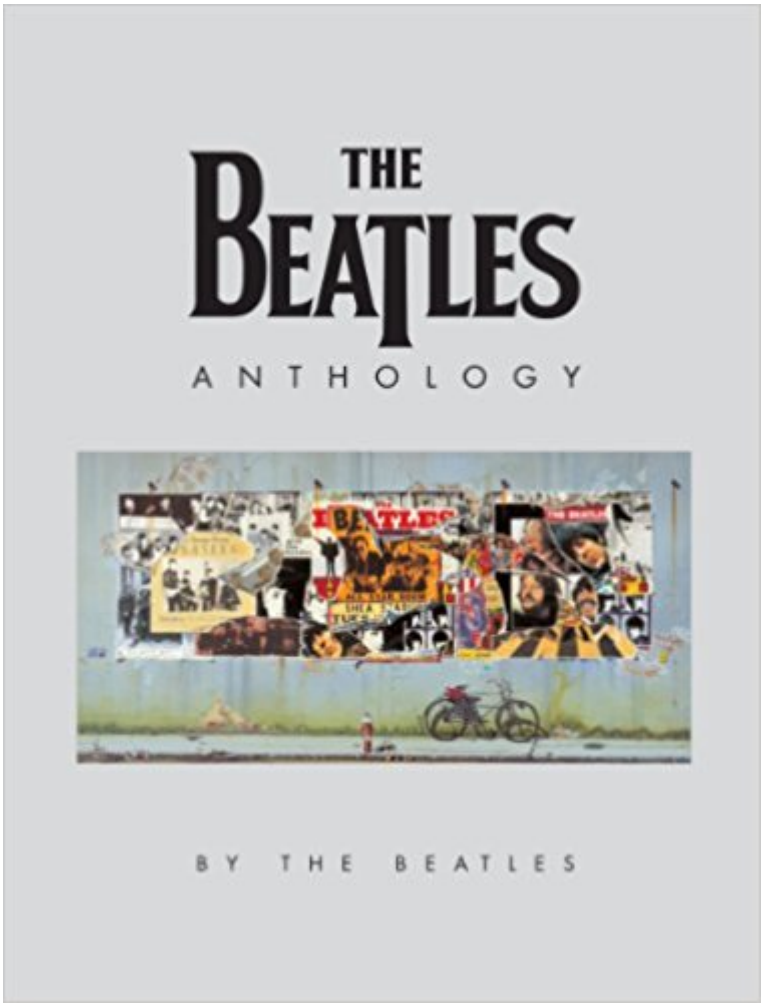
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The Beatles Anthology



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Synopsis

This extraordinary project has been made possible because Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr have agreed to tell their combined story especially for this book. Together with Yoko Ono Lennon, they have also made available the full transcripts (including all the outtakes) of the television and video series The Beatles Anthology. Through painstaking compilation of sources worldwide, John Lennon's words are equally represented in this remarkable volume. Furthermore, The Beatles have opened their personal and management archives specifically for this project, allowing the unprecedented release of photographs which they took along their ride to fame, as well as fascinating documents and memorabilia from their homes and offices. What a book The Beatles Anthology is! Each page is brimming with personal stories and rare vintage images. Snapshots from their family collections take us back to the days when John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Richard Starkey were just boys growing up in Liverpool. They talk in turn about those early years and how they came to join the band that would make them known around the world as John, Paul, George and Ringo. Then, weaving back and forth, they tell the astonishing story of life as The Beatles: the first rough gigs, the phenomenon of their rise to fame, the musical and social change of their heyday, all the way through to their breakup. From the time Ringo tried to take this drum kit home on the bus to their much anticipated audience with Elvis, from the making of the Sgt. Pepper album to their last photo session together at John's house, The Beatles Anthology is a once-in-a-lifetime collection of The Beatles' own memories. Interwoven with these are the recollections of such associates as road manager Neil Aspinall, producer George Martin and spokesman Derek Taylor. And included in the vast array of photographs are materials from both Apple and EMI, who also opened their archives for this project. This, indeed, is the inside story, providing a wealth of previously unpublished material in both word and image. Created with their full cooperation, The Beatles Anthology is, in effect, The Beatles' autobiography. Like their music has been a part of so many of our lives, it's warm, frank, funny, poignant and bold. At last, here is The Beatles' own story.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Who knows why the Beatles happened?" John Lennon asked in 1980: if anyone did, it would be the Fab Four themselves, who tell their own storyDwith plenty of visual aidsDin this giant compendium. Festooned with more than 1,300 photographs, posters and documents (many in color), the weighty (6.6 lbs.) volume offers the Beatles' "own permanent written record of events up to 1970," some of it previously published, but much of it transcribed from new or unpublished interviews. Paul, George, Ringo and Beatles-related folks (Brian Epstein, George Martin, Derek Taylor) contribute text from interviews conducted for the book and for an accompanying TV program. Words from the late John Lennon have been gathered from print, broadcast and manuscripts (each with an indicated date), then spliced together to create coherent pages and paragraphs. The book opens with the band members' separate accounts of their childhoods, then moves into a year-by-year organization that allows for great detail and many digressions. Here are what the Beatles have said, or say now, about particular sessions and gigs. Here, too, are comments and reminiscences on every topic in their careerD from marijuana to Manila to Murray the K, from Hamburg to "A Hard Day's Night" to "Hey, Jude." Most of the text appears oral-history style, in short paragraphs with rapid switches between one Beatle and another: the format makes it sound as if all the Beatles (including John) were being interviewed simultaneously. The visuals bring in cartoons, signed letters, scrawled drawings and photos. As a whole the volume is beautiful, big and a bit intimidating, somewhere between the Yellow Submarine and the Death Star. (One-day laydown, Oct. 5) Forecast: Do people still care? You bet they do. With massive publicity, innumerable tie-ins and enduring, worldwide passion for the music, this is poised to be one of the biggest nonfiction books of the year. Yeah, yeah, yeah! Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

