

(Download) Memories of John Lennon

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Yoko Ono

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Yoko Ono : Memories of John Lennon before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Memories of John Lennon:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Beatles forever...YEAH YEAH YEAHBy Marlene J. LapinskiIt was a very interesting read. I have been a Beatles fan since the beginning. Although Ringo is my favorite Beatle, I loved them all as a group. Had a full set of the Beatles trading cards, both of John's books, all the pins (known now as buttons). Sold them at auction and got a pretty penny for them.At 17 my friends and I went to Shea Stadium to see them. It was wild...the entire trip (bus and tickets) only cost \$17.50...Still have my ticket stub ... a whopping \$4.75!!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy KjoyIt's GREAT! I am a huge fan!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very interesting book about one of the Be atles Iwas ...By judi davisVery interesting book about one of the Beatles Iwas curious about why the bland broke up and now I know it was a way for each member to go their own way

John Lennon . . . as much a part of our world today as he ever was. He touched many lives in his brief forty years, and continues to move and inspire millions more to this day. Now, invited by Yoko Ono, friends, family, and fans from all walks of life—including some of the great artists of our day—reminisce about Lennon as a visionary and friend, musician and performer, husband and father, activist and jokester. In their own words and drawings, poems and photos, Lennon's life from his childhood through the Beatles years to the happiness and tragedy of his final days become stunningly vivid. Intimate glimpses gathered from musicians who knew John, such as Pete Townshend, Sir Elton John, Billy Preston, and Joan Baez; friends and relatives such as producer David Geffen, publicist Elliot Mintz, and cousin Mike Cadwallader; and artists who followed him such as Bono, Alicia Keys, Steve Earle, Jello Biafra, and Carlos Santana. And, for the first time, renowned photographer Annie Liebovitz presents every frame of the historic last session with John and Yoko. *Memories of John Lennon* is a rich and deeply felt appreciation of a truly great man.

Twenty-five years after his death is still too soon for Yoko Ono to write about life with her famous husband. "I could not open that part of my heart while it's still shaking," she writes in her introduction to *Memories of John Lennon*, and so the long-awaited inside story of one of the last century's great romances remains untold. Instead, Ono solicited material from over 70 of Lennon's friends, contemporaries, and admirers, and is marking that terrible anniversary with a collection of their reminiscences. (Notably absent are Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr, and Lennon's first wife, Cynthia, who just wrote her own book on their decade together.) As might be expected, there is a fair amount of hero-worship in these pages—Paul Reiser and Nils Lofgren both call the Beatle a "friend I never met," and B-52s singer Kate Pierson admits to considering him "practically a mythological figure." Some, too, choose to memorialize him in poem, art, or song, none of which particularly resonate. But the book is not without its share of engaging moments, most of which come from those who actually spent time with Lennon. Family confidant Elliot Mintz writes of the devoted husband, "how he used to brush [Yoko's] hair...or when we'd be going out to a restaurant and she would put her coat on and he would adjust her collar so that it would look pretty and frame her face." Double Fantasy drummer Andy Newmark remembers the spirited musician, exhorting him to simplify his fills and just "play like Ringo." Donovan recalls days with the Maharishi in Rishikesh, teaching Lennon to finger-pick his guitar and hearing "Julia" and "Dear Prudence" as they were composed. Others cover the political activist, compassionate friend, and loving father. *Memories of John Lennon* can hardly be called a balanced portrait of the man, but neither is it all dull hagiography. Worth a look, though it may not be essential reading. --Benjamin Lukoff
From Publishers Weekly
Newcomers to the Lennon legend might find some of the reminiscences and artwork in this compendium interesting and novel, but those alive in Lennon's time will recognize many of the quotes, especially the ones from Lennon's most famous friends, like Mick Jagger and Elton John. (They were culled from other books previously published about Lennon and/or the Beatles.) The most interesting essay apart from Yoko's own charmingly loopy introduction may be from the least famous person in the book: Cynthia O'Neal, Lennon's neighbor at the Manhattan landmark apartment building, the Dakota. She recounts what it was like the day the singer was shot in their entryway, and how she used to peer into his apartment while he was having breakfast with his family. The most important moments, clearly, were also the most mundane. (Dec.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.
From Booklist
To mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of John Lennon's murder, the musician's widow, Yoko Ono, has assembled tributes from people who were touched by his life. The 73 contributors range from family and friends from before the Beatles hit it big to musicians whose only connections are musical. John Fogerty says, "I never met John, but I always felt that I knew him," and Bruce Springsteen's guitarist Nils Lofgren calls Lennon "the best friend I never met." The most compelling entries are by such intimates as Peter Brown, the Beatles' business manager and John and Yoko's best man, and Hamburg photographer Astrid Kirchherr, who befriended the Beatles in the early sixties. Other perspectives come from journalists, photographers, and DJs whose paths crossed Lennon's during the heady days of Beatlemania and from those who, like Tom Hayden and John Sinclair, met Lennon because of radical politics. Many contributions are effusive: Bangles member Vicki Peterson confesses that "John Lennon was my earliest sexual fantasy." Others are terse: Dennis Hopper just says, "All my memories are in the music." Although heartfelt and intermittently interesting, the volume's necessity is questionable, especially since many contributors have written about Lennon previously. Fans will at least want to browse it, however, for poignant reminders of why Lennon was so widely mourned and is missed to this day. Gordon Flagg
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