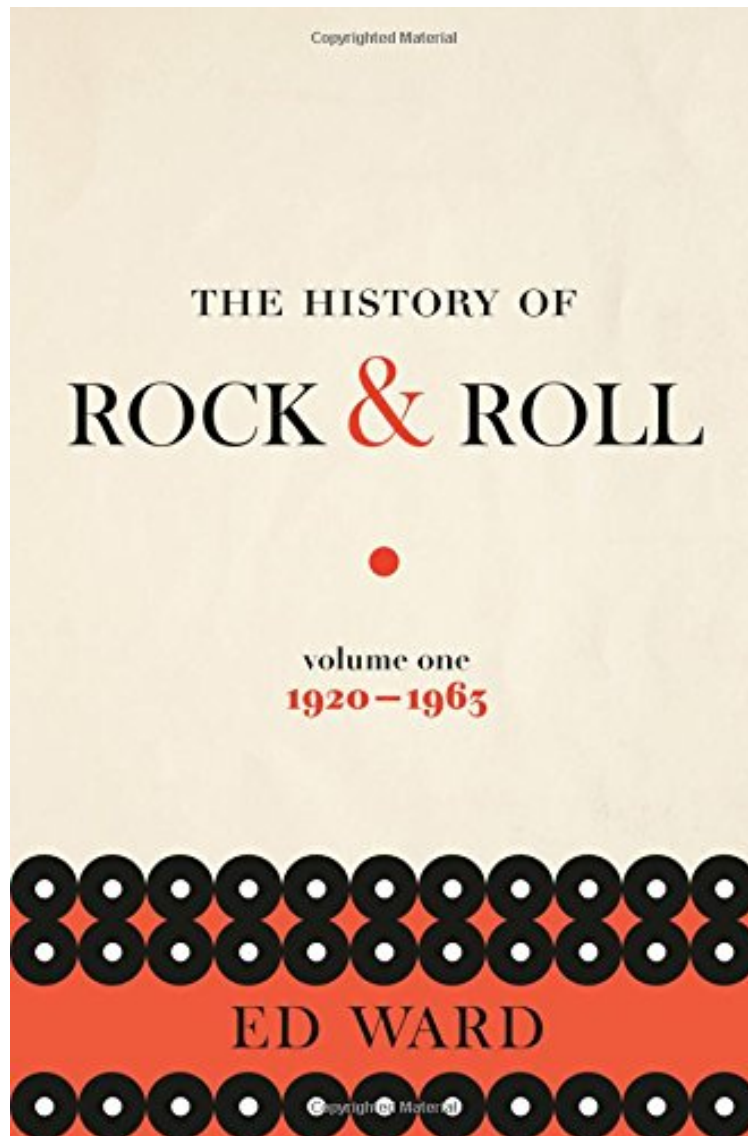


The History of Rock Roll, Volume 1: 1920-1963

Ed Ward

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#225156 in Books Ward Ed 2016-11-15 2016-11-15Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.58 x 1.37 x 6.44l, .0 #File Name: 125007116X416 pagesThe History of Rock Roll Volume 1 1920 1963 | File size: 57.Mb

Ed Ward : The History of Rock Roll, Volume 1: 1920-1963 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The History of Rock Roll, Volume 1: 1920-1963:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Mnemonic Pleasure or a SpringboardBy Likes Books A LotI think Ed Ward really needs at least 4 plus volumes to tell a better story. The book is definitely filled with intriguing snippets but ultimately a bit disappointing. That said I sure have to give him credit for pulling this all together in one beginning volume and thank the gods that there is an index! One thing I really miss here are pictures, there are so very few and

those not well reproduced. It was fun to read as I did it, a few minutes a day for lunch. I remember most of the music so for me its pleasure was largely mnemonic. For those unfamiliar with the music this book might feel a bit like a slog of lists. It would take a tremendous amount of time and perseverance to really get a feel for this music, a wonderful American art form that is passing into history. Glad you wrote it all down Ed.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Ed Ward's book is without a doubt the best overall history of Rock Roll I've ever come ...By John P. Gelin

I've been buying and reading books about rock roll since 1968. Ed Ward's book is without a doubt the best overall history of Rock Roll I've ever come across.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Looks like a college textbook but doesn't read like one!By R. J. Wells

Against all odds, this chronological history of pre-British Invasion rock roll is a great read! The book is packed with interesting tidbits about hundreds of records, but it's the breezy writing that makes the book a success. Ward manages to provide coherence to the twist and turns of the early rock era. And he will pique your interest in records you've never heard before (so you can go right to YouTube to check them out. Definitely looking forward to the second volume of Ward's History of Rock Roll.

