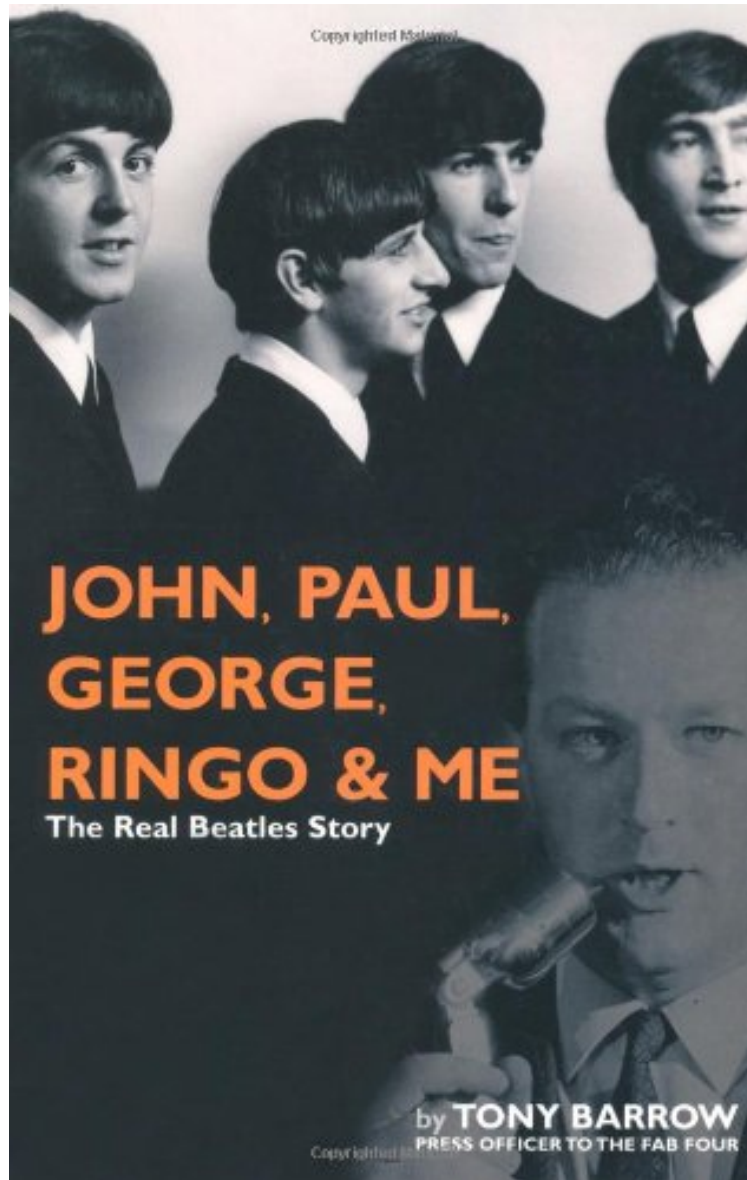


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## John, Paul, George, Ringo and Me: The Real Beatles Story

*Tony Barrow*

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**Tony Barrow : John, Paul, George, Ringo and Me: The Real Beatles Story** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised John, Paul, George, Ringo and Me: The Real Beatles Story:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The same old storyBy EmilioI've always thought Tony Barrow should publish a book about the Beatles, but my idea was slightly different. I used to read those articles he would write for the "Beatles Monthly Book" and find them very interesting. Tony's challenge was to look for something new to

