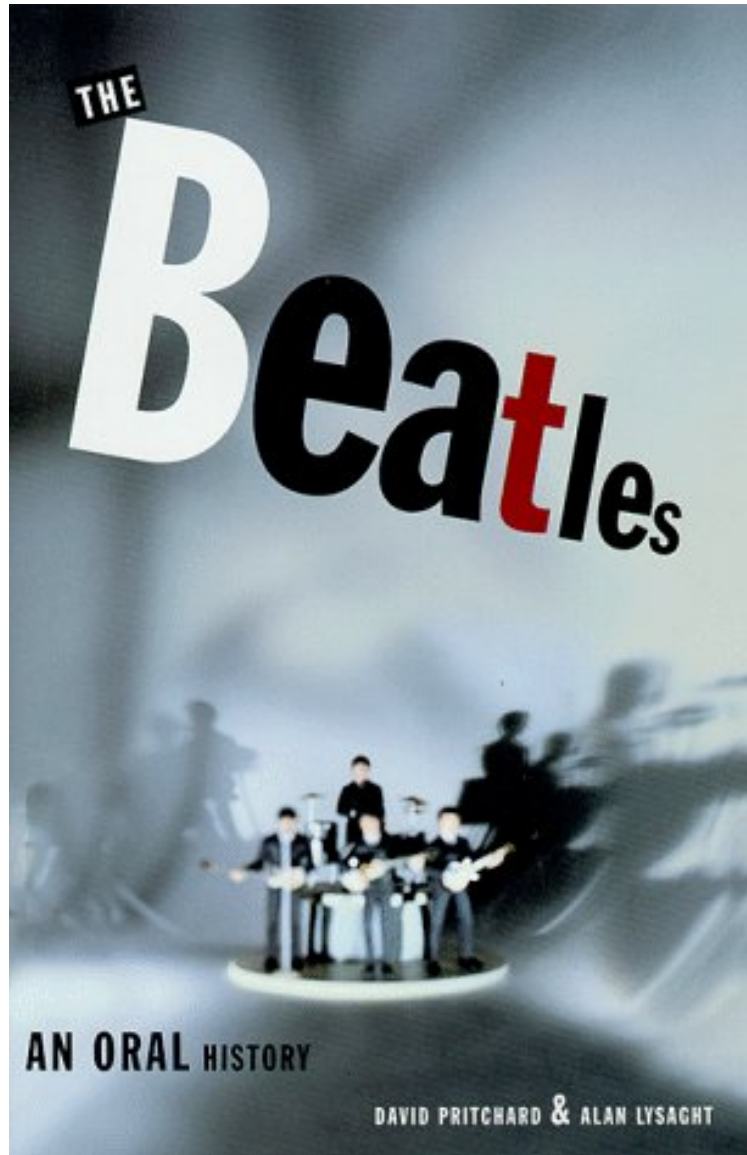


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The Beatles: An Oral History

David Pritchard, Alan Lysaght

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David Pritchard, Alan Lysaght : The Beatles: An Oral History before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Beatles: An Oral History:

1 of 4 people found the following review helpful. HorribleBy Gerard RinaldiOne of the worst Stones books I ever read. Rehashed qqoutes from other books. Hardly any Brian Jones. I would not recommend this to anyone. Absolutely horrible. What a waste of money.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Better than you would think...By OpheliousNeither of these guys wrote this book per say...it is instead a collection of interviews. But as a companion to

