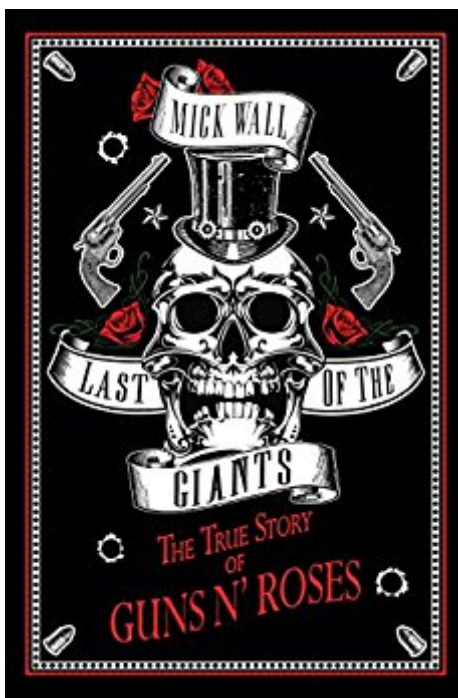


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Last Of The Giants: The True Story Of Guns N' Roses



Synopsis

“Mick is able to weave together what can only be referred to as the most complete and accurate portrait on the band ever published. Yes it is THAT good and that well researched! . . . Thorough research and eloquent writing is a beautiful union and Wall’s successful deployment of both, coupled with the fact that he is writing about one of the most incendiary rock bands of the past thirty years, makes for an absolutely enthralling read from beginning to end. . . . Last of the Giants: The True Story of Guns N’ Roses takes you on a journey where you can not only live vicariously through their sordid exploits, but you can also get some invaluable insight into what made this band an absolute rarity.” • Classic Rock Revisited “Using interviews he personally conducted with members of the band, as well as archival material, Wall has assembled the most detailed portrait yet of the band.” • Uproxx “Last of the Giants is the mad, funny, dark and often painful story of a lost band from a now-distant time.” • Classic Rock Magazine With the original lineup reunited, Guns N’ Roses is packing stadiums again, thirty years after their landmark debut, Appetite for Destruction. “Last of the Giants is the mad, funny, dark and often painful story of a lost band from a now-distant time.” --Classic Rock Magazine “Any story about Guns is worth reading. But when the author is Mick Wall it’s absolutely essential.” --Kerrang! Guns N’ Roses is what every rock band since the Rolling Stones has tried to be: dangerous. They exploded of the ’80s glam metal scene and boldly redefined rock ’n’ roll for a new era. Author Mick Wall met Guns N’ Roses when the band members lived together at the infamous “Hell House” in Los Angeles and became a part of their inner circle. Thanks to Wall’s longtime friendship and connections with Guns N’ Roses, he conducted exclusive interviews with all the original members and, for the first time, their original managers, who were down in the trenches with Guns N’ Roses (from 1986 to 2004). They share all-new revelations about the band’s rock-star debauchery in the studio, on tour and behind the scenes. Last of the Giants is a celebration of Guns N’ Roses: the last of the extraordinary, excessive, not-giving-a-shit rock stars.

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Customer Reviews

I just finished reading Mick Wall's "Last Of The Giants: The True Story of Guns N' Roses". As a long time fan I have read almost every book, magazine or web article about GN'R I could get my hands on. I'd say this one is pretty good. One of the reasons I enjoyed this book is because it reads a lot like listening to somebody tell you a story. While there are hard facts, names and dates, this isn't really the book you are looking for if you want super in depth details. This book is much more concerned with the general narrative of the mad story of Guns N' Roses. It doesn't get bogged down in any particular time period. It moves along nicely. We get a good primer on the early days and all involved and we move along to the rise, peak and eventual sudden stop. If you are a fan like me and already know the details you'll likely eat this up. Mick Wall, the author of Last of the Giants actually spent time with members of the band and gave the world a lot of great interviews previous to this book. He had previously published a book before this filled with those interviews and a biography of W. Axl Rose. He was there, close up throughout the heyday of GN'R seems to of developed relationships with the band and their management and can give the reader some insights other authors cannot. Finally fans get to hear some of the history here with Alan Niven AND Doug Goldstein. Very interesting! This filled in holes other books never did. One of the things I liked about this book in particular is all the insight offered by Alan Niven, GN'R's long time manager. Niven is the man who took GN'R from their club days to the big time. Niven was the one who got Welcome to the Jungle played on MTV when it had gone mostly unnoticed previously. Without his tireless efforts to get GN'R the attention they needed the band may well of languished in obscurity and died a quick death. Throughout the book we get a look at some of the massive difficulty Niven

