

## Who Were The Beatles Who Was

A highly evocative story set in Liverpool of the 1960's. An exploration of what it was to be like to be young in the time and city of The Beatles. The joys of music and football in a golden age. At the start of the 1960's Liverpool is an ordinary, northern city. Badly damaged by German bombs and still struggling to shake off the fall-out from the war. Tony and his teenage friends look at their dull, grey lives and dream of something better. Even their beloved football team, Liverpool FC, seem to be stuck in Division Two and going nowhere. Then The Beatles and Bill Shankly come along. And everything goes crazy. The city is the focus of world attention. And it isn't just the music. Liverpool start to dominate English football, becoming one of the very best teams in Europe. Tony and his friends watch The Beatles, who they first saw playing at small local venues like The Casbah and Litherland Town Hall, go on to achieve worldwide fame. It is an astonishing time to be young and living in Liverpool. Tony writes songs and falls in love with a girl living in Penny Lane. He and his friends join the swaying crowd on the Kop at Anfield to watch Bill Shankly's team and sing 'You'll Never Walk Alone'. The future looks bright. But life can be cruel. Nothing lasts forever. We all, in the end, have to grow up.

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How the hell did four guys, from a city on the Northwest Coast of England, come to rule the world? I can not imagine what life would have been like without them. Can you? How would the current economic state or all of the sorrows of the world compare to going through life never hearing "She Loves You" or "A Day in the Life"? Instead, we were able to live vicariously through a story that would make a great novel (if someone ever chose to write it as such). It has everything you need: desire, early failures, bleak moments, heartbreak, love affairs, dragon women and helpless maidens, martyrs, incredible characters-some dark and some light- coming and going just when they were most needed, insecurity and loyalty, triumph against all odds, the world held in the sway of four men who changed it all, a breakup that was viewed with more despair than Charles and Diana and-finally-four figures, four separate Phoenixes, stumbling to their feet and learning for the first time how to stand up without their three mates at their side. The intention of this book is to capture some of that story with a focus on the evolution of the bass playing of Paul McCartney. The book's genesis was a website devoted to his bass guitar work (still online at [www.alstrand.com](http://www.alstrand.com)) but it became clear that any discussion of one aspect of the Beatles leaves the rest of the story wanting. For example, to talk only about McCartney's most famous bass line-the one in "Come Together"-ignores the innovative drumming of Ringo Starr,

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the swampiness of Paul's electric piano, the quality of John Lennon's voice, and the mere fact that he is saying "shoot me" at the start of each instrumental riff. To talk about one thing, you have to talk about it all. Writing this book, I soon realized, was like riding on an emotional roller coaster. Pull out an old Beatles' chestnut and listen closely to it with the intention of explaining it to someone else and you'll see what I mean. In my case, maybe something about the structure of the arrangement would strike me as brilliant and I'd grapple for words to describe it. Words that did not make me sound like a wide-eyed, throat-gurgling, gob-smacked fanatic. Which I am, but I do try to hide it in these pages. The songs that I had the most fun with were "She Loves You," "A Day in the Life," "Hey Jude," "Come Together" and "I Want You (She's So Heavy)." Each song presents itself as a well-orchestrated masterpiece, complete in every way. To me, the Beatles were such an incredible team-such a tight unit-that whatever an individual did had an impact on the larger unit. In the early days, the group would generally run their songs through what I call the Beatles Machine. A song would go in with chords and melody and come out a full-fledged Beatles song.

Who Were the Beatles?Penguin

(If You Like). The Beatles came up in the rock and-and-roll era, when Chuck Berry, Little Richard, and Elvis Presley defined cool. Their early shows were big

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beat bacchanals, the Brit interpretation of that crazy American sound. But it wasn't long before they were absorbing and creating more and more music from folk to experimental, to psychedelia and hard rock, quite literally changing music forever and influencing hundreds of great bands in the process. This is the first book for music lovers that begins with the simple premise, "If you like the Beatles . . . ," and takes off from there, digging into their influences and everything that came after them, opening up new doors for listeners looking for no-risk discs to expand their collection. Beginning with the Beatles' lesser-known roots in rockabilly and Tin Pan Alley, and working through American R&B, the British Invasion, California folk, and the Summer of Love, and to the great pop and rock bands of the '80s, '90s, and the 21st century, this is a must-have for anyone who likes the Beatles, which is...everyone.

Drawing on methodologies and approaches from media and cultural studies, sociology, social history and the study of popular music, this book outlines the development of the study of men and masculinities, and explores the role of cultural texts in bringing about social change. It is against this backdrop that The Beatles, as a cultural phenomenon, are set, and their four live action films, spanning the years 1964-1970, are examined as texts through which to read changing representations of men and masculinity in 'the Sixties'. Dr Martin King

considers ideas about a male revolt predating second-wave feminism, The Beatles as inheritors of the possibilities of the 1950s and The Beatles' emergence as men of ideas: a global cultural phenomenon that transgressed boundaries and changed expectations about the role of popular artists in society. King further explores the chosen Beatle texts to examine discourses of masculinity at work within them. What emerges is the discovery of discourses around resistance, non-conformity, feminized appearance, pre-metrosexuality, the male star as object of desire, and the emergence of The Beatles themselves as a text that reflected the radical diversity of a period of rapid social change. King draws valuable conclusions about the legacy of these discourses and their impact in subsequent decades.

