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YESTERDAY: Memories Of A Beatles Fan



Synopsis

The story takes the reader back in time to Liverpool, the city where I was born in the 1940's. Written in a style which brings Liverpool to life during the 40's, 50's and 60's, the story leads up to the first time I encountered The Beatles at Aintree Institute on their return from a booking in a Hamburg nightclub. There are events which are either unknown or have been completely overlooked, giving the reader a deeper insight into The Beatles earlier years and the special rapport they had with their fans. From the first time I spoke to John Lennon, he called me Marg number one fan. The reader is taken around Liverpool in the early 1960's to venues where the group played, including those eventful nights at The Cavern. This is the story of a fan who saw one of the best known groups in the world perform in a small dingy cellar in the heart of Liverpool.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Essentially A Good Read But The Mundane Tales Of The Author Dressing & Washing Her Hair & Bragging About Giving The Beatles A Hard Time At The Cavern After The Beatles Changed From Pete Best To Ringo Doesn't Sound Like Much Of A Beatles Fan To Me

an interesting book

This book was so good! It was great to hear the first hand account of a fan who was at the Cavern Club. Look for my full review on my blog, meetthebeatlesforreal.com

A must have new book for any Beatles fan

"Yesterday, Memories of a Beatles Fan" is one of those books suggested by 's genius bots, no doubt because I buy and read a lot of Beatles books. I had never heard of it but it sounded intriguing--the recollections of an early fan's memories of the boys. I downloaded a sample and wow!!! It didn't take long for me to buy the book. Margaret Hunt, the author, grew up in Liverpool and truly was one of the earliest Beatles fans. She saw them when they were a five-man group with Stu Sutcliffe on bass, and they were so unknown at the time that, when Hunt and a friend (the ubiquitous Carol) read on the handbill that they were from Germany, she assumed they were a German band and was surprised to hear them speak English! So begins Hunt's wild ride as a super-fan. She beat the wave of Beatlemania and was rewarded with incredible access to the boys. She actually hung out in the band room at the Cavern Club and most closely bonded with John who went out of his way to include her nearly every time the band played there. One time, when Margaret had to skip one of the boys' two concerts on a single weekend, John wanted to know where she was. He was that used to seeing her sitting in the front row. When Margaret told him she didn't have the money for both concerts, he told her that, if that ever happened again, to let him know and he'd make sure she got it. John welcomed her time and again into the band room even when surly George gave her dirty looks. I was blown away again and again in reading this book at how close a look Margaret got of the boys. They took to her as well and one night, Paul invited her to an after party. She had to turn him down because her mother expected her home at curfew. I wonder how many times she's regretted THAT decision. I came away with great admiration for the way Margaret handled herself, over and over breaking with her friend Carol to go the extra mile to get close to the group. One day, she even calls Paul's house and leaves a message. Paul calls her back straightaway and they chat about some photos she has of the group and, yes, Paul will be delighted to have a look at them. That's how early a fan Margaret was. John and the others sign her photos again and again and John often signed "To Marge, the No. 1 fan!" She was the No. 1 fan. Part of the charm of the book is how innocent everything was before Beatlemania set in. Margaret would simply

stand in line with John as he waited for his chips at the back of the club and exchange a few words. She even argued with him. John comes across nothing like the Beatle we now know. These were indeed his humble days and he had a lot of self-doubt which he expressed to Margaret, especially in the days when it seemed as though they would never get a recording contract. Margaret tells John to pep up because one day the whole world would know how great they were. It's truly an amazing perspective on the band that took over the world. It's also an insider's look at how the fans reacted when Pete Best was replaced (they were incensed) and how things changed when Brian Epstein came on the scene. Margaret is no Epstein fan and thought the boys would have made it without him but no one will ever know. My book "Get Back, Imagine Saving John Lennon" explores the fantasy of what it would have been like to hang with the boys in the old days. Margaret doesn't need to fantasize--she was there. I've never read a Beatles' book quite like this one. It's not perfect but it is priceless!!!!

I really enjoyed reading this and frankly I couldn't put it down! Most if not all, Beatles fan memoirs are always interesting to read. I often enjoy them more than straight biographies simply because they are so honest and straight forward. It was a joy to be taken back to early sixties Liverpool, and equally a joy to read about Marg and her heartfelt enthusiasm for an up and coming young band called the Beatles. The book takes you from early 1961 when Marg and her friend first lay their eyes and ears on the unknown Beatles, and find themselves the only two people in the audience who are even paying attention to them! From that point on the two girls are hooked and begin to follow the group, eventually ending up Cavern regulars. They become friendly with the boys especially John, Paul and Pete but Marg has a special place in her heart for John. What I loved most was the feeling of being cast back in time. I wish more first generation fans would write memoirs, not only fans of the group from early sixties Liverpool, but all first generation fans including those from the rest of England, who caught on to the group in 1963, and American fans as well. There are a few books out there but not enough. In any case we can add this lovely book to the list. Thank you Marg for sharing your memories.

Reading this book, with its emphasis on the relationship between the author and John Lennon, I was a bit jealous. John Lennon was always my favorite Beatle and the memories shared in this book are priceless.

With a front row seat to the beginnings of Beatlemania, this is a sweet heartfelt journey through the

eyes of an early Beatles fan. 'Marg' shares her front row chair to the birth of the Fab Four with charm, warmth and passion through the eyes of a genuine Liverpool teenager. While not dramatically revelatory, it is insightful, fairly accurate and worth the read if just for the Cavern context alone.

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