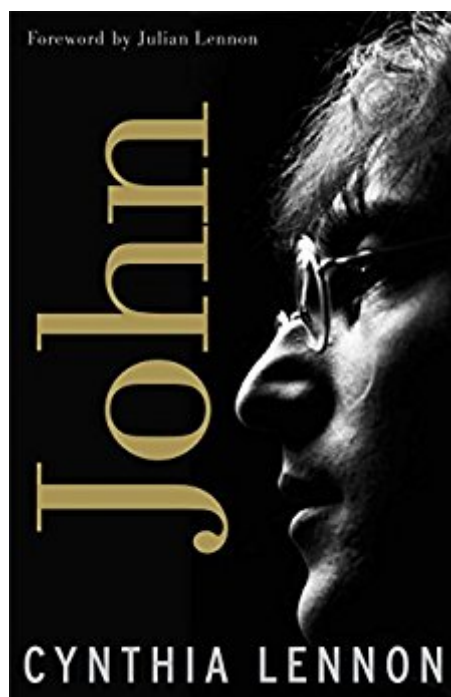


The book was found

John



Synopsis

The New York Times bestselling exposé of the real John Lennon, written by his ex-wife. The time has come when I feel ready to tell the truth about John and me, our years together and the years since his death. There is so much that I have never said, so many incidents I have never spoken of and so many feelings I have never expressed: great love on one hand; pain, torment, and humiliation on the other. Only I know what really happened between us, why we stayed together, why we parted, and the price I have paid for being John's wife. "From the Introduction

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Customer Reviews

I have been a John Lennon fan since I was about six years old. I have read a lot of books about him, and was always fascinated by him. This book by Cynthia is by far my favorite. I admit I have never been one to like Yoko, so I could come off as biased. I always felt really bad about Cynthia but never fully understood what had happened. I can't say for sure what she writes is true, but the pain that was caused at times had me disgusted with John. In the beginning the book is wonderful. It provides really good mental pictures and shows a John Lennon that we haven't seen before. Reading about their college years and younger days was fascinating. To see John more human was refreshing. We see a side of Mimi that has never really been written about. Cynthia seems to still be affected by

her. Although Mimi is presented as nasty, rude, and demanding, you still feel she was loved. Hearing about John during his first years of fame was really great too. It is neat to be able to see sides of him that we haven't before. Although always on the edge, he is seen here as a loving man who desperately misses Julian but continues to mess up. The letter shown in here that John writes home is sad, and showed he was very vulnerable. You begin to feel the tension as John spins more and more out of control. You feel the sadness and you can understand how both of them felt. That is one thing I really enjoy about this book. Although written from Cynthia's perspective, she strives to explain John's also and understands they were both vastly different in many areas. It showed to me that she still loves John to this day. The book gets pretty sad to read as John plummets. The chilling way in which he dumps Cynthia is almost hard to read.

As anniversaries are celebrated and observed, more information referencing the Beatles are released. However, works by immediate family members or those closest to individual band members may become less. The release is quite fitting in that it coincides with what would have been John's 65th birthday and 25 years since his death. As with any event in history, having the opportunity to read accounts from those who witnessed the events bring us much closer to understanding who the individual was and debunking any myths or rumors that have existed through out the years and laying them to rest. In this case, Cynthia Lennon attempts to show the truth about John Lennon. What makes her biography or memoir so unique is that she examines her relationship with John Lennon from his pre-Beatle days as a college art student in the late 1950s up to her bitter divorce in 1969 as well as the John's post-Beatle years. Her story shows the change and transformation of John Lennon to readers, and the emotions and guilt that she experienced as she went through the process -- the coming to terms with her loss and being at peace with what happened. JOHN is not a book about the Beatles or their music. Cynthia guides the reader through a chronology of her life with stories about how she met John Lennon and relating events that pertained to her own personal life, her long-time friendship with her girlfriend, Phyllis McKenzie, and her mother, who were always there to support her through trying times. The most interesting aspect of the book is the love-hate relationship between Cynthia and John's Aunt Mimi, and more in-depth information about John's sisters, Julia and Jacqui.

By the time the Beatles appeared on The Ed Sullivan Show in February 1964, I was madly in love with them and their music. Paul McCartney was the love of my 13-year-old life, so it never bothered me that John Lennon was married and had a child. To my friends who were ardent Lennon fans,

this fact was unacceptable. There were times I wondered how John's wife, Cyn, felt about all of this. After reading her memoir, entitled John, that question has been answered -- along with many others. First and foremost, the reader should pick up this book expecting to read about love, happiness, frustration, pain, hurt, anger, tears, and conflict -- all of the things you would find in any relationship that is put under a non-stop eye of media scrutiny. No matter what you've read about the Beatles over the past 43 years, this story is different because it's told by someone who wasn't in the machine that made the Beatles a success. We've all read stories about John, Paul, George, and Ringo as told by everyone from their roadies to their contemporaries. Now we get to hear from the woman John married first and who was an unsuspecting participant on the ride of insanity known as Beatlemania. When I began this book I was looking forward to hearing Cynthia's side of the story. I knew there would be some bitterness against Yoko, some anger towards John, comments on the use of drugs, cashing in on her marriage to him, and perhaps some self analysis in the process. She is only human and the journey of writing this book had to be a painful one for her, even all these years later. Yes, all of that is in her book. She is honest in her narrative and admits there have been times she's cashed in on the Lennon name to support herself and Julian.

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