For a memorable week in June 1964, the Beatles toured New Zealand, giving concerts in the four main centres and changing life as we knew it for ever. For teenagers of the time, it was the most exciting week of their lives. Teachers were ignored and parents defied as thousands of young people devised ingenious ways of seeing their idols. For this book Graham Hutchins has interviewed dozens of people who were directly affected by the visit, from fans who attended the concerts and people who accompanied the Beatles on tour, to contemporary musicians and John Lennon's Kiwi relations. The visit of the Fab Four is

remembered through the reminiscences of these eyewitnesses, and through a mass of photographs and memorabilia that illustrate the text. The author also assesses the long-term impact the Beatles made on New Zealand music and on society at large. Full of memories and nostalgia, this is the ideal souvenir of one of the most remarkable weeks in New Zealand's history.

by Andy Neill Culturally The Beatles were a global phenomenon changing all facets of popular music for good, but not just because they were a band that made great recordings. How big a part did performing in concert play? Would they have achieved what they did without an early grounding in the dancehalls and clubs of Liverpool and Hamburg? After their first year as a headline-grabbing attraction, why did The Beatles soon tire of the relentless pace of Beatlemania? As a record 73 million viewers watched the Beatles American debut on The Ed Sullivan Show a half-century ago, the audience was largely unaware of the behind-the-scenes efforts in the preceding weeks and months that made the historic Feb. 9, 1964 performance a reality. Those efforts were spearheaded by Louise Harrison—sister of guitarist George Harrison—from her home in a small town in southern Illinois. In *My Kid Brother's Band* a.k.a. *The Beatles Louise* describes her tireless efforts to help promote the Beatles—who were already household names in England—and their records on this side of the Atlantic. *My Kid*

Brother's Band a.k.a. The Beatles is the never-before-told story of the author's crucial behind-the-scenes work as an American resident to guide Beatles' manager Brian Epstein and producer George Martin and assist them in the effort to spread Beatlemania from Britain to the U.S. In the book, Louise Harrison describes and documents her efforts to establish nationwide contacts and help Epstein secure distribution agreements with Capitol Records and assist him in securing a meeting with CBS's Ed Sullivan. The book also describes her experiences in traveling with the Beatles on their first American tours in the summer of '64, '65 and '66, including many untold episodes of the ever-present hysteria faced by brother George and band mates Paul McCartney, John Lennon and Ringo Starr and how they coped with Beatlemania. In My Kid Brother's Band a.k.a. The Beatles, Louise tells of the Harrisons' Liverpool home becoming a regular hangout for the group, and how her parents provided a nurturing environment for George and the other Beatles. The family principles, Louise says, helped to guide Harrison and the band through their unprecedented success during the '60s and through George's solo career. "It's important for you to know more about our parents and our upbringing," writes Louise, "so you can better understand how (George) became the man you love and admire." The book contains dozens of photos of George and the Beatles, as well as images of

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correspondence documenting her communication with Epstein and with radio and recording industry executives as she worked to give the group exposure in the months leading up to the landmark Sullivan appearance.

A distinctive portrait of the Fab Four by one of the sharpest and wittiest writers of our time "If you want to know what it was like to live those extraordinary Beatles years in real time, read this book." —Alan Johnson, *The Spectator* Though fifty years have passed since the breakup of the Beatles, the fab four continue to occupy an utterly unique place in popular culture. Their influence extends far beyond music and into realms as diverse as fashion and fine art, sexual politics and religion. When they appeared on *The Ed Sullivan Show* in 1964, fresh off the plane from England, they provoked an epidemic of hoarse-throated fandom that continues to this day. Who better, then, to capture the Beatles phenomenon than Craig Brown—the inimitable author of *Ninety-Nine Glimpses of Princess Margaret* and master chronicler of the foibles and foppishness of British high society? This wide-ranging portrait of the four lads from Liverpool rivals the unique spectacle of the band itself by delving into a vast catalog of heretofore unexamined lore. When actress Eleanor Bron touched down at Heathrow with the Beatles, she thought that a flock of starlings had alighted on the roof of the terminal—only to discover that the birds were in fact young women screaming at the top of their

lungs. One journalist, mistaken for Paul McCartney as he trailed the band in his car, found himself nearly crushed to death as fans climbed atop the vehicle and pressed their bodies against the windshield. Or what about the Baptist preacher who claimed that the Beatles synchronized their songs with the rhythm of an infant's heartbeat so as to induce a hypnotic state in listeners? And just how many people have employed the services of a Canadian dentist who bought John Lennon's tooth at auction, extracted its DNA, and now offers paternity tests to those hoping to sue his estate? 150 Glimpses of the Beatles is, above all, a distinctively kaleidoscopic examination of the Beatles' effect on the world around them and the world they helped bring into being. Part anthropology and part memoir, and enriched by the recollections of everyone from Tom Hanks to Bruce Springsteen, this book is a humorous, elegiac, and at times madcap take on the Beatles' role in the making of the sixties and of music as we know it.

