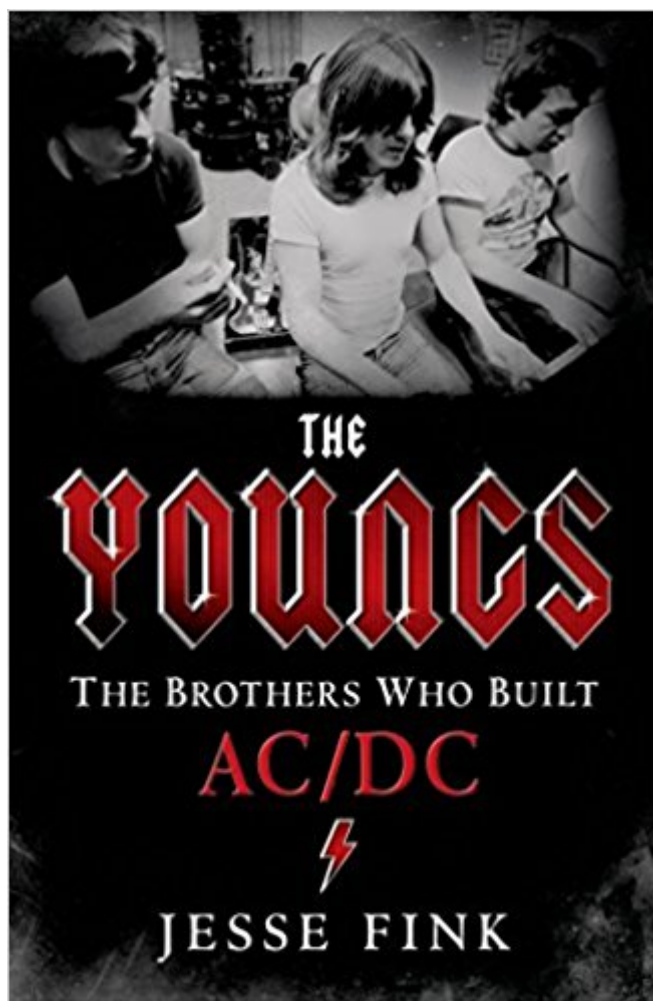


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The Youngs: The Brothers Who Built AC/DC



Synopsis

#1 MUSIC BOOK OF 2014 - AllMusicBooks.com (USA) BEST BOOKS OF 2014 - PRI Public Radio International (USA) "Fink's ability to overcome the Youngs' code of Scottish-Australian omerté is impressive... a cut above other AC/DC tomes, and Fink knows it." - Classic Rock (UK) 9/10 review "An entertaining book... fans of the band will want to get their hands on this. Pronto." - Booklist (American Library Association) "A fascinating, insightful look at the brothers who changed the face of rock 'n' roll and the politics and business that goes hand in hand with the music we all know and love." - Jimmy Stafford, guitarist of Train "It's extraordinarily well written and presents a fascinating view of the band and the people that helped make it happen... a great piece of research and magnificently presented." - Phil Carson, former vice-president of Atlantic Records who signed AC/DC "A largely untold, more controversial story... anything but a hagiography. A fresh, incisive take on the band." - MOJO (UK) 4 (four-star review) "An essential read for fans of the band... a full portrait of just how significant a role George Young, Malcolm and Angus's older brother, played in AC/DC's development." - The New Yorker "Until a band member puts pen to paper in a proper tell-all exposé - they won't - Jesse Fink's work here is the number one go-to book on the subject, warts 'n' all." - Uber Rock (UK) "Fink's look at the band addresses the question that he believes most mainstream rock critics have never been able to answer about AC/DC: 'Why have they endured and resonated with hundreds of millions of people and inculcated such fierce loyalty and outright fanaticism?' The answer is the unrelenting tenacity of the Young brothers... fascinating." - Publishers Weekly "This thought-provoking book definitely breaks some new ground. Arrangement by chapters dedicated to specific songs is a satisfying way of telling the AC/DC story while providing music criticism. Scholarly fans will appreciate the bibliography. This one's a must-read for fans." - Library Journal "A great narrative... it has one very simple, very powerful message for those who would like to dismiss AC/DC as childish hacks: 'Stop being so bloody pretentious!'" - Clark Boyd, PRI's The World "A fantastic new AC/DC book... Fink did a great job. Essential for an AC/DC fan to read." - Carter Alan, 100.7 WZLX, Massachusetts "The latest, greatest 'rock read'... an awesome book." - Buck McWilliams, Gater 98.7 FM, Florida "An astounding - astounding - book." - Bill Meyer, KMED, Oregon "An excellent read." - Ryan Gatenby, WBIG, Illinois "The best book on AC/DC ever written." - Dan Rivers, WKBN, Ohio "I loved this book." - Arroe Collins, WRFX, North Carolina "Outstanding." - Mark Mayfield, KSLX, Arizona With sales of over 200 million albums, AC/DC is not just the biggest rock band in the world. It's a family business built by three brothers: George,

