

John Lennon - Life is What Happens: Music, Memories, and Memorabilia

John Borack

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John Borack : John Lennon - Life is What Happens: Music, Memories, and Memorabilia before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised John Lennon - Life is What Happens: Music, Memories, and Memorabilia:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Cool Beatle Collection, but NOT a 'John' book. By Daniel ManteyHi, Actually this is a very nice, VERY handsome, BEAUTIFULLY designed book, but ends up being really a survey of collectable Beatles items (includes recent prices, and sale dates, etc.!!! Wow!) and is not really a 'John' book after all. He is there of course, and maybe a few more of his pictures than of the others; but really this is a 'Beatles' book, more than a 'John' book. And I think the author shares the generally 'too positive' feelings about John and his later life, and does not seem to be aware enough of the damage that John suffered as a child, his poor decision making abilities (with no parental guidance) and the toll that his extreme over-use (MIS-USE!!!) of LSD had on his mind, and subsequent actions. As the book relies too much on 'Beatles items,' the happier, more sane and exciting period of his life (with Cynthia and young Julian) is too casually passed over, in favor of the earlier and final, very crazy years of his life. Only two photos with Cynthia, only one with Julian, and WAY too many with Y.O. And the chronology of the book is VERY jumbled up!!! Things are all out of order. I just opened the book randomly and jotted down the dates from 9 photos in a row over 4 pages: 1968, '94, '84, '68, '69, '68, '67, and '64. I get dizzy when I page through! And no text really. The 'text' is just odd bits here and there amidst the photos, and rather scattered, and has no real flow or focus, and interspersed with odd quotes for all sorts of people; often John, or another Beatle, but often people who I have no

idea who they are (though they are mentioned in short below each quote). And the text, when it does show up, is not so well written. Again, a random sample; '...released their next new music' that just does not sound right to me? The same sentence ends with 'when this single dropped.' Dropped? How does, or did a single 'drop?' And George Harrison's Inner Light (same paragraph) is called 'gently spiritual.' Listen to that if you have it around; the opening and all the instrumental parts are rather jarring, with that Indian bowed instrument (can't remember its name). George's singing is more boring rather than gentle, and the rest is neither 'gentle' nor very spiritual to my ears; maybe the words are, didn't listen to those. John was my favorite Beatle, I love his Beatles music very much, am still in shock from the news of the evening of December 8th 1980, and miss and weep for him often. The book is a fine, rather beautiful (VERY colorful!) though slightly too chaotic and biased (too Post-Beatle) 'Beatles' book. But it is not sensitive or focused enough for me to be called 'John Lennon...' anything. Best, D0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy BarbaraGreat book Happy!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. John LennonBy Terry CarverThis was purchased as a gift. After paging through it, I have decided to purchase one for myself. Anyone one interested in John Lennon would certainly find this a nice addition to there collection!

REAL LOVE...John Lennon - Life is What Happens celebrates the life and times of one of the most influential musicians in pop music history. A singer, songwriter, artist, social activist, husband and father, Lennon's genius inspired a generation-and continues to do so today some 30 years after his death.This fascinating read features more than 500 photographs and rare images of Lennon juxtaposed by the myriad pop-culture memorabilia created from the height of Beatlemania into the late 1970s and the Plastic Ono Band. Chronicling his musical career, the book includes hundreds of classic photographs, dozens of quotes by and about Lennon, and personal reminiscence from fans and celebrities recalling Lennon's impact on their lives.

About the AuthorJohn M. Borack is a music journalist whose reviews, columns and feature articles have appeared in periodicals such as Goldmine, an F+W title, and Amplifier. Borack will celebrate his 25th year as a freelancer for Goldmine in 2010 and continues to write his popular "Rave On" column for the magazine.