In the mid-1960s, when so much was happening in the world and the volume everywhere seemed dialed up to 11, the Beatles were the biggest thing on the planet. Their fans screamed from the fences as the Fab Four walked across the airport tarmac or into a vast stadium. They wanted to touch the Beatles. They wanted to know the Beatles. Who might help them? One photographer was inside. The young Australian Robert Whitaker had been noticed by Beatles

manager Brian Epstein, who then hired him. When Beatlemania exploded, Whitaker was along for the wild ride. He was backstage, he was in the studio, he went to the boys' homes, he became their friend and confidante (He grew particularly close to John). Robert Whitaker fashioned many of the iconic Beatles images, and all his pictures of the band were taken in the period that Beatles fans most like to remember: when they were fab, when they changed our culture. Bob Whitaker-a great photographer, after all-was a friend of LIFE's and made contributions to earlier books on John Lennon and George Harrison. In the months before his death in September 2011, he was collaborating with us on this book, his Beatles magnum opus. In these pages are rarely or never seen photographs and his personal reflections, which add resonance to the images. For those who once wanted to touch the Beatles, wanted to know them, this is an essential document. It is full of vitality. Beatlemania was a crazy, crazy place to be, and it is captured here in all its nutty glory. Then, too, there are the famous Whitaker album covers, including the early drafts of the notorious-and banned-Yesterday and Today jacket. It is LIFE's good fortune, and it will be our readers', that Bob Whitaker talked about all this with us and others through the years. His testimony is that of a proverbial fifth Beatle: He was there, part of the scene. He saw it all, he recorded much of it on film, and he remembered even more. Here,

then, is Bob Whitaker's final word on the Beatles—all his best photographs, all his reminiscences. LIFE is proud to bring forth this book. It does what we always try to do—present great photography—and it also pays tribute to a bygone time, a bygone band that we all loved, and a man who was a dear friend.

Finding The Fourth Beatle The is the story of The Beatles from 1956-1970 told through the 23 drummers, including Colin Hanton, Pete Best and Jimmie Nicol, and some you will not have heard of before. The Beatles' crises; changes of musical direction, getting a record deal, and finding the drummer who would put the beat into The Beatles: Ringo Starr, the Fourth Beatle. ?The story of all the 23 drummers ?Those who could have joined The Beatles, but didn't ?Expert analysis of the drummers by drummers ?Why Brian Epstein didn't sign the Beatles first contract ?Why The Beatles failed the Decca audition ?Were The Beatles under contract at Parlophone in June 62? ?Who was asked to replace Pete Best before Ringo ?Why Pete Best was not sacked/dismissed by Brian Epstein ?Why Ringo became the Fourth Beatle and inspired a generation of drummers

A riveting look at the transformative year in the lives and careers of the legendary group whose groundbreaking legacy would forever change music and popular culture. They started off as hysteria-inducing pop stars playing to audiences of

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screaming teenage fans and ended up as musical sages considered responsible for ushering in a new era. The year that changed everything for the Beatles was 1966—the year of their last concert and their first album, *Revolver*, that was created to be listened to rather than performed. This was the year the Beatles risked their popularity by retiring from live performances, recording songs that explored alternative states of consciousness, experimenting with avant-garde ideas, and speaking their minds on issues of politics, war, and religion. It was the year their records were burned in America after John's explosive claim that the group was "more popular than Jesus," the year they were hounded out of the Philippines for "snubbing" its First Lady, the year John met Yoko Ono, and the year Paul conceived the idea for Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band. On the fiftieth anniversary of this seminal year, music journalist and Beatles expert Steve Turner slows down the action to investigate in detail the enormous changes that took place in the Beatles' lives and work during 1966. He looks at the historical events that had an impact on the group, the music they made that in turn profoundly affected the culture around them, and the vision that allowed four young men from Liverpool to transform popular music and serve as pioneers for artists from Coldplay to David Bowie, Jay-Z to U2. By talking to those close to the group and by drawing on his past interviews with key figures such as George

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Martin, Timothy Leary, and Ravi Shankar—and the Beatles themselves—Turner gives us the compelling, definitive account of the twelve months that contained everything the Beatles had been and anticipated everything they would still become.

