue modeling on a national level for fear she will be found. She notices how many car commercials there are on the air and realizes you can never SEE the driver. She seeks out Directors who shoot car spots and hounds them until they hire her, even though women were not doing that sort of thing in the 70's. They were putting wigs on guys. They immediately recognize her talent and she is on the way to a new career and life.
- ❑ Sammy G is murdered, blown up in his car, marking a closure of sorts for Georgia (1978).
- ❑ Georgia meets Richard, a wealthy businessman, and after a year, becomes a wife, for the third time (1979).
- ❑ Joe comes back into Georgia's life, forcing her to launder money for him.
- ❑ At the age of thirty (1980), Georgia becomes pregnant with a son by Richard. Nine days after giving birth to her son, she catches Richard cheating and discovers his addiction to cocaine.
- ❑ Georgia divorces Richard-1983. She meets an investment banker, Dennis, and falls in love with him. Months later, he is killed in a plane crash 1985.
- ❑ Georgia's daughter becomes addicted to drugs in the wake of being molested by Joe during weekend visits.
- ❑ Georgia forces Joe to be confronted by a therapy group, which Toni is attending. He is verbally torn to shreds. His ego is shattered; he flees to New York, becomes a recluse and eventually kills himself.

- ❑ After five years in hiding, everyone who wants her dead is now dead themselves. Georgia starts her own company, Performance Two Inc., (1986) with which she and her team perform stunts in hundreds of commercials, movies and television shows.
- ❑ While filming a stunt for a Bugle Boy Jeans commercial in 1993, driving a vintage Dino Ferrari, the stunt went bad. The vehicle left the road and flipped 3 times heading towards a 300ft drop off into the ocean, stopping just 40ft. short of going over the cliff. Georgia's only thought was of the car as she somersaulted toward her death. Never did she think of her life. When she returned home from location she made an appointment with a therapist to find out why her life was not important to her. The therapist suggested she write for 20 minutes a day in a journal.

The book, **The Company She Keeps** was born from that journaling. It has proven to help many women to take the negatives in their lives and turn them into positives. One woman decided not to kill herself after reading Georgia's story and another was saved from being murdered. Thousands have reached out to Georgia for direction.

Georgia has always felt the presence of angels in her life, but only now does she understand what God's purpose is for her. Her life's journey were the lessons she needed to do His work. She has learned her lessons well. Today Georgia travels around the country speaking at shelters for abuse women, helping others to find their way through her life story.

Contact Information:

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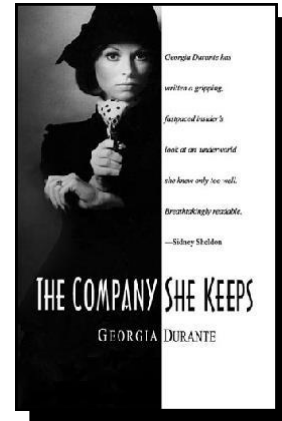
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What People Are Saying About The Company She Keeps

Georgia Durante has written a gripping, fast-paced, insider's look at an underworld she knew only too well. Breathtakingly readable.

Sidney Sheldon - best-selling Author



We've all heard of the Mafia, and read about mobsters, but Georgia Durante saw them up close. She lived with them. She experienced their violence. She survived their wars. In *The Company She Keeps*, she tells her fascinating story. Once you read it, you'll never forget it.

Jimmy Breslin - Pulitzer Prize winning columnist and best-selling Author

Georgia Durante's life exemplifies many of the strengths I've written about. She refused to surrender to abuse, and moved from being a victim to being a victor. She's an inspiration for any woman who feels her situation is hopeless.

Susan Forward, Ph.D. - best-selling Author of Emotional

Blackmail and Men Who Hate Women and the Women Who Love Them

Georgia Durante has had quite a life, and the courage it takes to live it. I would have never imagined all she's been through. She hides a lot behind that lovely smile.

Hugh O'Brian - Actor

I spent a lifetime chasing gangsters out of the lives
of decent people with the help of my colleagues in the FBI.
Georgia Durante chased them out of her life by herself. She
should have worked with us. This is an exceptionally intriguing
book with eye-opening lessons for everyone.

Bill Fleming, Special Agent - (Retired)Federal Bureau of Investigation

The Company She Keeps could very well be the woman's
version of my biography, "Wiseguy." A truly unique and
insightful dimension to the underworld, written with bone
chilling detail. Very well done.

Henry Hill - Wiseguy/ Witness Protection Program

Georgia Durante has great skill as an author. Her
warmth, her daring and her intelligence make this book a great
adventure. I couldn't put it down. Read this book! You'll be
amazed, you'll be excited. You'll be grateful I made you do it.

Buddy Hackett - Entertainer and Comedian

It's one of those stories that makes you want to write
a better critique than anyone else's. But Georgia has written
the best one of all. You'll agree with me tomorrow morning
when you still haven't put The Company She Keeps to bed.

Morton Downey, Jr. - Network Talk Show Pioneer

The Company She Keeps is the high-interest, quick
paced account of life in the fast lane. At the heart is the
love of danger and excitement which is, for Georgia, almost
a fatal flaw. Fortunately, a love of autos and an uncanny
ability to control high-horsepower cars led to an unexpected
escape route. Hers is a story well worth reading.

Samuel Hallock duPont, Jr. - Entrepreneur and Philanthropist

Quite unreal, really. What a life.

Graham Nash - Musician; Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young

Once you start reading this book, you cannot put it down. This book covers everything from flashy show-people to the mob, to ordinary everyday people. There's a surprise on every page and a twist and turn in every chapter.

Dick Van Patten - Actor

Georgia Durante has an adventurous spirit and has led a glamorous life. She honestly shares painful experiences in this fascinating and entertaining book.

Stella Stevens - Actress

The Company She Keeps is a story of today. Women will relate to Georgia's inner strength that enabled her to overcome obstacles; and men will relate to her courage and admire her perseverance.

Marty Allen - Entertainer and Comedian

The Company She Keeps is a superbly written autobiography about a lovely young woman's struggle and victory. What a struggle; what a victory; and what a woman! Georgia is one of a kind, and so is her book.

Alan Young - Actor and Author

In The Company She Keeps Georgia Durante, not only survived her years in the underworld, but lived to write about it. A fascinating life. A fascinating book.

Nicholas Pileggi - Best selling author of Wiseguy (Goodfellas) and Casino