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Nobody Likes You: Inside The Turbulent Life, Times, And Music Of Green Day



Synopsis

The full story of the rise and spectacular comeback of the band hailed as the saviors of punk rock. It's hard to believe that in early 2004 Green Day was considered over--the band was still together, but they were dismissed as a strictly 90s phenomenon, incapable of re-creating the success of their groundbreaking album *Dookie*. Then *American Idiot* debuted at #1 on the Billboard charts, stayed on the charts for nearly 18 months, and went on to sell more than four million records and to win Record of the Year (for "Boulevard of Broken Dreams") at this year's Grammys. Combining unique access to Green Day with a seasoned journalist's nose for a great story, Marc Spitz gives the complete account of the band, from their earliest days to their most recent explosion of popularity and critical acclaim. Foremost, *Nobody Likes You* is a story of friendship and the transporting power of playing very loud music. It is the story of how high school dropout Billie Joe Armstrong came to write song lyrics that inflamed the political conscience of fans in a way that two Yale graduates couldn't. Green Day's story--from rise, to fall, to rise again--has never before been fully told.

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Customer Reviews

After years of failing to duplicate its album *Dookie*'s success, punk-rocking Green Day seemed dead in the water. An undercurrent of critical disdain had always held that the band purveyed punk lite and was an aggregation of poseurs compared to legendary punk outfits the Clash and the Ramones. Then the group's eighth album, *American Idiot*, hit the top of the charts in 2004 and stayed there, catapulting Green Day back into public attention. Spitz, a senior writer for Spin,

sympathetically limns the arc of the lads' career from East Bay, California, in informative if unchallenging style. Probably headed for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame because of their commercial success playing punk, a subgenre that has rarely exerted mass commercial appeal, Green Day deserves representation in rockin' library collections. ^B Mike Tribby Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"The ultimate book for fans of Green Day and a book that mirrors the wild, crazy ride that punk has made into the mainstream." "The definitive account of who Green Day is, what Green Day means, and why all of this could only have happened in northern California." "From the band's early days to the critical acclaim and accolades of their latest album, *American Idiot*, Spitz details the group's friendship and creativity." "Spitz's writing is cool, quick, and instantly memorable. *Nobody Likes You* is a comprehensive, behind-the-curtain peek into the politics and passion of punk rock."

The book is worth a read but its content is somehow superficial or incomplete, depending on the reader's expectation. Since it doesn't have any official support from the band or most closely related people, I think it couldn't be much better, anyway. There's almost no proper interviews with band members, except for reproductions from magazines (mostly *Spin*). On the other hand, the most relevant part of the book are focused on the early years of the band members in Bay Area, and the history about the context of their life before commercial success is quite comprehensive. I found it interesting because, as a group, that social and cultural scenario was what really defined them and their music. From people related to that period comes the most relevant and interesting interviews as well. From the *Dookie* worldwide explosion onwards, chapters sound almost like fillers. The text itself is very easy-reading, even for a non-English speaker like me. Well, whilst it is probably one of the best options around when it comes to a Green Day biography, it wasn't enough for me. As the fan I have been for a lifetime, I still want to know a lot more about their lives. But, I would buy and read it again. ;)

As usual, Green Day exceeds my expectations. The story of a bunch of kids who were just kids, "growing up" out of the East Bay punk scene is vicariously the way a lot of kids grew up in that decade. They let everyone in and to be a part of them. So much love! Still breathing? Still running and jumping loving and playing strong! The revolution has only just begun!

A must read for every Green Day fan!!!! Such a good book I've already read a bunch of times and it's always a pleasure to read it over and over again :)

Nobody Likes You: Inside the Turbulent Life, Times and Music of Green Day takes readers on a world tour of Green Day from the early lives of Billie, Mike and Tre through the release of the American Idiot album. The biography covers every major Green Day release, taking readers into the studio and on tour with the band through their roller coaster of a career. From humble beginnings in blue collar families to multi-platinum success to political activism, Nobody Likes You has just about everything a Green Day fan could desire and is a solid look at pop-punk culture. If I have any criticism about Nobody Likes You, it's that the book focused a bit too much on the early years of Green Day (the Gilman Street years, prior to the release of Dookie). While I understand the bay area's role in punk rock, perhaps a few too many pages were dedicated to this time period. I'll admit my introduction to Green Day came at the same time as many others, with the release of Dookie and while I found the parts of the book set in the pre-Dookie era interesting and educational, the minutia of detail in which the Gilman Street era is covered began to drag after awhile. Otherwise, I found Nobody Likes You to be a great biography. One gets a true appreciation for what happens when a bunch of kids who come from working-class backgrounds and the San Francisco underground punk movement suddenly find themselves releasing an album that would go on to sell 10 million copies at age 20. The members of Green Day seem to have remained humble and true to themselves. An excellent read for fans of Green Day, those interested in the Bay Area underground punk scene in the 80s, or even people who enjoy good biographies.

My nephew, a Green Day fan, enjoyed reading this book. Not found in our local bookstore.

great story, amazing to see how far you can go if you don't give up and always believe in yourself and stay focused!

best Green Day Book out there, You will already know 90% of the stuff in the book if you are a fan but still this is the best Green Day book out

Well researched and interesting. I found the writing style a little obtuse.

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