No icon of pop music before or since can be said to have been so influential on a generation as the Beatles were on the 'Swinging Sixties'. By 1965, the worldwide success, the hordes of hysterical fans and the catchy pop songs perfectly captured on seven-inch vinyl, guaranteed the Fab Four a place in the history of popular culture.

"A biography of the Beatles, the world's most famous rock band"--Provided by publisher.

"It's All About the Music!" Welcome to another in the Legends of Rock & Roll series. This is, like the others, a mini-biography of one the greatest performers in the music world. This time, I highlight a British performer who was 1/4 of the great group, The Beatles, John Lennon. However, this book is not about the Beatles. While I know that you can't write about John Lennon without considering the Beatles, the emphasis of this book is not the Beatles, but instead, the life and music of John Lennon. In this particular volume, I will discuss John's early life and his joining up with three other lads to create what is probably the greatest

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rock and roll group in the history of the world. But it all ended at one point and John had a solo career which came to a tragic end in 1980. Come with me for a walk down memory lane as I review the life of John Lennon, and especially, the music that he produced. We'll visit each of his hits and find out how they came to be written or how they were recorded; and discuss any trivia that might be associated with the music. This book is about the man but even more importantly, it's about the music. This series is my way of honoring the people that have brought so much joy to our lives over the years. It is an unauthorized fan tribute. The Chapters include: Introduction - A general introduction and a kick-off for the book. Growing Up - A brief summary of his life before the music started. The School Years - Attending school and going to college where he met his first wife. The Quarrymen - This was the group John created that evolved into the Beatles. Which member of the Beatles was not a Quarrymen? The Birth of the Beatles - The final steps that resulted in the Beatles. Personal Notes During This Period - Was John a romantic? How did he meet his first wife? "Help!" - Some notes behind a couple famous Beatles songs. "More Popular Than Jesus" - Why did John make this remark that caused a furor across the United States? Maharishi Mahesh Yogi - The group gets into drugs and transcendental meditation. Yoko Ono - How did John meet the love of his life? Read two

versions. John and Yoko - John's solo career actually began with Yoko before the Beatles broke up. Going Solo - The actual breakup and John's first solo records. "Imagine" - Some thoughts about his most famous song. Trouble with the Law - Why would President Nixon try to deport John? Lost Weekend - Yoko left John for some 18 months. How he coped. "Walls and Bridges" - John finally gets his own number one song. Paul, George & Ringo - What was John's relationship with the other guys after the breakup? Retirement for Awhile - Yoko is pregnant, so John retires from performing to stay home and care for his family for 5 years. December 8, 1980 - The fateful day. John is murdered by what is called a "crazed fan." The Days After - The aftermath of the killing. Legacy of John Lennon - Every Legends book has a Legacy section where we review the awards and contributions of the artist. Afterword - My closing thoughts. Selected Discography - A list of the major albums and singles by John Lennon.

"We're Going to See the Beatles!" presents the story of Beatlemania in America as experienced by their most devoted fans. "We're Going to See the Beatles!" includes anecdotes from those who cheered the group as they arrived at Kennedy Airport in 1964, who kept vigil for them outside the Plaza Hotel, and who sat in the studio audience of The Ed Sullivan Show for the band's landmark first live TV broadcast. Other fans detail what it was like to see the Beatles in one

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of their rare concerts at such famous venues as Shea Stadium and Candlestick Park. From the earliest whispers about the band to the Beatles' appearance on The Ed Sullivan Show, and from their subsequent tours and albums to their breakup, author Garry Berman has collected stories from the fans who witnessed the hysteria firsthand. Contributors from around the United States also share photographs and mementos to help create a richly detailed and entertaining oral history. What emerges is a highly personal account of the Beatles and their incredible impact on music and popular culture.

The original long-lost Beatles graphic novel! This is the extraordinary graphic novel charting the creation, evolution and break-up of the fab four, originally published in 1981. The Beatles Story is an exceptionally illustrated account of the band from one of the leading artists of his generation, the UK's Arthur Ranson (Batman, Judge Dredd, Button Man). Written by Angus Allan it includes fascinating insights into Paul McCartney and John Lennon's first encounter, their early gigs in Hamburg's Kaiser Keller, through to the recording of the legendary Abbey Road album and the band's break-up. First published in the pages of legendary UK youth magazine Look In, this beautifully illustrated account is a treat for both the devoted Beatles admirer and new fans alike. This new edition is published in the Treasury of British Comics line, a series devoted to restoring lost

comics classics.