the Anthology book, *Beatles: An Oral History* is an important book. It is both fun to read and provides a lot of stories I haven't heard before. You might be thinking to yourself, oh, man, I don't want another book of interviews. Didn't you just recommend the monster sized Anthology? Why would I possibly want more? That's a fair question, but luckily I have a fair answer. *The Beatles: An Oral History* is full of stories that have been told by people who didn't get any airtime in the Anthology book or film: Pete Best, Cynthia Lennon, Julia Byard...a whole slew of `em. These interviews provide another facet of the story that is often neglected. It's a B-list "whose who" of Beatles second stringers. The book itself isn't written (insomuch as it was put together) but the editors do a great job of positioning the interviews in such a way that they tell an extended story. The "characters" telling their stories almost seem to be sitting around a giant round table gabbing together. This was accomplished by the editors taking pieces out of longer interviews and arranging them in a chronological order so that no one voice is heard for too long. That makes this book more fun to read than if each person were interviewed and the resulting conversation printed "straight." The people you hear from here provide a lot of color to the Beatles story. They are the kind of folks who they get for guests at BeatleFests and such. They have a lot to tell about the events of Beatlemania and have often been denied a place in the lunch-line by the bigger names: Martin, Ono, Epstein, etc. This book can be had pretty cheaply (it is out of print, I think, and used copies are a bargain.) Pick it up. It makes a great piece of reading to carry around and read during those little breaks in the action life sometimes grants to you.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. For Beatle Scholars By BeatleBangs1964 This book is sure to delight those who have extensive knowledge about the Beatles. This book has fresh, new information and provides sources for quotes. Nothing is left as vague "hearsay." This author has done his homework! In addition to citing all sources, this author clearly knows his Beatle history and follows it thoroughly. The choice of photographs are startlingly apt; the photo on the back of the book showing the locked gate to Strawberry Fields (kind of makes you think of George's song, "Behind That Locked Door") signifies the end of the Beatle Era; a bittersweet note. This very compelling book is worth adding to your Beatles' literary collection.

This is the real history of The Beatles, told by the people who really knew them - their childhood playmates, family, friends, rivals, lovers, teachers, fellow musicians - and by John, Paul, George and Ringo themselves. Together these voices cast new light on the band's history, with revealing accounts of the early days in Liverpool and Hamburg, the touring triumphs and burnouts, and the secrets behind the album Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band. A chorus of distinctive voices tells us how The Beatles helped get The Rolling Stones rolling, why The Beatles stopped touring in 1966 at the height of their fame, and what really led to their breakup in 1970. This book is based on an award winning radio documentary. The first volume of 3 audiobooks compiled from the documentary will be available for download in May 2008.

From Publishers Weekly Last year's Beatles Anthology television specials that told the tale of the Fab Four's world-conquering career were elegantly executed but lacked objectivity. This is not the case with Canadian radio producers Pritchard's and Lysaght's *The Beatles: An Oral History*. Compiled from decades of interviews (many of which have provided the basis for a series of radio programs) with a cast of more than a hundred friends, family members, colleagues and the band members themselves, this collection should provide even the most obsessive of Beatles fans with new angles and anecdotes: who knew, for example, that Paul McCartney hated his vocal performance on "Eleanor Rigby," or that on the exquisite "For No One" the Moptops were not even in tune? The Fab Four's struggle to reconcile astronomical ambitions with earth-bound relationships provides the narrative's main thrust; the most intriguing relationship of all can be found in the writing credit for the vast majority of Beatles' songs: "Lennon-McCartney." The two emerge as complicated personalities, neither as cuddly and compassionate as their public relations staff would have us believe, nor as egomaniacal as their detractors have claimed. Because of the multiplicity of voices, and Pritchard's and Lysaght's unbiased approach in weaving them together, this may be the first book ever on the Beatles that manages to avoid falling into one obvious and reductive perspective. This seems fitting for a band that changed the world. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist The story of the Beatles has become an industry in and of itself, and why not? Out of the chaos of twentieth-century history, it is a miracle that those four young men found one another at all, but then, maybe not. Pritchard and Lysaght lay out, once again, the story of the very human events, turns, and twists that led the talented four into history. Reading this delightful book, presented in Ken Burns-like documentary style, for which principal players in the development of the Beatles were extensively interviewed, each adding just the right amount of additional information about who John, Paul, George, and Ringo were at any given time--not to mention valuable insight into the forgotten other Beatles of early days, Pete Best and Stewart Sutcliffe--should conjure no small degree of joy and excitement. Once opened, this book will induce something close to the feeling of waiting for Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band to get on with the show. Raul Nino Refreshingly personal.... brimming over with memories. - CNN --CNN Networks This may be the first book ever on The Beatles that manages to avoid falling into one obvious and reductive perspective. This seems fitting for a band that changed the world. --Publishers Weekly A superbly crafted recitation of The Beatles fabulous career.... absorbing,

and a true reader's delight. --Goldmine Magazine