Ed Ward covers the first half of the history of rock roll in this sweeping and definitive narrative from the 1920s, when the music of rambling medicine shows mingled with the songs of vaudeville and minstrel acts to create the very early sounds of country and rhythm and blues, to the rise of the first independent record labels post-World War II, and concluding in December 1963, just as an immense change in the airwaves took hold and the Beatles prepared for their first American tour. The History of Rock Roll, Volume 1 shines a light on the far corners of the genre to reveal the stories behind the hugely influential artists who changed the musical landscape forever. In this first volume of a two-part series, Ward shares his endless depth of knowledge and through engrossing storytelling hops seamlessly from Memphis to Chicago, Detroit, England, New York, and everywhere in between. He covers the trajectories of the big name acts like Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly, Chuck Berry, and Ray Charles, while also filling in gaps of knowledge and celebrating forgotten heroes such as the Burnette brothers, the 5 Royales, and Marion Keisker, Sam Phillips's assistant, who played an integral part in launching Elvis's career. For all music lovers and rock roll fans, Ward spins story after story of some of the most unforgettable and groundbreaking moments in rock history, introducing us along the way to the musicians, DJs, record executives, and producers who were at the forefront of the genre and had a hand in creating the music we all know and love today.

"Ward's writing is deeply researched, but conversational in tone. He nerds-out just the right amount, moving briskly from hit to hit and craze to craze, slowing down only to impart a few choice anecdotes... [his] faithful documentation of the genres more obscure corners helps to point out that, early on, rock was weird... Ward underscores the vital point that rock was a music invented by people who knew better, but just couldn't help it." The Washington Post

"Ward tackles this imposing topic with the same cerebral but conversational style he uses on NPR's Fresh Air, where he's been resident rock historian since 1986. Like his radio segments, the book excels at balancing the essential with the arcane... Ward's vivid anecdotes make the book more fun to read than 98 percent of tomes with 'history' in their title." Dallas Morning News

Ward doesn't put in or leave out too much, and his geographical shifts are well-timed. He's especially skilled at describing music that isn't rock roll in order to provide context to music that is. Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

"Ward knows the art of presentation. He blends storytelling with a vibrant, organic chronicle of [rock's] birth, incorporating 20th-century American history and popular culture. Scrupulously avoiding the dry, tedious academic pontification favored by some rock critics, Mr. Ward... offers compelling mini-portraits of artists and music business types.... A book like this is indispensable. Mr. Ward's warm, welcoming voice allows him to both inform and entertain." Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The History of Rock Roll still feels like a whirlwind tour [and] makes you wish you had a playlist with every single song mentioned. Don't try to read this book while you're sitting next to someone trying to get some work done; you'll keep wanting to interrupt them to share an amazing thing you've just discovered about rock and roll history. Minnesota Public Radios The Current, Rock and Roll Book Club

"The vast scope of the subject acts as a gateway to deeper musical investigation." Toronto Star

"[Ward's] writing sings... [his] history presents rock 'n' roll as a cultural force of nature." Winnipeg Free Press

The History of Rock Roll is not a simple deep dig. It is a figurative excavation of the long and storied history behind the beginnings of music's most celebrated genre. Ward leaves nary a corner unexplored. With a book this informational, there's no doubt that music nerds will enjoy the nice, long swim. Creative Loafing Tampa

"A dean of rock journalism delivers the first volume of a magnum opus on a subject that never ceases to fascinate...turning up plenty of surprises and fresh insights.... A spry study that should inspire listening with new, and newly informed, ears to old tunes." -Kirkus's, starred review

"An excellent introduction to early rockers, cast of characters and the music that rocked the world. Ward's delightful book is chock-full of everything there is to know about the history of rock." Publishers Weekly

"Ward's ambitious opus succeeds in chronicling the first half of the history of rock roll.... Ward manages to make a coherent narrative, not an insignificant feat, out of this sprawling milieu." Booklist

Even for the uninitiated, what makes this history so enlightening and entertaining is the background detail that musicologist, journalist, and NPR rock historian Ward brings to the party. In a colloquial, conversational voice, he recounts stories of rock's roots and branches. Ward knows his rock roll, and this

comprehensive history is as entertaining as it is informative. Shelf Awareness "Just what you'd expect from Fresh Air's rock roll historian: a thorough, detailed survey of the moments that define rock roll." No Depression "Expansive, deeply researched without being pedantic, Ed Ward tells the story of rock and roll as it unfolded in all its glory. A book not only for the cognoscenti but the casual devotee who would like a moment-by-moment timeline of how the music evolved, transcended, and became a force unto itself. A definitive text." Lenny Kaye, guitarist, producer of Nuggets, and author of You Call It Madness "Ed Ward tells the complex, unruly history of rock and roll like few other writers can. He deftly separates sacred myths from the often brutal realities while connecting the various styles, races, cities and scenes into a coherent national saga. Mr. Ward writes with rare wisdom, insight and humor but most of all, a passionate love for this still powerful music." Dave Alvin, Grammy award-winning singer and songwriter and cofounder with his brother Phil of the Blasters About the Author ED WARD was the rock roll historian on NPR's Fresh Air for more than thirty years, reaching 14 million listeners. His writing has appeared in The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, and countless music magazines. He is also the coauthor of Rock of Ages: The Rolling Stone History of Rock Roll. He lives in Austin, Texas.