(Berklee Press). An essential guide for all songwriters and Beatles fans, this book explores John Lennon's songwriting genius with a guided tour through 25 of his Beatles-era hits. Author John Stevens explains Lennon's intuitive talent from a technical point of view, through the lens of songwriting's three basic elements: melody, harmony and lyric. He shows how Lennon fashioned songs that were at once politically and socially relevant during the '60s, yet remain ageless and timeless today. Features in-depth musical analysis of: A Hard Day's Night \* Ticket to Ride \* Norwegian Wood \* Strawberry Fields Forever \* Come Together \* and more. John Stevens is a songwriting professor at Berklee College of Music. For more than 20 years, he has taught "The Music of John Lennon," one of the most popular courses in the Berklee curriculum. "You've got the Beatles' records and the John Lennon records; now with this book, you can have the Owner's Manual. This will tell you how the songs are built and how they work. Good stuff." Marshall Crenshaw, Singer/Songwriter

The Casbah Coffee Club, which opened in Liverpool on August 29, 1959, was the brainchild of Mona Best, the mother of Pete Best. It is well known that Pete Best was the drummer for The Beatles in their early days in Liverpool and Hamburg. But less well known is that The Beatles' origins were in fact at Pete's

mother's club-it was at the Casbah and with Mona Best's blessing that the greatest popular music phenomenon of the twentieth century began. And now, the basement club where The Quarrymen, The Silver Beatles, and finally The Beatles played over 90 times before they hit the Cavern has been reopened and revealed by this remarkable new book. The Casbah's significance cannot be overestimated-it brought together some of the greatest names in rock music and became the catalyst for the Mersey Beat phenomenon that swept Liverpool in the early 1960s. Seen here for the first time in forty years is the basement's interior as it was at the very beginning, juxtaposed with the rooms as they are today, where the ceilings painted by John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, and Pete Best still rest. A wealth of rare material from the club and the Bests' own archives, together with newly-commissioned images by renowned photographer Sandro Sodano, documents the club's and The Beatles' intertwined stories. The Beatles: The True Beginnings also features accounts from early fans hearing the Beatles for the first time. Stunning new color photography of the rooms and memorabilia of the Casbah Coffee Club. Gritty, never-before seen photos of the young Beatles playing for hundreds of their very first fans. And comments from the Beatles and their closest friends from the period. Accompanied by a fascinating personal memoir of this extraordinary time,

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written by Roag Best with his brothers Pete and Rory, this is both a moving family tribute and a unique insight into a remarkable period of Beatles history. The glory of the Casbah has hidden for almost half a century in the Best family's basement rooms. This account of their earliest days promises to blow back its roof, and that of the Beatles' unbelievable history, forever.

NPR Best Book of 2017 Winner of the 2017 Virgil Thomson Award for Outstanding Music Criticism "This is the best book about the Beatles ever written" —Mashable Rob Sheffield, the Rolling Stone columnist and bestselling author of *Love Is a Mix Tape* offers an entertaining, unconventional look at the most popular band in history, the Beatles, exploring what they mean today and why they still matter so intensely to a generation that has never known a world without them. *Dreaming the Beatles* is not another biography of the Beatles, or a song-by-song analysis of the best of John and Paul. It isn't another exposé about how they broke up. It isn't a history of their gigs or their gear. It is a collection of essays telling the story of what this ubiquitous band means to a generation who grew up with the Beatles music on their parents' stereos and their faces on T-shirts. What do the Beatles mean today? Why are they more famous and beloved now than ever? And why do they still matter so much to us, nearly fifty years after they broke up? As he did in his previous books, *Love is a*

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Mix Tape, Talking to Girls About Duran Duran, and Turn Around Bright Eyes, Sheffield focuses on the emotional connections we make to music. This time, he focuses on the biggest pop culture phenomenon of all time—The Beatles. In his singular voice, he explores what the Beatles mean today, to fans who have learned to love them on their own terms and not just for the sake of nostalgia. *Dreaming the Beatles* tells the story of how four lads from Liverpool became the world's biggest pop group, then broke up—but then somehow just kept getting bigger. At this point, their music doesn't belong to the past—it belongs to right now. This book is a celebration of that music, showing why the Beatles remain the world's favorite thing—and how they invented the future we're all living in today.

Liverpool, England, October 1956. Schoolboy John Lennon and his best friend, Peter Shotton, decide to start a skiffle group as "a bit of a lark." Four years later John, now accompanied by Paul McCartney, George Harrison, Stuart Sutcliffe and Pete Best, leaves Liverpool to start a series of near legendary gigs in Hamburg, Germany. His group now performing under their newly acquired name THE BEATLES. This is the story of those four years. The story of how one of thousands of amateur schoolboy skiffle bands evolved into the beginnings of the greatest band in popular history. It's a story of hope, creativity and exploring

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musical boundaries. It's also a story of tragedy, coincidence and at times just sheer luck. This is a story of beginnings, the story of John, Paul, George and Ringo - Before They Were Beatles.

It's hard to believe there are young people growing up today never knowing the impact The Beatles have had on their everyday lives. Finally is a picture book explaining to children in simple story form who The Beatles were and what their influence was on hair, dress, lifestyle, and music. Written in answer to the child who asks "Mom, Dad, who are The Beatles?" and as a way for parents to pass along the legacy of The Beatles to the next generation.