What should be the final word on the Beatles has arrived. It takes the form of a massive oral-history tome, its contents derived mostly from recorded conversations with Paul, George, and Ringo for the

recent TV documentary The Beatles Anthology. Those are augmented by excerpts from interviews with John that are integrated effectively and almost seamlessly with the new material, and by occasional comments from the group's closest associates, such as recording producer George Martin. Big as it is, the volume virtually overflows with fascinating tidbits about growing up in Liverpool, early gigs, the rise to unprecedented fame and acclaim, and the Beatles' pervasive social influence. It seems crammed much in the way that the Beatles crammed several lifetimes' worth of music and living into the decade of the group's existence. Although the contents are somewhat sanitized--this is, after all, essentially a group autobiography--the four address less-pleasant incidents, such as the sacking of original Beatles drummer Pete Best and the petty squabbles that led to the group's 1970 breakup. The text is accompanied by more than 1,300 photos, many letters, and other memorabilia. There isn't much news, though. After 30 years and hundreds of books, few secrets remain to be revealed. But even familiar bits of Beatle lore seem fresh when told in the band's own words. Expect heavy demand for this monumental release, especially after the holidays, from frustrated Beatlemaniacs who failed to find the pricey item under the tree. Gordon FlaggCopyright Ã Â© American Library Association. All rights reserved

THE ultimate Beatles book. Fascinating to browse through or read from end to end. Rather than a typical book, it's more like a scrapbook of primary-source material - drawings, photos, interviews, etc. It was made along with the excellent 1995 ABC series of the same name, but both easily stand alone. A beginning fan or a lifelong buff will both appreciate this volume.

Fantastic book for any true Beatles fan! (And how many people do you know who are not Beatles fans?) I bought it from the Used Books department and got a great value! The used book department is a great resource!

This is a beautifully-designed ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“coffee table bookÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• but donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t make the mistake of just looking at the pictures. Released on the 20th anniversary of John LennonÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s death, the Beatle story offers valuable reflection as well as delight-filled browsing. In the first four sections of the book, John, Paul, George, and Ringo tell their personal histories up to becoming The Beatles. Then a chapter is devoted to their reflections on each of the ten years they were a group -- 1960-1970. I suggest listening to their recordings as you read the book. The music is even more enjoyable when you know the stories behind it. And that, after all, is what the story is about, the playful, loving, bold music they gave

us.The Beatles always remained true to their roots: working class Liverpool where you face derisive humor if you get too high an opinion of yourself. Their brutal honesty with one another kept them from losing perspective in an amazing hurricane of activity, including the extremes of public adulation and hate. Their years together were like an intense marriage. They loved one another. They loved their creative work. They loved being successful. But eventually various aspects of being a Beatle became a limiting box. They were nearing 30, finding life mates, growing and changing. Then it was like getting a divorce with the accompanying complexities and pain which that entails.Any good autobiography tells us something about ourselves. This story is particularly revealing because these four people are disarmingly honest and their creativity as a group had and continues to have a profound effect on the world.

Great book

Having being born after The Beatles broke up my discovery of the band’s work occurred progressively in my high school years, as I got exposed to the bulk of their work and exploded when I got to College and first listened to the last leg of their recordings (after Sgt. Pepper). This alone would suffice for anyone to have enough respect for their music, however the Anthology book opened up a whole new dimension that was unfamiliar to me.Going chronologically from their beginnings, the book is structured year by year, intercalating comments by each of them (George Martin, the fifth Beatle included, as well as several other people involved with them), flowing in a way that feels as if you were sitting with them in your living room, sipping a cup of tea (or coffee, if you prefer) while listening to the fab four talk about their lives while they were together. This effect is so impeccable that it’s what I love most about the book.Now, that’s obviously not all. The 368 pages of the book (yes, it has 368, and the last one is a very Lennon-like "handwritten" statement saying "By hook or by crook I’ll be last in this book -John Lennon") are beautifully packaged along with tons of pictures, copies of letters, posters, etc. that complement magnificently the already outstanding document that the "chat" between them represents.Three years after its release it remains an awesome gift and an endless source of information. I am sure it will remain that way for a very long time.

Being a big fan of the fab four I purchased this book because I was satisfied with the Anthology DVDs. Yet this product (the book) has taken learning about the group to a whole nother level. It’s very personal and detailed. It does a great job of letting the Beatles tell their story by using quotes

by each member as though they were talking to you. The quotes are from different periods in their carreer and most have a number by them so you know when a band member had that thought. The book starts off with a bio of Lennon (again in his words) and then moves on to the rest of the boys. For any Beatles fan that wants to expand their knowledge on the band, purchase this book. However with that said, this book is monsterous, so you won't be reading it while you travel. I'd call it a coffee table book, but honestly it's about the size of a small table. So be prepared for it to be the biggest book in your library. Purchase this book in hardback, you'll love it.

Wow - a book that is told by the remaining 3 Beatles (remember Harrison died in 2001 - book assembled sold actually 1994) John Lennnon's contribution from past interviews of course. What we have here is the story straight from (Henry) the horses mouth! Someone pointed out to me I didn't realize it - we don't get a whole lotta words on the Beatles private life. The book appears to be accurate too. Oh its very heavy (more ways than one!)Worth reading a second time.

Amazing quality for such a low price!

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