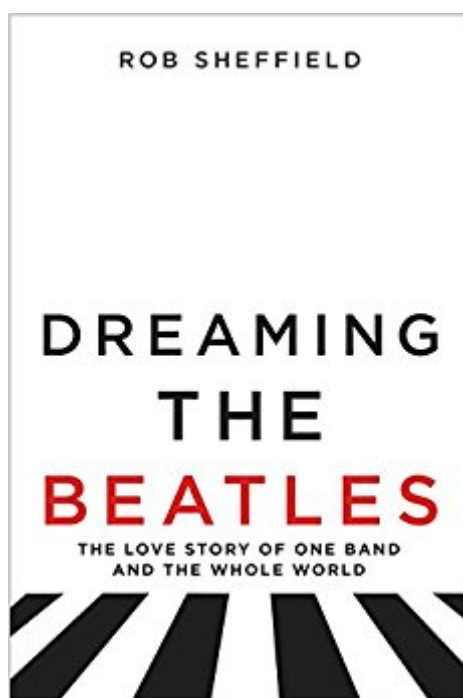


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# Dreaming The Beatles: The Love Story Of One Band And The Whole World



## Synopsis

“This is the best book about the Beatles ever written” —Mashable Rob Sheffield, the Rolling Stone columnist and bestselling author of *Love Is a Mix Tape* offers an entertaining, unconventional look at the most popular band in history, the Beatles, exploring what they mean today and why they still matter so intensely to a generation that has never known a world without them. *Dreaming the Beatles* is not another biography of the Beatles, or a song-by-song analysis of the best of John and Paul. It isn't another exposé about how they broke up. It isn't a history of their gigs or their gear. It is a collection of essays telling the story of what this ubiquitous band means to a generation who grew up with the Beatles music on their parents' stereos and their faces on T-shirts. What do the Beatles mean today? Why are they more famous and beloved now than ever? And why do they still matter so much to us, nearly fifty years after they broke up? As he did in his previous books, *Love is a Mix Tape*, *Talking to Girls About Duran Duran*, and *Turn Around Bright Eyes*, Sheffield focuses on the emotional connections we make to music. This time, he focuses on the biggest pop culture phenomenon of all time—the Beatles. In his singular voice, he explores what the Beatles mean today, to fans who have learned to love them on their own terms and not just for the sake of nostalgia. *Dreaming the Beatles* tells the story of how four lads from Liverpool became the world's biggest pop group, then broke up—but then somehow just kept getting bigger. At this point, their music doesn't belong to the past—it belongs to right now. This book is a celebration of that music, showing why the Beatles remain the world's favorite thing—and how they invented the future we're all living in today.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

• "You'll have a fantastic, joyous time reading *Dreaming the Beatles* from cover to cover." • (USA Today)

• "[B]efore I began writing this I paged through Ian MacDonald's canonical *Revolution in the Head* and Devin McKinney's renowned *The Beatles in Dream and History*...But neither has a chance of topping Rob Sheffield's *Dreaming the Beatles*." • (Robert Christgau, Village Voice)

• "This is the best book about the Beatles ever written—passionate and eloquent—If aliens land tomorrow, and demand to know why we keep on pumping this particular brand of music into space, this is the first book you would hand them." • (Mashable)

• "The essential joy of *Dreaming the Beatles* are these connections made between historical events, mythological band history, and the song itself—it's sparkling, insightful, occasionally humorous writing unclouded by irony or cynicism about a capital-G Great Band." • (Spin)

• "Rob Sheffield's unconventional rock-band bio is must-read material." • (Forth Worth Star Telegram)

• "As he's proven in, well, all of his books, Sheffield writes about fandom, about the condition of loving a thing, as well or better than anyone, which is no small thing for a critic as savvy as he is." • (Austin American-Statesman)

From *Dreaming the Beatles* John, Paul, George, and Ringo remain the world's favorite thing. Yet every theory ever devised to explain why has failed. It wasn't their timing. It wasn't drugs. It wasn't that they were the voice of a generation. The vast majority of Beatles fans today weren't born when the records came out—yet the allure of the music keeps on growing, nearly fifty years after the band split. The world keeps dreaming the Beatles, long after the Beatles themselves figured the dream was over. Our Beatles have outlasted theirs. It is truly impossible to imagine a world without the Beatles. Yes, they are the biggest, most iconic rock band of all time. Their music continues to delight, define, and provide a soundtrack for fans all over the globe. It seems, however, that with each passing decade this band has become more popular, more influential, more ubiquitous, more beloved, just MORE, and in *Dreaming the Beatles*, the Rolling Stone columnist and bestselling author of *Love Is a Mix Tape* brings his singular voice to the most universal pop culture phenomenon in history, exploring what the Beatles mean today and why they still matter so intensely to a generation that has never known a world without them. This is not another biography of the band, or an exposé of how they broke up. It isn't a history of their gigs or gear. It's a fresh, unconventional look at the Beatles' astounding story, from their

early friendship to their Sixties creative explosion to their crazed solo years. And, as in his previous books like *Talking to Girls About Duran Duran* and *On Bowie*, Sheffield focuses on the emotional connections we make to music. Chronicling his lifelong obsession with the Beatles along with the rest of the world's, *Dreaming the Beatles* is a passionate celebration of the band and their music, showing how John, Paul, George, and Ringo invented the future we're living in today. It's a book that is brilliant, fresh, and universal—kind of like the Beatles themselves.

I enjoyed this book. I'm not the biggest fan of the Beatles and as such I haven't read a lot of books about them so a lot of the information here was pretty new to me. But this isn't a biography about the Beatles and really shouldn't be treated as such. This isn't the book to read if you want the story of the band. Rather this is a collection of essays about aspects and times in the Beatles catalog and their career. And as such I really enjoyed it. It was like having a conversation with someone who loves the Beatles and just can't wait to talk to you about them. It's infectious.

A different angle to the Fabs. Not another factoid with wrong facts, pictures identified wrong. Enjoyed it quite a bit. Got a whole library of books about Beatles., very good.

This book has a very strong start. However, the reader is led to believe the book about the Beatles after their breakup. Most of the book is about the band and their music while they were active. It is well worth reading due to the new material regarding the group's releases and record sales after 1970.

A very worthwhile read with information even the most ardent fans would not be aware of. HARD to put down.

I enjoyed this book. It is a different take on The Beatles than most of the other Beatle books I've read.

Wonderful book! Even if you think you know everything there is to know about the Beatles, you're bound to learn something. The author writes in an interesting way often alluding to other musicians, bands, and songs. I'm a fan of all his books.

If you wonder if the world needs another Beatles book, the answer is a resounding "yes" when it's

written by someone as talented as Rob Sheffield. A joyful, funny, and smart trip through the music and motivations behind the work of The Fab Four.

While a bit chatty at times, still a very worthwhile read.

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