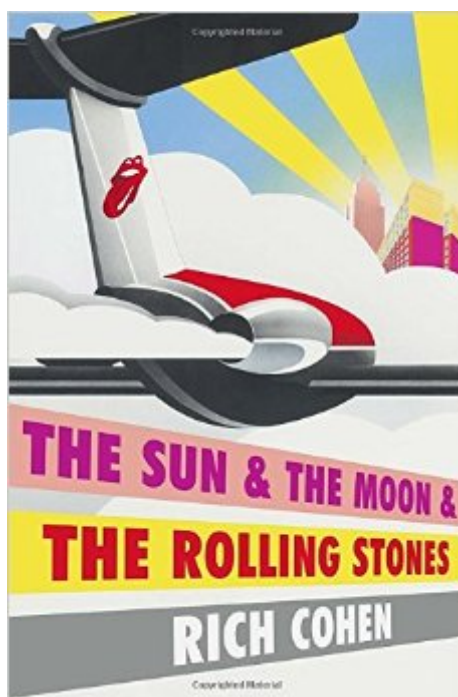


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# The Sun & The Moon & The Rolling Stones



## Synopsis

A panoramic narrative history that will give readers a new understanding of the Rolling Stones, viewed through the impassioned and opinionated lens of the Vanity Fair contributor and co-creator of HBO's *Vinyl* who was along for the ride as a young reporter on the road with the band in the 1990s Rich Cohen enters the Stones epic as a young journalist on the road with the band and quickly falls under their sway—privy to the jokes, the camaraderie, the bitchiness, the hard living. Inspired by a lifelong appreciation of the music that borders on obsession, Cohen's chronicle of the band is informed by the rigorous views of a kid who grew up on the music and for whom the Stones will always be the greatest rock and roll band of all time. The story begins at the beginning: the fateful meeting of Mick Jagger and Keith Richards on a train platform in 1961 and goes on to span decades, with a focus on the golden run from the albums *Beggars Banquet* (1968) to *Exile on Main Street* (1972) when the Stones were prolific and innovative and at the height of their powers. Cohen is equally as good on the low points as the highs, and he puts his finger on the moments that not only defined the Stones as gifted musicians schooled in the blues and arguably the most innovative songwriters of their generation, but as the avatars of so much in our modern culture. In the end, though, after the drugs and the girlfriends and the rows, there is the music. *The Sun & The Moon & The Rolling Stones* makes you want to listen to every song in your library anew and search out the obscure gems that you've yet to hear. The music, together with Cohen's fresh and galvanizing consideration of the band, will define, once and forever, why the Stones will always matter. Praise for *The Sun & The Moon & The Rolling Stones*—œFabulous . . . The research is meticulous. . . . Cohen's own interviews even yield some new Stones lore.â•† The Wall Street Journal —œNo one can tell this story, wringing new life even from the leathery faces of mummies like the Rolling Stones, like Rich Cohen. . . . The book beautifully details the very meaning of rock and roll.â•† New York Observer —œMasterful . . . Hundreds of books have been written about this particular band and [Cohen's] will rank among the very best of the bunch.â•† Chicago Tribune —œCohen, who has shown time and time again he can take any history lesson and make it personal and interesting . . . somehow tells the [Stones] story in a whole different way. This might be the best music book of 2016.â•† Men's Journal —œ[Cohen's] account of the band's rise from 'footloose' kids to 'old, clean, prosperous' stars is, like the Stones, irresistible.â•† People —œYou will, as with the best music bios, want to follow along on vinyl.â•† The Washington Post —œA fresh take on dusty topics like Altamont and the Stones' relationship with the Beatles . . . Cohen takes pilgrimages to places like Nellcôte, the French mansion where the Stones made *Exile on Main Street*, and recounts

fascinating moments from his time on tour. •â” Rolling Stone •œ On the short list of worthwhile books about the Stones . . . The book is stuffed with insights.â” •â” San Francisco Chronicle

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I've followed the Stones since I was a little kid. I bought their records, saw them in concert many times and obtained many books about them through those years. This is unlike any of the other books that I've read about the Rolling Stones. It has many familiar stories but the stories in this book are more complete with whole important sections restored to the stories that are totally new to me. The book goes deep into the lives of all the members of the band with great stories I've never heard before. The book also talks about the important people around the band, the many women and the other musicians that have been influenced and inspired them. Every time I listen to Sticky Fingers, I always think about Gram Parsons and this book helps fill in that section of the Stones Story. When I ordered this book, I expected a big book with lots of pictures and just a little bit of text between those pictures, This is Not that book. This is a book with a few pictures, interesting ones and a whole lot of well written stories about this incredible band and it's really fun to read, it is truly fascinating. This book will make you look differently (in a positive way) about the music you're heard most, if not all, of your life....and me personally? I'll never look at a Mars Bar the same way again EVER!

I am obsessed with this book, crave it when I have to put it down to do other things. It's no small thing to say this, as someone who likes the music, but has never bothered to buy an album. Before

reading, I had a vague notion about the Stones' place in rock history. But author Rich Cohen has woven together a delicious tale of the band from their ragged beginning to superstardom, relying upon published accounts, interviews, and his own fervent opinions. In this sense, it is not a strict retelling of their rise, but rather the work of an excellent story teller whose gift for prose and passion for music makes this such a soulful, enthralling read for fans and casual admirers alike. This is one to pass on to friends. Highly recommended.

So the question is: do we really need another book about the Rolling Stones after so much has already been written about them—including the autobiography *Life* by Keith Richards in 2010? After racing through the pages of *The Sun and The Moon and The Rolling Stones*, I must enthusiastically say, *Yes!* First of all, Rich Cohen is the real deal. He's written for *Rolling Stone*, *Vanity Fair*, and the new HBO series *Vinyl*. For this author, it's not just about "what happened"; it's about "what did it feel like and what did it mean?" And it's also about more: "Why do soap-opera adventures of the Stones still fascinate?" "Can rock save your soul? Is it a religion? If so, why did it go the way of Zoroastrianism? Should we worship the life or the message? Is there a graceful way to grow old?" Most of us Stones fans "and I've been one since I was a kid and saw them in New York, teeming with raw, unpolished, dangerous energy" know the highlights: the meltdown and suicide of Brian Jones, the drug bust, the Altamont and the Hell's Angels, the influences of Muddy Waters and Howlin' Wolf, the rift between Jagger and Richards. All this is revisited but what makes it special is that Rich Cohen had unique access and also provides the insights and perception to go beyond "way beyond" the "what happened." He knows, for example, that the Stones were always "the alternative, the opposite, the anti-Beatles." He "gets" that the music did really die sometime in the early 90s and that there may never be a phenomenon like the Stones again "especially now that they've become self-perpetuating. And he recognizes that the stories, true and exaggerated, are the stuff that legends are made of. For anyone who loves the Stones "read it. For music aficionados who remember their music as "the sound track of our lives" (certainly I remember exactly what phase of life I was at when I heard *Satisfaction*, or *Sympathy for the Devil*, or *Honky Tonk Woman*), give it a try. And for those who simply want to read fascinating revelations about one of the very best bands ever, this is for you, too. To put it in Rich Cohen's own words: "It's not just music. It's my nation. It's my country. It's where I've spent my life." Amen.

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