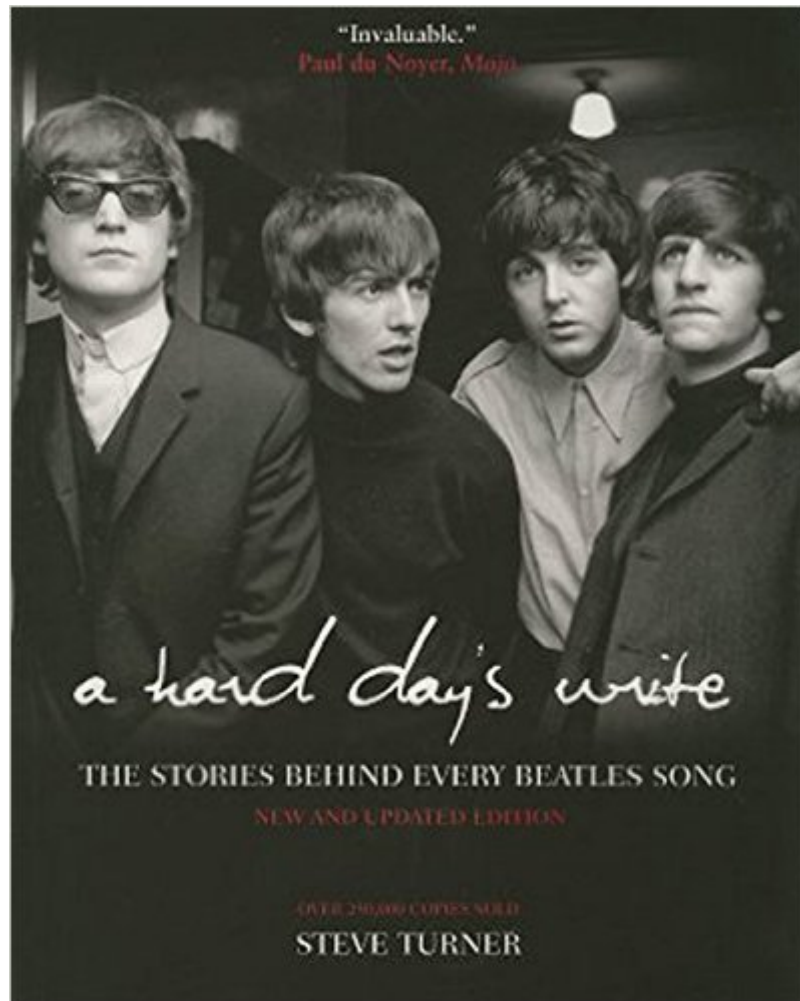


The book was found

A Hard Day's Write: The Stories Behind Every Beatles Song



Synopsis

A lavishly illustrated, rollicking account of the real people and events that inspired the Beatles' lyrics. Who was "just seventeen" and made Paul's heart go "boom"? Was there really an Eleanor Rigby? Where's Penny Lane? In *A Hard Day's Write*, music journalist Steve Turner shatters many well-worn myths and adds a new dimension to the Fab Four's rich legacy by investigating for the first time the ordinary people and events immortalized in the Beatles' music and now occupying a special niche in popular culture's collective imagination. Arranged chronologically by album, the book breaks new ground by exploring how private incidents influenced the group's writing and how their music evolved. Turner reveals that Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds was really a drawing by Julian Lennon of his childhood friend; Bungalow Bill was an all-American tiger hunter; Doctor Robert was a New York 'speech doctor'; and much more. A longtime Beatles admirer, Turner tracked down and interviewed the real-life subjects of the songs, probed public records and newspaper archives, and spoke in depth to the people closet to the Beatles to unearth tales that have never before been made public. The result is a book that chronicles an untold story of the Beatles themselves. Illustrated with over 200 photographs, *A Hard Day's Write* is a visually alluring and highly entertaining journey to the land stretching just beneath your conscious mind, mapped out with strawberry fields, fool-topped hills, and long and winding roads.

Book Information

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: It Books; Updated edition (October 18, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0060844094

ISBN-13: 978-0060844097

Product Dimensions: 8.7 x 0.6 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (155 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #217,448 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Pop Culture > Beatles](#) #85 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Theory, Composition & Performance > Songwriting](#) #219 in [Books > Reference > Encyclopedias & Subject Guides > Music](#)

Customer Reviews

As I bought this book based on all of the very high praise found on this [page](#), I now feel obligated to

warn future potential buyers that this book is nowhere near all it's cracked up to be. First of all, if you've read at least a few other Beatles books before, a lot of the information in this book purported to be "revelatory" is actually old news, and well-known even by casual fans. Lucy in the Sky With Diamonds was a drawing by Julian Lennon? Well, I'll be. Strawberry Fields Forever was a reference to John Lennon's special, childhood hideaway? No way! Penny Lane is a district in Liverpool? These are the kinds of shockers that just keep coming and coming. Of course, as someone who truly does obsess over the Beatles, I was expecting to reread lots of things I already knew. The problem is the things I didn't know. There was, in fact, all kinds of information that I had never before come across. To the point that I would almost be impressed. If I could believe a word of it. And sadly, I can't. The book is riddled, just riddled, with ridiculous typos and factual errors. There seems to have been no copy editing done in this book outside of computerized spell checking. And so all kinds of typos remain, because the words they spell are in the dictionary. One of my favorites is when the author seriously refers to previous Beatles films as "Help! and Hard Day's Write." Yes, the author got the Beatles film confused with his own book, and no one managed to catch it. A mere few paragraphs later, he claims that the song added to Let It Be... Naked is I've Got a Feeling. Which it is not. He also claims that George Martin came up with the idea for the Sgt.

