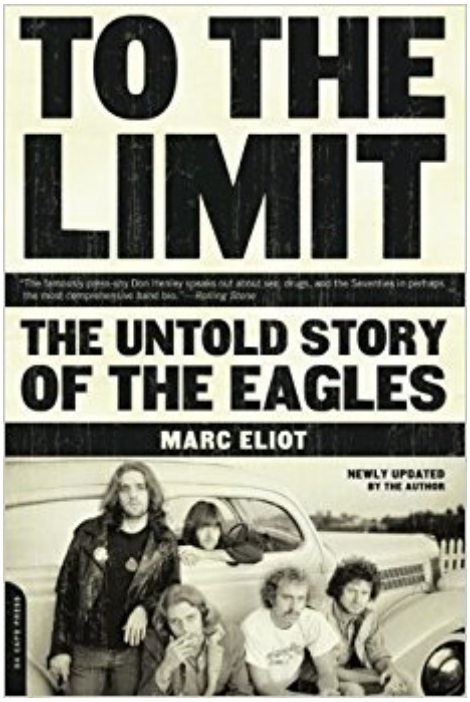
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To The Limit: The Untold Story Of The Eagles



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Synopsis

The Eagles are the most popular, enduring rock band in America. With singles and albums hitting the top of the charts for a quarter century and a greatest hits collection that has sold more copies than any other recording in history, the Eagles have entered the pantheon of pop music. To the Limit is the unauthorized account of the group from its earliest years through the breakup, solo careers, and reunions.Blending the country and folk music of the late sixties with the melodic seductiveness of Detroit-style roots rock, the Eagles brought a new sound to a stagnant music scene. Under the brilliant management of David Geffen, the Eagles projected a public image of unshakable camaraderie-embodied by the cerebral, brooding Don Henley and the intuitive, self-destructive Glenn Frey-bolstered by the gorgeous harmonies of their songs. Behind the scenes, however, there was another story.At turns revealing, inspiring, funny, and shocking, To the Limit is the chronicle of a time, a place, and a group that succeeded in changing forever the world of popular music.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Veteran rock writer Eliot (Down Thunder Road: The Making of Bruce Springsteen) refuses to take it easy on the most commercially successful supergroup of the 1970s in this unauthorized, warts-and-all biography. As dons of the so-called Avocado Mafia, a loose association of singers and songwriters who first came together in Southern California in the late 1960s, the Eagles are, for Eliot, representative figures in a fascinating pop-culture drama. In tough, sometimes lyrical prose, Eliot shows how Don Henley, Glenn Frey, Bernie Leadon and Randy MeisnerAthe original members

of the groupAbecame the top-selling and most influential rock band of the Me Decade by combining laid-back attitude with self-consciously eclectic musicianship. Nor did it hurt the group's quest for fame, Eliot makes clear, to have brilliant business and PR men such as David Geffen and Irving Azoff on the side of the Eagles from the beginning. Eliot's a savvy enough storyteller not to let in-depth analysis of the aural and business dimensions of the Eagles' saga get in the way of good dish: the book brims with anecdotes about the band's now-legendary hotel-room demolition sessions, prodigious substance abuse and tireless womanizing. Jackson Browne, Linda Ronstadt and David Crosby join more incongruous notables such as James Cagney, Kenny Rogers and Ronald Reagan's politically contrary daughter, Patti Davis, to make Eliot's account even more engaging. If the writing's purple at times, it's only because the band members' colorful excesses demand such treatment. Photos not seen by PW. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Considering Eliot's previous controversial biographies, including Walt Disney: Hollywood's Dark Prince (LJ 5/1/93) and Down Thunder Road: The Making of Bruce Springsteen (LJ 8/92), it's not surprising that ex-Eagle Don Henley tried to halt publication of this well-researched study of America's biggest band of the 1970s. The artist and the author eventually reached a truce, with the reticent Henley sitting for interviews, and this may explain why some unsavory details (such as Henley's 1980 drug bust) are lightly glossed over. Eliot gives little insight into what made the band tick, but he does provide an excellent contextualization of the early 1970s L.A. rock scene, and he offers fascinating character studies of Eagle compadres Jackson Browne, Linda Ronstadt, and J.D. Souther, as well as music biz barons David Geffen and Irving Azoff. The generous appendix includes extensive notes and a detailed discography. Recommended for popular music collections.-ALloyd Jansen, Stockton-San Joaquin Cty. P.L., CACopyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Given the recent passing of Glenn Frey, there is plenty of interest in The Eagles. One think that I didn't know was that Glenn Frey wanted to call the band just plain Eagles after seeing one fly over them while they staying overnight at the Joshua Tree in California. If you look up any history on 60's and 70's era bands, you see all kind of crazy names for bands that didn't really gain any traction. Perhaps they had one hit or two but not alot of hit songs to remember.Frey and Henley turned out to be the two-some that wrote most of the early songs but when the group split up for 14 years, Henley and the others (Joe Walsh included) wrote many of the rockin' songs that elderly people like myself

