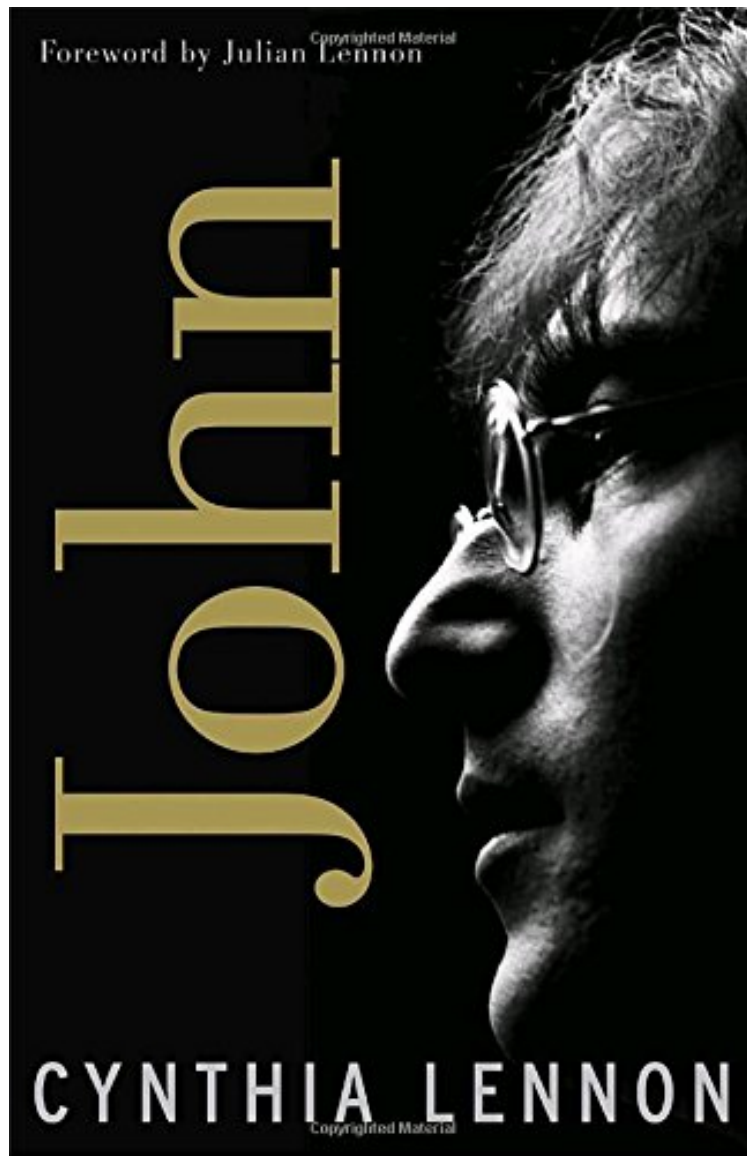


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#156425 in Books Lennon, Cynthia 2006-08-01 2006-08-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 7.96 x .73 x 5.201, .64 #File Name: 0307338568352 pages | File size: 45.Mb

Cynthia Lennon : John before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised John:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. I've loved their music By S. L. Bartlett I have been a Beatles fan all my life. I even saw all 4 of them in concert in Chicago. I've loved their music, and I loved John's visions of peace and love. (He was my favorite Beatle -- yes, you had to pick one!) There have been a gazillion books written about these guys, but only one has been written by John's first wife, the late Cynthia Lennon. No one in the world could know her

experience of being a part of their world and all its craziness. Since none of the wives went on to have literary careers, I was prepared to read a simplistic story of life being married to John Lennon. I was very pleasantly surprised. This is a well written book with fascinating insights into the early days of her life with John and their baby Julian. I always wondered about her and Patti and Maureen and Jane. I had read Patti Boyd's book, which I also recommend, but I highly recommend this book for Beatles fans of all ages. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great book about the human side of John Lennon By Howard Schulman Great book about the human side of John Lennon, as only one person could tell it, his first wife Cynthia...25 years after his death. They were a couple from before the Beatles formed up till the beginning of breakup of the Beatles. Interestingly, John's marriage was intentionally hidden from the press because their manager thought it would be bad for business, though, as Cynthia shows, John's marriage was always a large part of his life. Additionally, she keeps going with the same intensity to cover the Yoko period as well as the assassination aftermath. So she gives a very full picture of John. I do have to say that reading how John accuses her of having an affair with Roberto as a reason why he wants to divorce her, which she flatly denies, then as soon as John files the papers, Roberto moves in with her, made me think that everything that I was reading may not be 100% accurate or unbiased. Additionally, Cynthia repeatedly says that she never wanted to get back together with John, yet she persists in contacting him after the divorce and repeated says how much she never stopped loving him. Made me think. She blames drugs for their breakup, but I got the feeling there was more to it than just the LSD, etc. It's not that the book wasn't great--it was--and I spent almost all my free time over a long weekend (on-call) reading it--but I wouldn't be surprised if I heard another version of events, especially after the divorce, that either didn't fit with hers, or included important information that she conveniently omitted. Nevertheless, I totally enjoyed reading it and would most highly recommend it to anyone who wanted to know who John Lennon was. Very, very well written, simple, genuine, presumably based on a diary that she only once or twice mentions that she kept. She also mentions that John kept a diary the last 6 years of his life that he intended to give to Julian, but Yoko kept for herself, refusing to give it to him. I'll probably have to wait another few decades till that comes out....I would also highly recommend reading this book with an iPad next to you in order to listen to the songs that are mentioned and see photo of the various characters and fill in gaps. ****As frequently happens, Jeff Bezos' stupid Kindle version did not include pictures****....but still going to give it 5 stars 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. I was happy to read it! By Pat Rothell Don't laugh, but it's soooo true. I'm 84 and just discovered the Beatles. I had 4 sons and mostly ignored their enjoyment of the Beatles - thinking, "just kids." I grew up with the "Big Bands" and was devastated when their fame faded and mostly ended.) One night recently at home, I was bored and decided to take a chance and buy the Beatles book written by Bob Spitz (on my Kindle.) The book was extremely well written and (for me) a joy to read. Perhaps another laugh, but I read the book 3 times. This led me to Cynthia Lennon's book, "John." She's no pro, but I found the information she offered about her marriage to John extremely interesting and it filled in some of the gaps. I believe that reading Bob Spitz's book first is a must so that you are given a good background on these kids. But if you are a romantic like me, read the "Beatles" by Bob Spitz first.