In the music unit my Popular Culture class we look at the songs of the Beatles, specifically those collected on their "Beatles 1" album. Students write a paper looking at the stages of the group as defined by the songs on that album and sometimes they find things on the Internet that talk about how John Lennon and Paul McCartney (and George Harrison for "Something") came to write their songs. Unfortunately that has little to do with putting these songs into distinct chronological stages, but after reading "A Hard Day's Write" you can see where they would be fascinated by some of these stories and forget to just listen to the songs and decide for themselves what they are about and what makes them work. Steve Turner provides the stories behind every one of the Beatles songs, including "Free As a Bird" and all the songs from "Anthology" and "Live at the BBC" that would not be covered by the other albums. The book is divided into 14 chapters representing 17 albums ("Magical Mystery Tour" and "Yellow Submarine" are combined, as are the three "Anthology" albums). Turner is following the British albums and including those songs that ended up on the two "Masterworks" collections with the albums that were being recorded (e.g., "I Want to Hold Your Hand" and "With the Beatles," "Penny Lane" and "Strawberry Field Forever" with "Sgt. Pepper"). It does not include the songs by other writers that the Beatles covered during their early years. Turner makes the point that this is not a book that is attempting to explain what the Beatles

"were really trying to say," but tells us about the ideas and inspirations behind these songs, as well as dispelling some of the popular myths connected to some of these songs.

This book is very valuable for people who haven't read many Beatle books and don't know much about them or their music. If you fall into that category you will find this book indispensable. It gives an accurate outline of the stories behind every Beatle song, and what interesting stories they are. The people who inadvertently influenced their writing, the events that inspired them to write a particular song, (sometimes a TV commercial or innocuous statement made by someone in the room or in their recent past.) A wonderful insight into their creative process and into their minds as well. Unfortunately for me, I've read so many Beatle books, that I have heard all of these stories before, so by the time I came across this book, it was kind of anticlimactic. Even so, there were still some things I didn't know like, Everybody's Got Something to Hide Except for Me and My Monkee is actually referring to Yoko Ono, (she's John's monkee) and is not about having a heroin habit, like I had assumed. I won't give anymore away though because if you are reading this, I recommend that you read A Hard Day's Write and find out for yourself. The only thing I found mildly annoying, is the author's slight over analysis of Lennon's songs. Maybe he is right about most of them, he certainly doesn't seem off the mark when he talks about Lennon's abandonment issues. However his editorialising about John's, And Your Bird Can Sing really got under my skin. He seems to have the idea that John is singing about Paul in this song, and trying to say that Paul isn't as cool as he is, when he sings, "Tell me that you've heard every sound there is" etc. According to Turner, when he sings, "You say you've seen seven wonders," he's referring to Paul's "seven levels" remark when they first got high together. (huh?)

[Download to continue reading...](#)

A Hard Day's Write: The Stories Behind Every Beatles Song
Eminem: The Stories Behind Every Song (Stories Behind the Songs)
The Beatles Lyrics: The Stories Behind the Music, Including the Handwritten Drafts of More Than 100 Classic Beatles Songs
How To Write A Book In Less Than 24 Hours (How To Write A Kindle Book, How To Write A Novel, Book Writing, Writing A Novel, Write For Kindle)
The Song Writers Rhyming Dictionary: Step-By-Step System To Mastering Your Song Writing ,Rhymes,Free Styles and Song writing Game (Song Writers Rhyming Dictionary)
Day Trading Strategies: A Beginners Guide To Day Trading (Day Trading, Trading, Day Trading Strategies,Day Trading Books,Day Trading For Beginners,Day Trading Stocks,Options Book 1)
How to Write the Perfect Personal Statement: Write powerful essays for law, business, medical, or graduate school application (Peterson's How to Write the Perfect Personal Statement) Write to

Market: Deliver a Book that Sells (Write Faster, Write Smarter 3) The Beatles A Hard Day's Night: A Private Archive How to write a song: How to Write Lyrics for Beginners in 24 Hours or Less!: A Detailed Guide ((Songwriting, Writing better lyrics, Writing melodies, Songwriting exercises Book 3)) Songwriting 101 (2nd Edition): Inspiration, Tips, Tricks, and Lessons for the Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced Songwriter (lyrics, writing songs, songwriter, ... write music, write lyrics, song writing) Day Trading: A Beginner's Guide To Day Trading - Learn The Day Trading Basics To Building Riches (Day Trading, Day Trading For Beginner's, Day Trading Strategies Book 1) All The Songs: The Story Behind Every Beatles Release Into the Heart: The Stories Behind Every U2 Song How to Write a Song: Beginner's Guide to Writing a Song in 60 Minutes or Less (Songwriting, Writing better lyrics, Writing melodies, Songwriting exercises Book 1) Ukulele Song Book: Ukulele Christmas Song Book I - 20 Christmas & Holiday Songs with Lyrics, Chords and Chord Tabs: Christmas Songs (Ukulele Song Books Strum and Sing 1) The Beatles Best: Over 120 Great Beatles Hits (Piano, Vocal, Guitar) Flip Your Classroom: Reach Every Student in Every Class Every Day Left Behind Series Prequel Set (The Rising, Anarchist is Born Before they were Left Behind/ The Regime, Evil Advances Before they were Left Behind/ The Rapture, In the Twinkling of an Eye Countdown to the Earth's Last Days) The Girl in the Song: The Stories Behind 50 Rock Classics

[Dmca](#)