A lavishly illustrated, rollicking account of the real people and events that inspired the Beatles' songs, now fully updated and revised by renowned Beatles expert and music journalist Steve Turner—the definitive analysis of the music and influences of the world's most successful and popular rock-and-roll band and the only volume that contains a complete set of printed lyrics to all of the Beatles' songs. Who was "just 17" and made Paul's "heart go boom"? Was there really an Eleanor Rigby? Where's Penny Lane? What inspired "Happiness is a Warm Gun"? Why was Paul the "walrus"? What inspired the lyrics to Ringo's "Octopus's Garden"? Arranged chronologically by album, *The Complete Beatles Songs* examines the inspiration behind the group's writing and discusses every song

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created by John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, and Ringo Starr. Steve Turner shatters well-worn myths and adds a new dimension to the Fab Four's rich legacy by investigating events immortalized in The Beatles' music, which has influenced numerous contemporary artists and continues to endure in popular culture. Fully revised and updated (originally published as *A Hard Day's Write*), *The Complete Beatles Songs* is the only volume that contains a complete set of printed lyrics to all of the Beatles' songs, used with exclusive permission from the band's music publisher SonyATV. It also includes new information on many songs, plus brand-new stories and revelations, as well as 200 black-and-white and color photographs-many exclusive to the book. The result is a unique, authoritative, and compelling masterpiece that chronicles the untold story of the Beatles themselves, for faithful fans and new generations discovering their music for the first time.

*The Beatles Off The Record* is the most comprehensive oral history of The Beatles ever published - an 'as it happened' story of the greatest pop group of them all. Featuring a wealth of quotes from the Sixties by John, Paul, George and Ringo themselves and a host of others who were close to the group during the heady days of Beatlemania and beyond, including their families, fellow musicians, Brian Epstein, George Martin and dozens more. As Hunter Davis, The

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Beatles official biographer, states in his foreword; ...compared with some of The Beatles' later selective and polished or faulty and fading memories, this is much nearer the truth. Well, as it appeared to be, at the time...

The Beatles were a British rock band formed in Liverpool, England in 1960, consisting of John Lennon, James Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ritchie Starkey. They are widely regarded as the greatest and most influential band of the rock era. In the early 1960s, their enormous popularity first emerged as Beatlemania. From 1965 onwards, The Beatles produced what many critics consider their finest material, including the innovative and widely influential albums Rubber Soul (1965), Revolver (1966), Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band (1967), The White Album (1968) and Abbey Road (1969). They eventually disbanded in 1970, and John, Paul and George and to a somewhat lesser extent Ringo, enjoyed successful musical careers on their own and with others.

According to statistics from the RIAA, The Beatles are the best-selling music artists in the United States, with 177 million certified units. They have had more number-one albums on the British charts and sold more singles in the UK than any other musical act in the world. In 2008, the group topped Billboard magazine's list of the all-time most successful "Hot 100" artists. As of 2014, they hold the record for most number-one hits on the Hot 100 chart with twenty. Most

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people know that part of their story but not many know the conspiracy theory which has shadowed them for nearly fifty years. Proponents of that theory claim that Lennon, Harrison, Starr and their manager Epstein were also involved in the biggest cover-up in rock and roll history when they conspired, with others, to conceal from the general public, the death of their most popular member, bass guitarist James Paul McCartney and replaced him with an impostor. It may seem utterly preposterous but in 2009 two eminent Italian scientists conducted a forensic examination of the pre-1966 McCartney and post-1966 McCartney and determined that it was highly unlikely that Sir Paul McCartney is the original Beatle James Paul McCartney. This book examines the documentary evidence upon which this theory is based, including over one hundred hidden messages about the death deliberately left by The Beatles themselves in their album covers, lyrics and in backward masking. As Heather Mills McCartney said on national TV: "Something so awful happened. People don't want to know what the truth is because they could never ever handle it, they'd be too devastated." Prepare to be shocked as we unravel the greatest rock and roll mystery ever. But before reading, ask yourself one question: Can you handle the truth?

To discover the truth behind the "Lennon-McCartney" attribution, Todd Compton focuses his skills as a historian to sort through and analyze much contradictory

evidence and to reach a verdict on who wrote each Beatle song. This finally allows us to understand the idiosyncratic brilliance of both Lennon and McCartney.

A definitive, in-depth, revelatory exploration of John Lennon's intensely personal first major solo album after the breakup of the Beatles. Described by Lennon as "the best thing I've ever done," and widely regarded as his best solo album, John Lennon/Plastic Ono Band was released on 11 December 1970. With first-hand commentary by Lennon, Ono, and other members of the band, and packed with previously unseen photographs by those who documented their lives, this incisive volume offers new insights into the raw emotions and open mindset of Lennon after marriage to Ono and the breakup of the Beatles, to the making of the album and revealing interview with Jann Wenner in December 1970. Primal therapy had a huge impact on Lennon's songwriting, resulting in the creation of intensely personal, soul-baring tracks. This book takes his lyrics as a starting point and explores Lennon's life, career, and self-perception, from "performing flea" with the Beatles to authenticity as a solo artist.