truly enjoy. One could say that in the early years, the group wanted to be much like Peter, Paul and Mary or the Mama and the Papas. They played back-up to Linda Ronstead for awhile and one wonders why she just didn't join up with them. But then she fell in love with Jackson Browne, who helped with her songs and they stayed together for some time. Jackson Browne continued to write on his own and actually helped Frey with some songs that he needed finished. It is ironic that he "played" Glenn Frey's part at the Grammy Tribute to the group.One could also wonder what kind of songs the group would write during the 14 years that they stayed apart but one gets the sense that the intense nature of their recording sessions, combined with the drugs and the groupies did them all in. It was hard to live that life forever and indeed two of the Eagles left the group because of the drugs that were so invading during that time. Surely the drugs and the late nights and the hard live changed all of them and not perhaps for the better.The Eagles songs will be around as long as the 60's generation stays alive yet even today, my grandchildren love to listen to their songs because they are so real and are sstories that people can easily remember and relate two. I have see the Eagles twice at the Garden and I will always remember their concerts. A Pieceful Full Easy Feeling..while on the road and in my car. Plenty of memories here.

then this book is for you! Chock full of information I never knew about the band! Buy it, you won't be disappointed!

What a great read! Eliot's book was compelling, providing a fascinating history of the California music scene circa the early seventies, not only of the Eagles, but touching the musical connections to Jackson Browne, David Crobsy, Joni Mitchell, Linda Ronstadt, Poco, and others who lived and created together in the Los Angeles canyons (Laurel, Coldwater, Topanga) during those post-1960s years; it also delves into the relationships of those who aided them in their rise to the top (Geffen, Azoff, etc.). Part of the book, as well, becomes a sentimental lament to the old Troubadour in Hollywood. Eliot provides rich details in the early part of the book on most of the initial Eagles members, but the focus eventually falls to Frey and Henley, the reasons made quite obvious as you venture further into the book (you'll never look at them the same again). Most compelling/disturbing is the "Postscript to the Da Capo Edition" at the end of the book, offering the author's challenges in trying to get the book published.It's a great complementary read to Don Felder's book:Ã Â Heaven and Hell: My Life in the Eagles (1974-2001)

I love the Eaglles! I figured this'd be a great summer read. I wanted it to grab me from page one. It

didn’t. I found it long and drawn out. I hope I didn’t stop too soon. Don’t count on this book to be a "can’t put down" because you can’t wait to find out what happens next. I, unfortunately, put it down and didn’t really care. One day I may care what happens next. I love The Eagles. To the limit.

Infirmative good book!! I recommend thus for any Eagles fan!!

Very good read. Thoroughly researched and documented. Good companion read to Felder’s "Heaven & Hell". Provides bios, history and inside business. Exactly what I was hoping for!

Loved it.

Fantastic book. Not just for new fans either. Lots of interesting info for the die-hard fans and lots of good info on the solo stuff too.This book and Don Felder’s book are the definitive stories of a hugely popular yet extremely mysterious band.

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