

Tekst 8

Not fade away



GOOD TIMES, BAD TIMES:
By Terry Rawlings & Keith Badman
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The Rolling Stones began while John F. Kennedy was President. They were having hits before BBC2 went on air, and had already established themselves as “the world’s greatest rock’n’roll band” by the time McDonald’s arrived in Britain. But for all their longevity the Stones have become synonymous with the Sixties, and it is a riveting day-by-day account of that decade which is chronicled in *Good Times, Bad Times: The Definitive Diary of the Rolling Stones, 1960-1969*.

Excerpts from the diary of former minder Tom Keylock add a fascinating fly-on-the-wall account of the band’s naughtiness, despite his strangely pedantic translations such as “bird (girl)” and “Keith accuses Dylan of taking the piss (making them look like idiots)”. The book is also boosted by a priceless selection of photographs and memorabilia, a beguiling blend of the trivial (for Keith Richards, Invercargill, New Zealand, was “the arsehole of the world”) and the intriguing (the title of *Their Satanic Majesties Request* was a pun on the wording of British passports).

The internal dynamics of the Stones are eternally fascinating. In the beginning it was Brian Jones’s band, but Mick and Keith have struggled for control over three decades and it is this which results



SEINE MOMENT: Watts, Jagger and Richards in Paris in 1965, working up to “excess in all areas”

in much of the intrigue and tension, with Jagger and Richard battling for the heart and soul of the Stones while all around chaos reigns.

Never was that chaos more apparent than when the Stones hit the road, and *A Journey Through America with the Rolling Stones* by Robert Greenfield (Helter Skelter, £12, ISBN 1 900924 01 3) is a compelling account of the Stones trashing America during 1972, generally encouraging excess in all areas. The band, already a cynosure for rebellion, were taking everything to the limit. Keith Richards was on short odds back then, but the man who was processing more chemicals than ICI seems in fine fettle today. Greenfield was also dining with the devil on a short spoon, sampling the same exotic voodoo soup as the Stones. He was allowed the sort of access that journalists can only dream of today, but the big question, in 1972 as now, was: ‘can the Stones keep on rolling?’

Laura Jackson’s *Heart of Stone: The Unauthorised Life of Mick Jagger* (Smith Gryphon, £15.99, ISBN 1 85685 131 1) is a weary

journey on an all-too-familiar highway. Nominally a study of Jagger and his women, it’s a stale tale of Marianne, drugs, groupies and sex. The whole of Jackson’s 250-odd pages could be distilled into Bianca Jagger’s comment: “Mick doesn’t think much of women.”

Steve Appleford’s *It’s Only Rock’n’Roll: The Stories Behind Every Song* (Carlton, £17.99, ISBN 1 85868 345 9), on the other hand, is an engaging chronicle of the Rolling Stones’s music, the yardstick by which the band will always be measured. There is an unbeatable back catalogue, a die-hard fan’s dream, encompassing blues, R&B, folk, country and disco. Along the way, Appleford’s account is peppered with snappy soundbites: “Keith is the original punk rocker,” smiled Mick. “You can’t out-punk Keith. It’s pointless.”

Last word to Keith on a relationship which, we learn from *Good Times, Bad Times*, began on Dartford Station on Tuesday, October 25, 1960. “When I was a junkie, I used to be able to play tennis with Mick, go to the toilet for a quick fix, and *still* beat him.”

Patrick Humphries

‘The Times’,
November 22, 1997

Lees bij de volgende vragen steeds eerst de opgave voordat je de bijbehorende tekst raadpleegt.

■ Tekst 8 Not fade away

In het artikel *Not fade away* bespreekt Patrick Humphries een aantal boeken over de Rolling Stones.

Je wilt je moeder voor haar verjaardag een boek geven over de Rolling Stones.

- 1p **39** Staat er een boek bij waar Patrick Humphries *niet* enthousiast over is en dat je dus beter *niet* kunt geven? Zo ja, hoe luidt de titel van dat boek?