write about the Beatles at a time when their story had been exhaustingly told in countless biographies. So he would choose a specific topic and explore it in full, thus providing us with up close views of different aspects in the life of the Beatles: "The Beatles and Money", "The Beatles were Night People", "The Beatles in Clubland", "The First Record John ever bought", etc. I've always thought he should select the best pieces and publish them in a book. Together they would form an original and detailed mosaic of those hard days and nights from an insider's perspective. Instead, Tony chose to give us just another Beatles biography. That makes "John, Paul, George, Ringo and Me" rather predictable at times. After all, the Beatles' chronology will always be the same, whether told by an insider or by a researcher. Most of us know the sequence of facts by heart, now, and reading this book feels like watching a familiar scene from a different camera angle. Whatever exclusive views Tony has to share are few and far between and concern mostly his work as the Beatles' press agent. Perhaps this is a book Tony felt he had to write. As someone who was once close to the Beatles, at least on a professional level, maybe he owed it to himself to write his own Beatles biography. The outcome is nothing spectacular, but still a worthy read for any Beatles fan. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Nothing new here...By CbryceAnd it contains plenty of exclamation points (!) which turns me off....but then he is a PR man so he probably can't help it. Also, as most of the insiders who have written books, he can't help putting himself into every scenario; I know, it's his book, but it is the Beatles everyone wants to read about, more than what he did for the Beatles, at least I do. And he does have some little details wrong, as others have pointed out, mostly dates. All in all, it is okay...I have read so many Beatles books that it is impossible to find anything much new, but this one is okay for new readers, it is fairly short though it does have some good photos (mostly ones that he is also in, of course...) 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. With A Little Help From His Friends By The Maestro The memoirs of Tony Barrow is one that should be read by all Beatle nuts. You get to read about things you've not read before and combined with the other good Beatle books this adds to your knowledge and understanding of what life as a Beatle must have been like. This is from the man who gave them the name 'Fab Four' and wrote liner notes on several of their albums. Being from the inner circle, a fellow Liverpoolian, you get an insight that you don't get in too many other books. Comes with a handy index and some photos. I got the feeling that Tony Barrow could have expanded more than he did but just the same this is a worthy book to have on your Beatle book shelf. There is some light weight Beatle books on the market and this is not one of them.

Liverpool-born author Tony Barrow worked beside The Beatles as the world-famous group's own public relations man through each exciting phase of their dazzling career in the sixties. His up-close-and-personal profiles of John, Paul, George, and Ringo probe their true personalities and reveal their amazing lifestyles as no other book has done. Barrow gives a devastatingly honest, powerfully authoritative, and absolutely credible eyewitness account of how his history-making clients acted in and out of the spotlight. Also published here for the first time is his astonishing collection of photographs, including candid snapshots taken in the sanctuary of dressing rooms and hotel suites from where press and paparazzi were excluded. Barrow watched the Beatles' "greatest gig of all" at New York's Shea Stadium and, at Paul's request, he made a personal souvenir recording of The Beatles' final concert at San Francisco's Candlestick Park. The author lets his quirky Liverpoolian sense of humor run all through the text because "rock 'n' roll was never invented to be taken too seriously."

From Publishers Weekly Barrow, the media agent who concocted the Fab Four's nickname, weighs in with a raucous re-telling of the Beatlemania years that follows the foppish rockers from a Manchester Square pub in 1962 through world tours, stadium gigs, movie deals, death, controversy and chaos. Chapters are devoted to painting "a sad and desperately lonely picture of The Beatles' millionaire manager," Brian Epstein, and his downward spiral into fatal drug addiction; profiling band members and their sundry girlfriends and wives; and recounting behind-the-scenes moments during recording sessions or while on the road. Highlights include Barrow's description of the band's beeline ascent to stardom following the release of their first Parlophone single, "Love Me Do;" their ill-fated trip to Manila in the summer of 1966, when they inadvertently snubbed Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos and First Lady Imelda by missing a luncheon at which they were the guests of honor; and their attempts to deal with the backlash that ensued after John Lennon claimed the Beatles were more popular than Jesus. Beatles fans will know much of this story, but Barrow's swift telling and catchy prose makes for an addictive read that still manages a few surprises. 24 pages color and bw photos. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "A raucous re-telling of the Beatlemania years . . . Barrow's swift telling and catchy prose makes for an addictive read that still manages a few surprises." Publishers Weekly