Malcolm and Angus Young. And, as with any business, some people prospered while others got hurt along the way. The Youngs: The Brothers Who Built AC/DC is unlike any AC/DC book you've read before. Less a biography, more a critical appreciation, it tells the story of the trio through 11 classic songs and reveals some of the secrets that went into their making. Important figures from AC/DC's long way to the top open up for the very first time, while unsung heroes behind the band's success are given the credit they are due. Accepted accounts of events are challenged while sensational details emerge to cast a whole new light on the band's history, especially their early years with Atlantic Records. Former AC/DC members and musicians from bands such as Guns N' Roses, Dropkick Murphys, Airbourne and Rose Tattoo also give their take on the Youngs' brand of magic. Their music has never pulled its punches. Neither does The Youngs. After 40 years, AC/DC might just have got the serious book it deserves.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The best book I've ever read about AC/DC."- Mark Evans (AC/DC, 1975-'77)"A savvy new book... Fink, quite properly, can't stand the kind of music critic who feels pleasing a crowd is a suspect achievement, somehow antithetical to the spirit of rock. In the end, [he] seems to be in two minds about AC/DC. That seems the right number of minds for an adult to be in about them, especially an adult who encountered their best albums during the sweet spot of his youth."- The Australian "Recent books [about AC/DC]... didn't offer much to change our perception of the

band. Jesse Fink's study of the Young brothers takes a different approach... giving us a different version of many stories, especially when it comes to the wheeling and dealing behind the rock. Fink is clearly in love with AC/DC, but he knows the old bird has some warts under her make-up, and doesn't shy away from revelations that cast the Youngs in a less than flattering light."-[The Rolling Stone](#) (four-star review)"I loved it." - Jerry Greenberg (president of Atlantic Records, 1974-'80)"A great job." - Back In Black and Highway To Hell engineer Tony Platt

Jesse Fink was born in London in 1973 and raised and educated in Australia. His first book, the sports biography *15 DAYS IN JUNE*, was released in 2007. *LAID BARE*, a memoir of divorce, followed in 2012. His third book, the international bestseller *THE YOUNGS: THE BROTHERS WHO BUILT AC/DC*, was published in 2013. It was released in over 20 countries and translated into ten languages. Lithuanian and Japanese editions are being published in 2017. *LAID BARE* is being released in a new edition in 2017 while Fink's fourth book, *BON: THE LAST HIGHWAY*, a biography of legendary AC/DC singer Bon Scott, will be released in November 2017 in several countries. He lives in Sydney, Australia, with his wife and daughter.

From a very good, first person opening, writer Jesse Fink pursues the Young brothers, whose chops and work ethic lie at the heart of AC/DC. Unfortunately, as the book progresses it becomes more about the Young brothers, and the Youngs don't cooperate with outsider journalists, even those who are self-professed fans. Fink is a good writer, who has written a good book but as many old former insiders he talks to, he never gets inside the Youngs. As any self-respecting fan Fink has his own strong opinions, most of which (the band's first albums are by far their best work, Bon Scott was a much better singer than Brian Johnson) are unobjectionable. It's too bad Fink didn't keep up the terrific first person focus of the first chapters. That would have been a better story and a better book.

