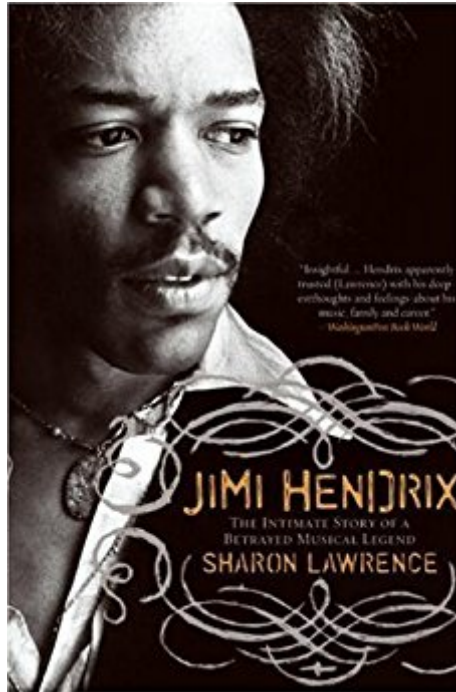


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Jimi Hendrix: The True Story Of Jimi Hendrix



Synopsis

The genius we never understood. . . . The man we never knew. . . . The truth we never heard. . . .
The music we never forgot. . . . A revealing portrait of a legend by a close and trusted friend.

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Customer Reviews

Sharon Lawrence had the unique perspective of knowing Jimi Hendrix through her occupation as a reporter. Her knowledge of Jimi through both a personal friendship and professional relationship allowed her to possess a unique insider view few authors had. 'Betrayed' was written at a time when decisive court actions were taking place in the Hendrix world and in the post-Monika Dannemann landscape where issues over Hendrix's death were still at play. In the midst of this, friends of Sharon Lawrence convinced her to finally share her Hendrix history with the public. As Sharon Lawrence disclaimed at the beginning of the book, 'Betrayed' was never meant to be an end-all, top-them-all Hendrix biography, but was instead intended as warm insight into a particular view of Hendrix known by Ms Lawrence. I hope those considering reading 'Betrayed' aren't swayed by some of the negative reviews. I hesitate to give them credit by even mentioning them, and you can

pretty much tell the degree of a Hendrix fan by judging how they react to 'Betrayed'. True Hendrix fans will appreciate the rare new information about Hendrix from the unique Los Angeles-based reporter's viewpoint, insider friendship with Jimi, and personal sympathy for Hendrix as a person. The book was very helpful to me and showed me new information I had not known in my decades of Hendrix fanhood. Sharon Lawrence intended to offer a book that would counter other books that saw Jimi as a figure or legend. Ms Lawrence felt Jimi was never given just consideration as a person and that side needed to be shown - something Jimi lacked in all phases of his life and career. So Sharon wrote with a kind of maternalistic sympathy to nurture the image of a person who had suffered from the lack of exactly that.

With all of the misinformation about Jimi Hendrix, Sharon Lawrence attempts to set the record straight. As a young reporter Sharon befriends Jimi after a 1968 concert, through many phone calls and visits, Jimi shares his most personal thoughts and feelings. Sharon becomes a trusted friend and insider to Jimi's world. From Jimi's tragic poverty stricken childhood, at times left alone with little food for him and baby brother Leon, kind neighbors often left food on the door step. The loss of Jimi's mother at age 15 shapes the tone of his sad world. Sharon exposes all the vultures and leaves no stone unturned. The real Jimi was no drugged out space cadet but a shy, sensitive, polite, intelligent, Spiritual, kind, person. Who preferred to be treated like a regular guy not a rock idol. It was great to see a very human side to Jimi like the fact that he was a clean freak who often tidied up his own hotel room and ironed his own clothes while on the road. Jimi singing along with Elvis songs and talking about his mother, made me get a sense of who he was and what he was thinking. It seems the best times were in London jamming with friends "London has always been good to me" he once said. In the end Jimi was stressed out from constant touring and court battles, he knew he was being ripped off and had few real friends, his life was a constant roller coaster. At one point it was heartbreaking, Jimi says "Everyone thinks they own me".. While throwing furniture across the room.. Jimi's death leaves a lot to speculate, accident/murder/suicide?? Sharon believes Jimi died of suicide. Jimi left a sad poem the night he died with the words " The story of Jesus is easy to explain..The story of life is quicker than the wink of an eye, they story of love is hello and goodbye, until we meet again".

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