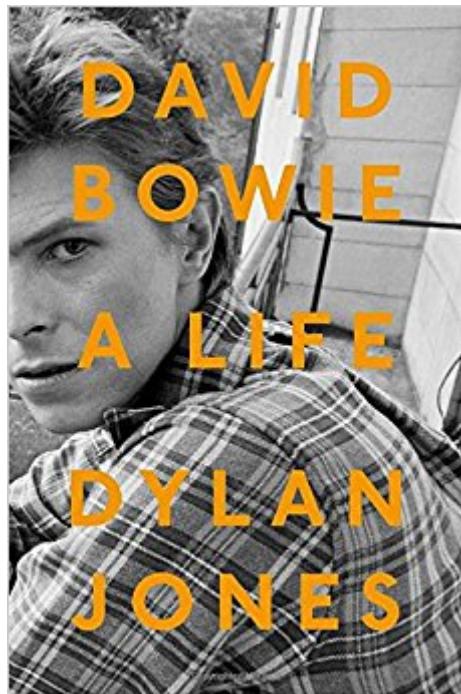


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David Bowie: A Life



Synopsis

Dylan Jones' engrossing, magisterial biography of David Bowie is unlike any Bowie story ever written. Drawn from over 180 interviews with friends, rivals, lovers, and collaborators, some of whom have never before spoken about their relationship with Bowie, this oral history weaves a hypnotic spell as it unfolds the story of a remarkable rise to stardom and an unparalleled artistic path. Tracing Bowie's life from the English suburbs to London to New York to Los Angeles, Berlin, and beyond, its collective voices describe a man profoundly shaped by his relationship with his schizophrenic half-brother Terry; an intuitive artist who could absorb influences through intense relationships and yet drop people cold when they were no longer of use; and a social creature equally comfortable partying with John Lennon and dining with Frank Sinatra. By turns insightful and deliciously gossipy, DAVID BOWIE is as intimate a portrait as may ever be drawn. It sparks with admiration and grievances, lust and envy, as the speakers bring you into studios and bedrooms they shared with Bowie, and onto stages and film sets, opening corners of his mind and experience that transform our understanding of both artist and art. Including illuminating, never-before-seen material from Bowie himself, drawn from a series of Jones' interviews with him across two decades, DAVID BOWIE is an epic, unforgettable cocktail-party conversation about a man whose enigmatic shapeshifting and irrepressible creativity produced one of the most sprawling, fascinating lives of our time.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Jones’¹ *David Bowie* opus serves as the ultimate oral history of the artist’s life and musical journey. *Billboard* “A labor of love with many vivid voices and fresh insights.”² Jon Savage, author of *England’s Dreaming* and *Teenage* “What a story”³ •no screenwriter could have made it up. Dylan Jones tells the epictale of how David Bowie turned the world upside down, from his early scufflingLondon days to his rock-and-roll golden years⁴ •a starman who kept reimagininghimself and his art in ways that transformed our whole culture.⁵ Rob Sheffield, author of *Love Is a Mix Tape* and *On Bowie* “Dylan Jones elevates the art of oral biography to a cinematic level. Scene by scene, this is the movie of David Bowie’s life.”⁶ Robert Greenfield, author of *S.T.P: A Journey Through America with the Rolling Stones* “Capturing the kaleidoscopic range of David Bowie’s life and work seems like an impossible task. But through more than 150 interviews spanning the entirety of Bowie’s extraordinary time on Earth, Dylan Jones thoroughly and seamlessly conveys the creativity, curiosity, and velocity of a visionary who transformed the very possibilities of pop music.”⁷ Alan Light, author of *The Holy and the Broken* and *Let’s Go Crazy* “Comprehensive”⁸ Jones delves deeply into the details of rock icon David Bowie’s fame, financial problems, drug use, sexuality, Buddhist practices, and romantic entanglements. But it⁹ Jones’ focus on Bowie’s friendships that truly shines¹⁰ All these facets of Bowie’s personality and more are on display¹¹ [and] Jones incorporates honest, even biting, observations¹² [that] contribute to the well-roundedness of this remarkable volume.¹³ Publishers Weekly “A sweeping, gossipy biography of the chameleonic pop star in the form of an oral history, with input from dozens of collaborators, lovers, and admirers. Bowie himself weighs in, too”¹⁴ Jones unearths quirky bits of Bowie-ana (he wanted to sing a duet with Mick Jagger from a space shuttle) and details his highly creative months preceding his death¹⁵ Jones captures his subject’s transformations and the responses they provoked.¹⁶ Kirkus Reviews

DYLAN JONES¹⁷ is the multi-award-winning editor of British GQ magazine. He has been an editor at i-D, The Face, Arena, the Observer, and the Sunday Times. He is a Trustee of the Hay Festival, a board member of the Norman Mailer Center, and was awarded an OBE in 2013 for services to publishing.

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