You know the rock bios that are based on a pile of Rolling Stone profiles and whatever else can be cut-n-pasted from the internet? The ones that you turn the pages and mutter, "I know all of this information . . . I've heard all of these stories before; isn't there anything new here?" This isn't that kind of rock bio. Jesse Fink has done a masterful job of digging into the band's past and bringing new stories to light from unexpected places. Anyone else expecting that we'd ever hear from the band's long lost drummer who played on "High Voltage"? I sure didn't, and he's got great stories to

tell. That's just the tip of the iceberg here. And let's face it: no one before Jesse had approached the AC/DC story by considering it as a family business, which it is and has been for many decades. All in all, a satisfying read that will be enjoyable whether you're an AC/DC fan or not. Highly recommended.

Fan or not, this is the best book about "the boys" out there. Still, it is elusive as to how they peaked, slumped, and roared back, perhaps because members of the band "don't do critics: and thus say so little. Much is not flattering. At all. Yet as a long-time fan, I would bet a lot of bucks there is no successful band things are always rosy with. That is because (shockingly) entertainers are humans, and humans are flawed. It enjoyable.

As a Fan of AC/DC since 1975 i have loved reading this book that Jesse Fink has captured the whole story of why AC/DC and why it became The Best Rock Band in the world.....The Youngs and the story of how they Built AC/DC is great to read, but also understanding how many others too have had a real impact of AC/DC and the band's beginnings....This is crucial....like all great things that are built....it's the foundation that is so important....so All those involved in the beginning is why AC/DC is still going so strong today....I absolutely recommend anyone that loves Rock n Roll....read this book.....It's a long way to the top.....it's even harder to stay there....AC/DC has done that.....

A cool friend introduced me to AC/DC back in the 70s via an import album. I found that Bon Scott's witty phrases and the band's basic beat stayed (and played) in my mind for years, but then the times and my tastes changed and I stopped listening to rock and roll completely. One day I found myself humming a tune. It was "Dirty Deeds Done Dirt Cheap". I suddenly began listening to rock music again and finally got my own Acca Dacca albums. And though I am no AC/DC aficionado, I thoroughly enjoyed Jesse Fink's book as it was a fascinating account of how music and musicians were marketed, managed, treated, and tossed in music's heyday from the 60s through 80s. The account of how AC/DC got airplay reminded how great rock radio used to be, and I particularly enjoyed the section of the book dealing with a phone call regarding producers -- an occurrence with a truly Rashomon twist. I think this book would appeal to anyone interested in how the music biz was conducted before it all went digital and downloaded.

A good view of how the band grew to huge popularity. It introduced me to EVIE and Easybeat tunes. The book is hard on the Young Brothers demand for excellence over loyalty. They have been loyal

to family and those close, but not tolerant of deviation from a tight performance. Few bands make it to the level and brand recognition status AC/DC have earned.

As a lifelong ACDC fan, I really expected alot more. If you are looking for a book about ACDC the band this is not it. If you want to know all about who did what for producing their records that is what this book is about.

I'm a big fan of ACDC's music but I learned a lot about the inner workings of the band through this book. Jesse Fink obviously dug deep and did a lot of painstaking research to get his info. The band is notoriously private and that really complicates attempts at getting their history down on paper. The thing I liked most is Jesse's attempts to bring to the forefront all of the people who helped ACDC get where they are today and who didn't get the credit they deserved. The Young brothers are great musicians who have ruled ACDC with an iron fist, and they've stepped on, and over, people to get to the top. Doesn't make them bad people. They're very driven, like most successful people. But it is legit to ask why certain people didn't get recognized, and to question band decisions. Doesn't make Fink, or any of us, bad fans for asking. We love the band, warts and all--and we just want to know ALL details. And Fink does great, considering how hard this band is to cover. Learning about the very beginnings of the band and the influence of George Young's experience in The Easybeats was great for me as well. In the end Jesse Fink has done a great job at trying to nail down a very private band. He's made me look at them from a different angle. Most importantly, his book made me want to get out the old ACDC vinyl and start cranking! Is it the best ACDC book? I don't know, I haven't read them all. But, it's very good. Fans of the band should read it! Highly recommended!

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