Now in paperback, the New York Times bestselling expos of the real John Lennon The time has come when I feel ready to tell the truth about John and me, our years together and the years since his death. There is so much that I have never said, so many incidents I have never spoken of and so many feelings I have never expressed: great love on one hand; pain, torment, and humiliation on the other. Only I know what really happened between us, why we stayed together, why we parted, and the price I have paid for being John's wife. From the Introduction

.com This isn't Cynthia Lennon's first book about her legendary ex-husband. A Twist of Lennon--a slim volume that John tried to suppress on grounds of libel--came out in 1978. But now, 25 years after his death, she finally feels ready to tell the "full and truthful story" of their life together. Why? In his foreword, son Julian writes of their being "dismissed or at best treated as insignificant bit players" in the story of John's life; it's Cynthia's goal, with John, to set the record straight. She does make a case for being more than just "the impressionable young girl who fell for him, then trapped him into marriage," and it's moving to read, in his own words, of John's love for his son. And while there's nothing new in her account of the Fab Four's rise to fame, as the greatest success story of the rock era, it's a legend that bears retelling. But most salient of all are Cynthia's sketches of pain, regret, and intimidation. John was indeed a brilliant, loving man, but he was also "passionately jealous," "verbally cutting," sometimes abusive, and often neglectful. (It is hinted that his behavior may have paralleled that of the woman who raised him, his Aunt Mimi.) Unfortunately, Cynthia's "response to John's provocative and cruel behavior was to stick by him more solidly than ever...[feeling] that if he could trust me and believe that I loved him he might soften." It's not this dysfunction, however, but rather John's use of LSD, on which she blames the emotional "chasm" that led to the failure of their marriage. And though the Lennons' divorce comes relatively late in the book, the pages that follow are by far the saddest, as they chronicle John's increasing distance from and neglect of his former family--especially Julian, who would only see his father three times after he moved to New York in 1971. It's no surprise that Cynthia lays much of the blame for this at the feet of Yoko Ono, who is described as controlling and insensitive, especially in the wake of

John's murder. But even though there's a lot of bitterness and resentment in these pages, it's not overwhelming, being offset by Cynthia's fierce love for her son and her continuing affection for her ex-husband. A full picture of John Lennon's life will never exist as long as Ono judges herself unable to write about their time together, but John goes a long way toward improving the situation. --Benjamin LukoffFrom Publishers Weekly

There's a lot of cruelty (his) and bitterness (hers) in this book by the late Beatle's first wife and mother of his elder son, Julian Lennon. A rehash of the Beatles' beginnings from the wife's point of view, the book reveals that Lennon was a pretty messed-up guy who preached universal love for the world and ignored his own family. Saddest, of course, is the effect of all this on Julian, who writes the introduction and praises Mum for her courage and love. Three marriages later, though, Cynthia still burns with anger mostly at Yoko Ono, whom she believes brainwashed John. When asked if she was sorry she'd fallen in love with the singer-songwriter in the first place, she writes, "If I'd known as a teenager what falling for John Lennon would lead to, I would have turned round right then and walked away." If only she had let him be. (Oct.)

Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Lennons eyewitness testimony vividly captures the time and place and the characters . . . her portrait of John is loving but candid.

Washington PostA welcome window into a period that typically narrated at breakneck pace, [providing] a gentle reminder that John Lennon was a human being . . . before he was a piece of history. Detroit Free Press[Cynthia Lennons] portrait reveals an immensely talented and driven man who was capable of great passion, affection, and loyalty, but whose inability to handle confrontation and tendency toward flight from painful realities led him to abandon his family when the going got tough. Buffalo News