faced while managing the band that seemed bent on killing itself and the super challenge of dealing with Axl Rose. As to be expected, this book dedicates much of its time to telling us all about Axl. For me, a guy who wants to hear about all the members, I don't necessarily love that. But I have come to understand it. Clearly he is one of the greatest front men of any band ever in the history of Rock n' Roll and has definitely earned the words spent on him. Love or hate him he was the biggest front man in the world for a period of time. We read how despite having the world on a platter Axl at times did things that others would totally describe as wild self sabotage. It was like he was trying to throw away the future of the band before it even got off the ground. No one would ever deny he asked a lot of the fans. He basically put all who worked with him through hell. I still can't figure out if it was a case of Axl knowing he could get away with it, or he was really just that unstable. Probably both. This book more than any other really let's us see just how troubled Axl is, and to be honest I left feeling sympathy for the guy. Like he's not just a spoiled twat, he's just really has a bag full of demons on his back. Mental illness is no joke. When I look at it through that lens a whole other picture of the man comes into view. Struggle and suffering seem to be his constant life partners. Next, I gotta say I LOVED all the IZZY content in this book! In Last of the Giants we get a look at Izzy that no other book has offered. Izzy has always been the elusive guy, hanging back in the shadows, dodging the spot light. But from reading the Slash and Duff's books we have found out just how important Izzy was to the foundation of GN'R. Take away Izzy and you lose what made Appetite For Destruction so great. Mick Wall gives us some very interesting stories and history about how Izzy dealt with the rise of GN'R, the monster it became and how his departure all went down. The book goes on to talk about the U2 tour but doesn't really go into the details of it and the magnitude of it. Instead we hear more of Axl Rose behaving badly. We then get to learn more of the exits of Slash and finally Duff, and we get a history of New GN'R and that whole time period after GN'R ground to a halt. We hear of all the release dates for Chinese Democracy that came and went. We get some information on Both Slash and Duff's solo efforts. But as a fan, I don't know if this book really expresses just how awful it was to watch GN'R die. How do you ever really express all that wasted time when GN'R should of been still in their prime? GN'R was the biggest band in the world at that point, did it get snuffed out like a candle flame, or did it die a much slower drawn out painful death? To a lot of us it feels like GN'R was taken away from us by one man who was chasing a ghost of a dream that in the end never fully came to fruition. And who is to blame? Many fingers were pointed... But as we all know Nobody got in

Axl's way when his mind was set. Victory or death as the tattoo reads. Then we get, in my opinion, a real treat and get to read all about Velvet Revolver. I for one really enjoyed this and found it one of the best sections of the book. I found it very informative, once again filled in a lot of blanks and made me get the VR cd off the shelf. As a fan of both Slash and Duff I loved seeing the spot light on them and their accomplishments. I really enjoyed reading about Weiland and to a lesser degree Sorum. Finally in the end there is the section about the "Reunion" that is missing 2 founding members. If you are keeping up with the current available information there isn't really anything earth shattering here. Over the course of the book we read all about the love hate, mostly hate relationship between Axl and Slash. How Slash was basically forced out, and how the 2 were never close to begin with. But there is never really that one big fight per say, that brought it all falling down. What was the big reason Axl hated Slash so much? We can only guess. We'll probably never know. Don't expect to find it here. Bottom line, this is a really good book that offers the fans some new insights that we haven't heard before and will be a welcome addition to your GNR library. I recommend it. I don't know how anybody could buy this, read it and say it wasn't worth the money. Thanks Mick Wall.

Meticulously researched, excellently written. A fast paced read and a great ride through GNR history that goes right up to the minute. You won't want it to end. Fortunately, the author also wrote a Lenny bio which I just started. Also great. The perfect summer read...you'll want to read over and over again.

Well written and comprehensive. I really enjoyed it.

Mick Wall has told the full, definitive Guns N' Roses story, from their formative days of partying hard to their mega-stardom, their disputes, Axl being Axl, Velvet Revolver, and eventually the reunion. He has original interviews with all the band members from their heyday, which add a lot, as well as their two managers, who shine a light with amazing stories that hadn't seen the light of day before. It's entertaining, informative, and the essence of rock 'n' roll!

Great read. So interesting!

My husband LOVES this book!! He has always liked the stories, but he loaned it out and never got it back, so he was thrilled that I found 3 copies !!

Can't wait to read!

Excellent read. A look at GN R from the inner circle.

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