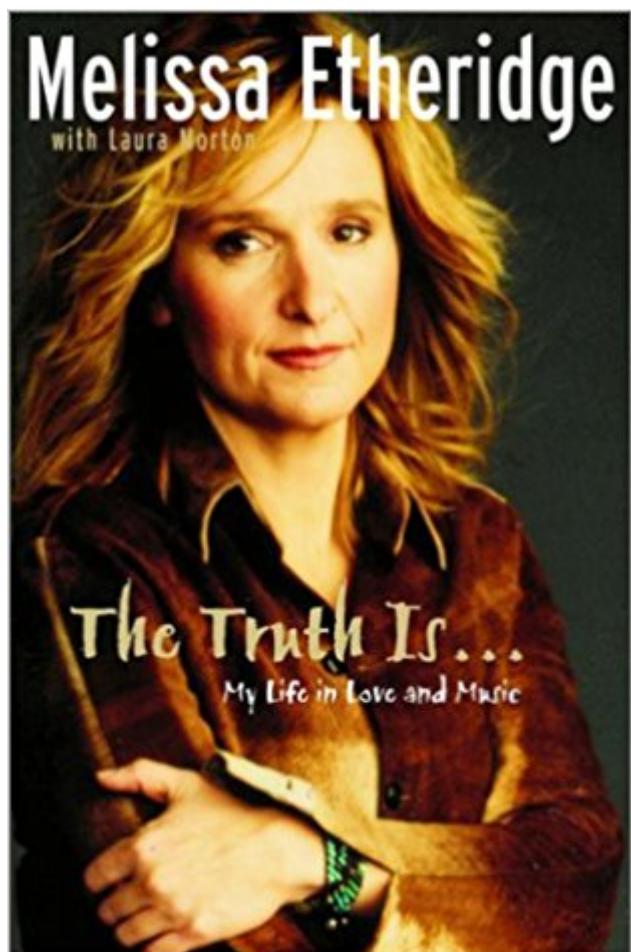


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# The Truth Is... My Life In Love And Music



## Synopsis

In the ten years since she burst on to the international music scene, Melissa Etheridge has released six albums that have sold more than 25 million records worldwide, garnering not only public adoration for her uncompromising honesty but numerous critical awards, including two Grammys and the prestigious ASCAP Songwriter of the Year award. She has given the world unforgettable hits such as "Bring Me Some Water," "Similar Features," "Come to My Window," and "I'm the Only One," with lyrics that touch on a universal nerve and the deeply human side of relationships. Her personal journey has been captured over the years through her music, transforming her voice and musicianship into inspiring messages of love, consciousness, hope, longing, desire, and pure passion. *The Truth Is ...* is a bold and unflinching account of an extraordinary life, described as only Melissa can: from her Kansas roots through her early love of music to her brilliant rise to stardom, becoming a female superstar in a male-dominated rock world. Melissa will openly discuss the massive impact of her public coming-out, a revelation that only increased her popularity and made her a highly visible spokesperson for the gay and lesbian community. *The Truth Is ...* shares Melissa Etheridge's fascinating story—sometimes shocking, always inspiring—with unprecedented candor and insight. Filled with personal insights, the stories behind the music and lyrics, and never-before-seen personal photographs, *The Truth Is ...* is a poignant, thoughtful, sometimes difficult expression of who Melissa Etheridge has been, who she is, and who she hopes to become.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: Villard; 1st edition (June 19, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0375505997

ISBN-13: 978-0375505997

Product Dimensions: 6.3 x 0.9 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (164 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,250,938 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #50 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Specific Groups > LGBT > Lesbian #3039 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Biographies > Rock #3458 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Arts & Literature > Television Performers

## Customer Reviews

"The Truth Is..." a new autobiography by rock-and-roll singer, Melissa Etheridge, is a rare, poignant look into the life of someone who has actually lived the words they sing. Delving into extremely personal, and sometimes painful, topics that most would choose to pretend never happened, Melissa charges ahead and lays bare her soul. Sharing written entries from her personal diary as a child, one gets a glimpse of an extremely sad child, desperately in need of love and nurturance, neither of which she received. Later entries take the form of songwriting, and still the sadness lingers. This written journey into her soul shows the path Melissa has taken over the past 40 years in her career, loves and relationships, births of her two children, and eventual happiness with the person she has become. Melissa takes us back to her roots in Leavenworth, Kansas, circa 1961, and her birth into an extremely dysfunctional family that never shared their emotions. Born on her older sister's birthday, that event seemed to set-off a deep-set resentment in Jennifer, culminating in manipulation, physical, and sexual abuse that lasted for many years. As do many victims of sexual abuse, Melissa escaped into a fantasy world that gave her comfort -- the world of movies, food, and later, music. For two hours in the make-believe world of Hollywood, she could escape the reality of her life, and find safety in her dreams for the future. In 1964, she heard the Beatles for the very first time, and from that moment on, music became her saving grace. With music in her life, Melissa found a sanctuary, and would daily recreate songs with the neighborhood kids, always in the lead guitarist role of their make-believe band.

Often times in life we hide our truths to place others in a comfort zone. We hide our pain through smiles, our fears through laughter. Although we are essentially individual human beings, the feelings that we have and hide are universal, unbiased to money, fame, mediocrity, latitude and longitude...etc. I bought this book expecting another typical biography/autobiography which tells half truths...enough of a bite to keep you interested but guarded as to not offend, to not shock, to hide the essential person. I have admired Melissa Etheridge for her honesty in her sexuality and her wonderful raspy voiced, from the heart musical gift. So I bought the autobiography. Let's face it, would you expect this to be anything other than a Norman Rockwell Painting? Melissa is an open, accepted lesbian woman, she had a long-time partner (whose breakup with shocked the hell out of me), 2 beautiful children, and the career she chose (or chose her) had rocketed her to stardom. Was this going to be page after page of "don't you wish you could be me" and "isn't my life wonderful?" I read this book in a little over an evening...I could not put it down. Her book was actually...honest. From her emotionally disconnected family, her resentful older sister who abused her, her careless sexual relations, her music dreams and aspirations, and her relationships which held a lot of pain

masked by smiles, to the point she is at with her children...she was honest. Brutally, at times. This book brought the lesbian mega-rock star down from Goddess to human. She shares the same emotionally draining problems that we all do. She shares of her desire for a monogamous relationship(which in the lesbian world seems to be hard to come by..at least I've found it to be).

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