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A Devil On One Shoulder And An Angel On The Other: The Story Of Shannon Hoon And



Synopsis

One of the most tragic stories of the 1990s rock world was that of singer Shannon Hoon, and his band, Blind Melon. Despite scoring one of the decade's most enduring singles and videos, "No Rain," and a quadruple platinum hit with their 1992 self-titled debut album (in addition to touring alongside rock's biggest names), Hoon could not overcome a dangerous drug addiction. Only two records into a promising career, Hoon was dead from an overdose at the age of 28. *A Devil on One Shoulder and an Angel on the Other* is the first book to tell the group's story—culled from over 50 exclusive interviews (including the surviving band members and those closest to the band) and featuring many never-before-seen photos. I am honored that Greg has painstakingly accounted for what the hell happened during those crazy times. He has summed up all the chaos, jubilation, and paranoia that is Blind Melon. —Brad Smith, Blind Melon bassist

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I opened this book and couldn't put it down until I finished it. It truly does tell the story of Shannon Hoon and Blind Melon, and tells it in the best possible way; from the mouths of the people that lived it. The story is told in a series of quotes from band members, record company people, family and friends obtained through interviews by the author. And in the case of Hoon, the quotes were taken from published interviews from the 90's. There could be no purer way for this story to be told. The interviewees were candid and open; they seemed to hold nothing back. Their words and stories spoke so clearly of those times and what Shannon Hoon meant to them that I truly felt that I got to

know him and his tendencies through this book. I felt as if I truly had spent those hours not reading a book, but spending time with these people and their friend Shannon. Which made for emotional results even though I knew the end to this story. When the fateful end of Shannon Hoon's life came in this book I immediately felt the loss of him. My heart broke, and I missed him. Just from reading a book 13 and a half years after the event. I do not have the book in front of me as I review it, but someone in there said something along the lines of "everyone who met him thought Shannon was their best friend" and it was easy to see that. As Shannon Hoon had the most powerful personality of the subjects in the book, and people seemed to speak most about their relationship with him, it is easy to focus on him. But through the honesty of Rogers Stevens, Christopher Thorn, Brad Smith, and Glen Graham you felt closer to them as well. They give valuable details of life in the band Blind Melon, everything from stories from the road to recollections of recording and some song meanings.

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