



# When Frankie Went to Hollywood: Frank Sinatra and American Male Identity

*Karen McNally*

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This first in-depth study of Frank Sinatra's film career explores his iconic status in relation to his many performances in postwar Hollywood cinema. *When Frankie Went to Hollywood* considers how Sinatra's musical acts, television appearances, and public commentary impacted his screen performances in *Pal Joey*, *The Tender Trap*, *Some Came Running*, *The Man with the Golden Arm*, and other hits. A lively discussion of sexuality, class, race, ethnicity, and male vulnerability in postwar American culture illuminates Karen McNally's investigation into Sinatra's cinematic roles and public persona. This entertainment luminary, she finds, was central in shaping debates surrounding definitions of American male identity in the 1940s and '50s.

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