



Elvis Presley, Reluctant Rebel His Life and Our Times

By Glen Jeansonne, David Lührssen, Dan Sokolovic

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This fresh interpretation explains how an untutored musician changed music while at the same time playing an inadvertent role in the youth rebellion that has shaped the Baby Boomer generation into the 21st century.

- Photographs
- A bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

"Considering how much has been written about Elvis Presley, is another book about him really necessary? In this case, the answer is an emphatic yes. Presenting a subject dear to their hearts, Jeansonne, Lührssen, and Sokolovic offer a well-researched, entertaining volume that provides fascinating insights into Presley's life, his accomplishments, and the culture that formed him. . . . Because it is both engaging and carefully documented, the volume will serve a broad audience." - **Choice**

Review

"In *Elvis Presley, Reluctant Rebel*, the little boy from Tupelo who could, Elvis Aaron Presley, finally has the chance to shine through and break the yellowed, cracked veneer that is the Golden Tomb of the American Dream. In the war between Elvis fact and fiction, this highly entertaining and lovingly researched book details the historic, spiritual and commercial aspects of America's Mystery Son, Elvis Presley." (Victor DeLorenzo, Actor, Writer, Director, Percussionist and Founding Member of the Folk/Punk Sensation, Violent Femmes)

"Elvis Presley is an enigma regarding music history and popular culture or, rather, he has been up until this book. Other Presley titles get it wrong, do not get it or get far too much of it; this text stabilizes historical record and cultural import with accurately balanced scholarship and insightfully measured commentary. Elvis Presley finally becomes rightfully balanced within musical and cultural contexts in *Elvis Presley: Reluctant Rebel*." (Dr. Martin Jack Rosenblum, Senior Lecturer, Music History and Literature, Music Department, Peck School of the Arts, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Rounder Records recording artist)

"From Elvis' early life singing gospel music, to the glory days at Sam Phillip's Sun label, to the glitzy, pill-popping tragic end in Las Vegas, *Elvis Presley, Reluctant Rebel* captures it all. A wonderfully written book, it encapsulates the humanity, the excesses, and the inimitable style of 'the King.' " (Hal Elliott Wert, Kansas City Art Institute, and Author of *Hope: A Collection of Obama Posters and Prints*)

"Glen Jeansonne and David Lührssen's *Elvis Presley, Reluctant Rebel* is a deeply researched, richly detailed account of the life of one of America's most famous entertainers. Elvis' meteoric rise and the years that followed are covered thoroughly in this fast-paced narrative. What will set this study apart from others examining the life of Elvis is the rich social and cultural history found in it, as well as the historical perspective with which the authors surround their subject." (Paul George, Professor of History, Miami Dade College and Author)

"As he has done many times in the past, Glen Jeansonne has brought his formidable research skills and his poetic prose to a subject that less thoughtful historians might pass by. Once again, he has shown us that the direction of our culture rests with those who have touched our collective experiences in a wide variety of ways." (Ronald H. Snyder, PhD, Instructor, Department of History, Milwaukee Area Technical College)

"*Elvis Presley: Reluctant Rebel* reminds us of Elvis' singular talents as well as his southern roots and national context. It demystifies the Elvis mythology and replaces anecdotes with facts. The book is as important as it is engaging and entertaining, correctly placing its subject within the stream of mid-twentieth-century American popular culture, and it reminds us that although Elvis often shaped his times, he also reflected

them." (Michael S. Martin, SLEMCO/Board of Regents Professor in Liberal Arts; Interim Managing Editor, Louisiana History; Associate Professor of History, University of Louisiana at Lafayette)

"This is a finely written and well researched look at one of America's most beloved icons. While delving into the existing literature on Elvis, Jeansonne, Lührsen, and Sokolovic have also uncovered fresh material and fashioned a poignant and convincing portrait. The authors' insights, the clarity of their prose, and their devotion to the subject matter?which they make clear is born of their own coming-of-age?make this an imminently readable book." (Jeannie Whayne, Author and Professor, Department of History, University of Arkansas)

About the Author

Glen Jeansonne, PhD, is professor at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI, and holds a PhD in history from Florida State University.

David Lührsen is arts and entertainment editor at the *Shepherd Express*.

Dan Sokolovic is a writer, editor, and magazine owner interested in cultural influences and their relationship to American popular culture and music.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Shirley Kistner:

Spent a free a chance to be fun activity to accomplish! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or their own friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, going to beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book can be option to fill your free of charge time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the guide untitled Elvis Presley, Reluctant Rebel His Life and Our Times can be good book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

Fabian Luton:

The reason why? Because this Elvis Presley, Reluctant Rebel His Life and Our Times is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap the idea but latter it will shock you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who write the book in such awesome way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning entirely. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this ever again or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book have got such as help improving your proficiency and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to hold up having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the book store hurriedly.

Frank Bullard:

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Irvin Ashbaugh:

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