A lifetime of letters, collected for the first time, from the legendary musician and songwriter. John Lennon is one of the world's greatest-ever song writers, creator of 'Help!', 'Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds', 'Imagine' and dozens more. Now, his

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letters have been collected and published, illuminating as never before the intimate side of a private genius. Hunter Davies, author of the only authorised biography of The Beatles, has tracked down almost three hundred of John's letters and postcards - to relations, friends, fans, strangers, lovers and even to the laundry. Some of the letters are tender, informative, funny, angry and abusive, and some are simply heart-breaking. Many are illustrated with John's own drawings, doodles and jokes. Davies tells the story of each letter and together they form a compelling narrative, from Lennon's earliest surviving thank-you note, written when he was ten, to his last scribbled autograph given on 8 December 1980 - the day he was shot, aged forty.

Why was Pete Best sacked from the Beatles? In this unique book, based on extensive research and interviews with those close to the events, Spencer Leigh has gathered the clues together to try and solve the greatest Beatles mystery of all. On 16 August 1962, the Beatles drummer, Pete Best, went to see their manager, Brian Epstein, in his Liverpool office. He thought that Epstein wanted to discuss future bookings with him but instead, Epstein sacked him. Pete had not seen it coming. Why did Brian Epstein do it and not the Beatles themselves? Why did they want to be rid of him? Why did they do it so callously? Pete never spoke to any of them again. Best of the Beatles: The sacking of Pete Best tells

you what really happened and is essential reading for Beatles fans.

A unique combination of musical analysis and cultural history, *Tell Me Why* stands alone among Beatles books with its single-minded focus on the most important aspect of the band: its music. Riley offers a new, deeper understanding of the Beatles by closely considering each song and album they recorded in an exploration as rigorous as it is soulful. He tirelessly sifts through the Beatles discography, making clear that the legendary four were more than mere teen idols: They were brilliant innovators who mastered an extremely detailed art. Since the first publication of *Tell Me Why* in 1988, much new primary source material has appeared—Paul McCartney's authorized biography, the Anthology CDs and videos, the complete Parlophone-sequenced albums on CD, the Live at the BBC sessions, and the global smash 1. Riley incorporates all the new material in an update that makes this a crucial book for Beatles fans.

This is the complete story of John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr, four lads from Liverpool who formed The Beatles and became the biggest icons of their generation.

Casi todo el mundo puede cantar junto con los Beatles, pero cuantos lectores jovenes conocen toda su historia? Geoff Edgers, un periodista del Boston Globe y un y un fanatico de los Beatles, trae los Cuatro Fabulosos a la vida en este

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Quien fue ...? libro. Los lectores aprenderan sobre sus infancias en Liverpool, sus primeras incursiones en la musica rock, sus vidas durante la Beatlemania, y las razones porque se separaron. Todo esta aqui en una narrativa de lectura facil, con un muchas ilustraciones en blanco y negro!"

More than 50 years after their breakup, the Beatles are still attracting fans from various generations, all while retaining their original fan base from the 1960s. Why have those first-generation fans continued following the Beatles and are now introducing their grandchildren to the group? Why are current teens affected by the band's music? And perhaps most importantly, how and why do the Beatles continue to resonate with successive generations? Unlike other bands of their era, the Beatles seem permanently frozen in time, having never descended into "nostalgia act" territory. Instead, even after the announcement of the band's breakup in 1970, the group has maintained its cultural and musical relevance. Their timeless quality appeals to younger generations while maintaining the loyalty of older fans. While the Beatles indeed represent a specific time period, their music and words address issues as meaningful today as they were during the Summer of Love: politics, war, sex, drugs, art, and creative liberation. As the first anthology to assess the nature of fan response and the band's enduring appeal, *Fandom and the Beatles: The Act You've Known for All These Years* defines and explores these unique qualities and the key ways in which this particular pop fusion has inspired such loyalty and multigenerational popularity.

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"A fascinating combination of biography, history and cultural analysis, [this book] looks more deeply than ever before at what the Beatles were saying through their songs."--P. [4] of cover.

