



Stripped: The True Story of Depeche Mode

Jonathan Miller , Thomas Dolby (Introduction)

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Depeche Mode became the world's best-selling synth-led group selling in excess of 40 million albums.

Contains exclusive interviews with founder member Vince Clark and producer Gareth Jones. Also includes previously unpublished interview material with the band members themselves.

Stripped: The True Story of Depeche Mode Details

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Melissa says

I have wanted to read this for a long time because I have enjoyed Depeche Mode's music for a long time without actually knowing anything about them as people. There was a lot of time spent on the different synthesizers they used and the more technical aspects they employed to make their music, which was a bit more detailed than I was expecting. So I certainly learned a lot about how their albums were made and a little about their lives, but still nothing about the meaning behind Martin Gore's lyrics or any really deep sense of who they are. Still, very worth it if you are a fan.

Sam Purtil says

The best book to date on Depeche Mode. If you've ever wondered how the band was formed, how they personally dealt with their rise to international fame with Music For The Masses, what the evolving interpersonal dynamics between the members was like, or just wanted silly anecdotes, this is the source. It is very long and at times a slog, but all worth it when in the end one feels like one knows each member (and former member) of this genre-defining group.

Deanna says

Pretty good, although some area's are alittle boring too much instument talk not enough about the band members themselves. Love the Depeche Mode!

Jenna says

Although this is pretty much considered *the* biography on Depeche Mode, I couldn't give it higher than a middling grade. It lost one star for the sheer number of typos and punctuation issues alone. Em-dashes and en-dashes were used inconsistently and inaccurately, making it necessary to read some sentences several times over to understand what was being said. The style also fluctuated between British and American, and exclamation points (which I personally cannot stand unless they are absolutely called for) were so abundant that the book sometimes read like a tabloid. All of these issues combined made me wonder if the pages had even been seen by an editor.

The tome could have been drastically shortened by eliminating many of the quotes, some of which offered no insight and others which just rehashed info that had already been stated. How many times do we have to be told that Fletch wore slippers on stage during the band's early days?

Several other readers have commented on the amount of attention given to the technology, and that they felt it detracted from the story. I agree to some extent, in that the injected information sometimes ruined the flow of the narrative, but I also believe that some degree of this background had to be included in a story about

one of the most influential electronic bands in music history. It wasn't why I read the book, but it did underscore just how much research was done by the author.

You have to be a diehard fan to enjoy this read, and even then, you need to have a burning desire for minutiae. You do get a smidgeon of insight into each band member's personality (as well as a lot of info about side projects and offshoots such as Erasure and Yaz), but there's not much more than what you can get from all the numerous videos and interviews readily available on the web.

I read it as a reference for a map of DM-related locations I'm creating, and for that it was a goldmine. But I'd have a hard time recommending this to even the most zealous Devotee.

Diego Marquez says

A pesar de estar desactualizado, "Stripped..." proporciona información única sobre la banda, prominentemente en sus orígenes y en sus turbulentos tiempos en los noventas.

Simon Wilcox says

This book is NOT written by Sir Jonathan Miller!

Sarah says

Having been a big fan of Depeche Mode since 1982, and having already read Steve Malin's excellent biography of the band, I wanted a more in-depth biography and I certainly got it with this, even if it is quite techy at times. It also comprehensively covers what Vince and Alan got up to after leaving the group. A very interesting (and very long) read. It finishes just after Playing The Angel; considering that was now more than 10 years ago, maybe an update would be good...

Martin says

This book has three different kinds of content. Firstly there are bits and pieces from all kinds of interviews, with the bandmembers themselves and those who should know what they're talking about, friends and colleagues. I found this to be the only interesting part of the book. Then there's the author's own ruminations about the subject, which is oddly full of wrong facts, the author could have checked his information and used a better editor. And lastly, there are the reviews for albums and concerts by all kinds of people (mostly for magazines) who seem to really hate Depeche Mode, talking like most reviewers do, saying a lot of words without saying anything. Just lots of really bitter opinions. So, when someone decides to read a book about Depeche Mode, it seems kind of pointless to read pages and pages full of negative crap from people whose opinion doesn't matter anyway.

James Wilson says

An amazing book. Quite simply the best book around about the greatest band ever (imho of course).

Snowhitememoir says

Cinque traduttrici, un revisore ed un caporedattore possono essere una grande squadra all'interno di un progetto editoriale. Tuttavia, nel caso della corposa ed interessante biografia di Jonathan Miller dedicata ai Depeche Mode, è richiesta una buona dose di pazienza (e anche un pizzico di umorismo) per affrontare sviste e strafalcioni madornali che affiorano in diverse pagine del testo -- Grazie al cielo possiedo anche la versione in inglese DECISAMENTE più piacevole. Sorvolando su questo aspetto comunque è ben documentata e molto tecnica.

Lori says

Some fans jokingly call it "the Bible", but really it's just a very indepth and detailed book. I've been a fan since I was about 9, but I still found this book to be a great read even though I knew most dM history already.

David says

Exhaustive and exhausting.

eidelyn says

complete and thorough history of my favorite band. i'm just weirded out that they didn't use a pic with alan wilder on the cover.

Lindsey Elizabeth says

Very long and thorough book, I would only recommend for super fans (there's a lot of gear talk and detailed stuff about releases and remixes that go on for pages), but as a big fan myself it was exactly what I was looking for :)