The King of Rock and Roll and The Fab Four Behind the Scenes! ELVIS AND THE BEATLES takes a fascinating look back at the year-to-year evolution of the careers of both The King of Rock and Roll and The Fab Four simultaneously while debunking false stereotypes. The book uncovers how surprisingly similar the careers of Elvis and The Beatles were, and the multitude of ways that their personal and professional lives intersected. The book also examines the complex relationship between the two biggest musical acts and their managers. Much more went on behind the scenes than most people realize. Fascinating revelations include: Why The Beatles loved Colonel Parker The truth about the jam session between Elvis and The Beatles Why The Beatles were banned in Memphis Elvis vs. The Beatles: Who dissed who first? The friendship between Brian Epstein and Colonel Parker How The Beatles almost recorded in Memphis Which Beatle wanted to be Elvis' producer Why The Beatles did not understand Elvis Presley's musical passions How Colonel Parker helped The Beatles Why Elvis was not on the Sgt. Pepper cover Muhammad Ali's link to both The secret reporter present when Elvis met The Beatles Which Beatle was Presley's favorite How Elvis inspired Sgt. Pepper Singer Sophie Tucker's connection to both Presley's spiritual quest started before The Beatles Why Elvis got more to perform on The Ed Sullivan

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Show Which Beatles songs Elvis sang How The Beatles inspired Elvis Who was bigger: Elvis or The Beatles? (The book includes an 8-page photo section.) By comparing and contrasting the parallel lives, careers and tragedies of Elvis Presley and The Beatles, this book explores like never before the surprising relationship between the two biggest superstars of the last century.

The most anticipated book in more than a decade by the legendary band, *The Beatles: Get Back* is the official account of the creation of their final album, *Let It Be*, told in The Beatles' own words, illustrated with hundreds of previously unpublished images, including photos by Ethan A. Russell and Linda McCartney. Half a century after the 1970 *Let It Be* album and film, this milestone book coincides with the global release of Peter Jackson's documentary feature film, *The Beatles: Get Back*. The book opens in January 1969, the beginning of The Beatles' last year as a band. The BEATLES (*The White Album*) is at number one in the charts and the foursome gather in London for a new project. Over 21 days, first at Twickenham Film Studios and then at their own brand-new Apple Studios, with cameras and tape recorders documenting every day's work and conversations, the band rehearse a huge number of songs, culminating in their final concert, which famously takes place on the rooftop of their own office building, bringing central London to a halt. *The Beatles: Get Back* tells the story of those sessions through transcripts of the band's candid conversations. Drawing on over 120 hours of sound recordings, leading music writer John Harris edits the richly

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captivating text to give us a fly-on-the-wall experience of being there in the studios. These sessions come vividly to life through hundreds of unpublished, extraordinary images by two photographers who had special access to their sessions--Ethan A. Russell and Linda Eastman (who married Paul McCartney two months later). Also included are many unseen high-resolution film-frames, selected from the 55 hours of restored footage from which Peter Jackson's documentary is also drawn. Legend has it that these sessions were a grim time for a band falling apart. However, as acclaimed novelist Hanif Kureishi writes in his introduction, "In fact this was a productive time for them, when they created some of their best work. And it is here that we have the privilege of witnessing their early drafts, the mistakes, the drift and digressions, the boredom, the excitement, joyous jamming and sudden breakthroughs that led to the work we now know and admire." Half a century after their final performance, this book completes the story of the creative genius, timeless music, and inspiring legacy of The Beatles.

At lunchtime on a bitterly cold January day in 1969, the strains of guitar chords could be heard in the streets surrounding London's Savile Row. Crowds gathered – At ground level and above. People climbed onto roofs and postboxes, skipped lunch to gather and listen: For the first time in more than two years, The Beatles were playing live. Ringing from the rooftops, disturbing the well-to-do ears of the tailors below, they upset the establishment and bewildered the police. It was filmed by director Michael Lindsay-

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Hogg, who hoped the footage would act as the finale to a celebratory TV special. When it finally surfaced, it was in the bleak, tumultuous documentary *Let It Be*. And The Beatles would never play live again. Tony Barrell examines the concert within the context of its time. He speaks to those who were there: the fans, film-makers, roadies, Apple Corps staff and police. He explores the politics of 1968, when peace gave way to protest, and how music promotion began to collide with cinéma vérité and reality TV. *The Beatles on the Roof* makes essential reading for anyone interested in the band's reinventions and relationships, revealing why the rooftop concert happened at all, why it happened the way that it did, and why it would never happen again.

When we went to the Palace to get The Beatles their OBEs. John Lennon had some acid with him. 'I'm gonna slip it into the Queen's tea,' he told me. 'I want to open her mind and try to get her to declare war on somewhere nice and warm so we can all go and fight on the beaches.' After Jane Asher dumped Paul McCartney he literally used to cry on my shoulder. We hit the bottle together. Hard. 'I had everything and I threw it all away,' he would say. Alistair Taylor was with The Beatles from the moment they signed with Brian Epstein. In fact, apart from the signatures of each of the Fab Four, his is the only other name on the contract. From the very beginning he travelled, ate, partied, and even holidayed with them, right up until the beginning of the group's spectacular break up. As the group's 'Mr Fixit' he settled paternity cases, bought islands, houses and estates, and took care of John, Paul, George and Ringo when their lifestyles became a

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little too lively. Alistair Taylor was privy to all the secrets that we were never supposed to know. Now, on the 50th anniversary of Ringo's appointment as drummer, he reveals for the first time what it was really like to ride the rollercoaster that was the sixties with The Beatles.

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