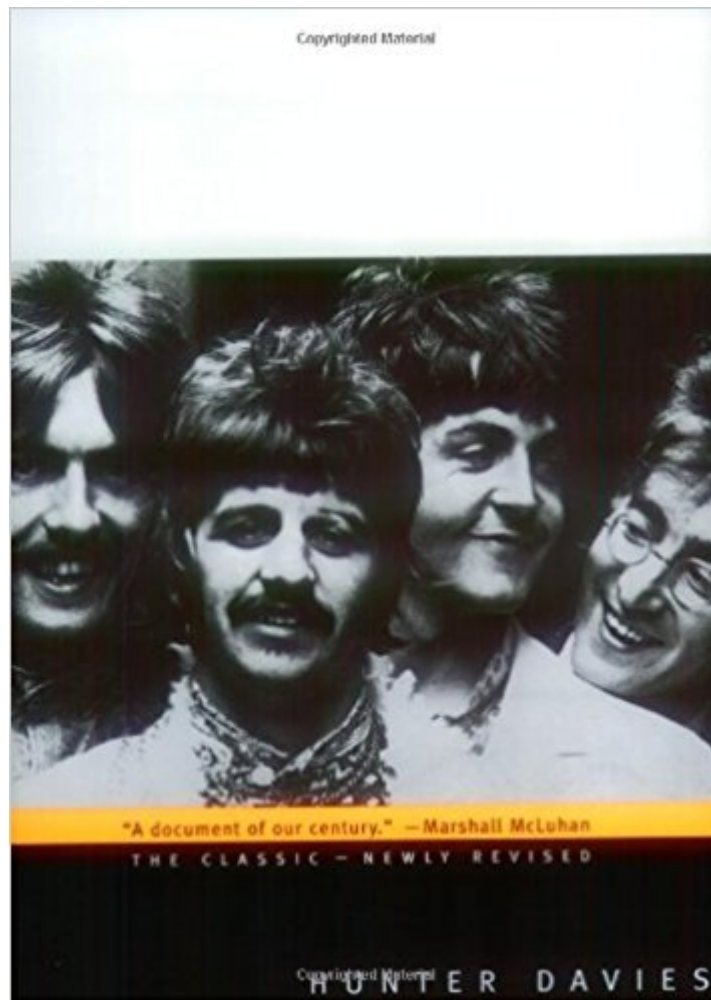


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# The Beatles



## Synopsis

The worldwide bestseller that defines the band that defined an era. In this behind-the-scenes look at the most famous musical group in history, Hunter Davies gives the complete story of the Beatles. As the only authorized biographer, Davies had full access to the Fab Four as well as their help and encouragement. He spent eighteen months with them when they were at the peak of their musical genius and at the pinnacle of their popularity, and he remained friends with each of the members as they went their separate ways. This updated edition addresses recent changes in the lives of the Beatles: Paul's marriage, George's death, and their new books and records. 42 photographs

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Originally published in 1968, this is a revised and updated edition of the band's authorized biography. Copyright 1996 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

Since their breakup in 1969, the only band that has managed to become bigger than the Beatles is...the Beatles. Their inestimable number of fans have not been willing to let it be, and the release of the three Anthology double CD sets has put the group right back on top. amazingly, their recordings sell more copies now than at the height of Beatlemania. Written in 1968, this was the only official portrait of the group that was produced with their cooperation. For this revision, Davies has included a new introduction and three updated appendixes of Beatles places, memorabilia, and books. Though works on the band are legion, this remains one of the best. Copyright 1996 Reed

I'm about half way through the book and I'm really enjoying it. I have to keep reminding myself that it was written in 1968. It's very detailed, sometimes almost too much so, but it's written well, so I find it hard to put down. The photos are fun and I wish there were more of them. I also enjoy seeing the handwritten lyrics for the songs.

I was too young to remember much of the Beatles in their heyday, and although I was familiar with a lot of their songs, I did not know a lot about them as individuals. Two things happened towards the end of last year to arouse my interest. The first was the death of George Harrison, with all the media interest it generated. The second was when I asked my niece Imogen (then aged seven) what she wanted for Christmas. "A Beatles CD" came the reply. And this from a little girl whose parents are too young to remember much of the sixties. So much for those who say that the Beatles are only relevant to ageing ex-hippies, not to modern youngsters. I decided to look for a book which gave the full story of the group. This was surprisingly difficult to find in the shops, but I eventually came across Hunter Davies's book on . This was just what I was looking for. Most biographies of popstars and showbiz celebrities are very lightweight affairs, but Davies's book is solid and workmanlike and full of useful information, despite having first been published in 1968 at the height of the Beatles boom. The sections about the Beatles' early years are excellent. My only criticism is that their later years are not covered in such detail, although there are possibly reasons for this. When the book was first published, Davies may well have thought that the events of 1966-68 (when the Beatles did much of their best work) were too well-known to be retold in great detail. The book also includes a postscript dating from 1985; I would have liked this to have been more detailed, but perhaps the author, who knew the Beatles personally, felt that it was not appropriate to go into detail about the events surrounding the group's break-up in 1969-70. He may also have felt that the details of their post-1970 careers were beyond the scope of his book. All in all, I felt that this was an excellent book which I could recommend to anyone looking like me for an introduction to the Beatles' lives and work.

This book was my very first Beatles biography. It's by me and many others considered to be the very best biography of the Beatles ever written!

I found Davies' account an interesting read. It was written in 1968 after the author had spent

considerable time hanging with the Beatles during the peak of their popularity. It's refreshingly non-technical and non-critical -- Davies has no academic pretensions and in fact the book reads like it was primarily written for the Beatles young fans of the time. There is also an updated chapter discussing the group's breakup. Be sure to read to the (relatively recent) introduction as it puts the ensuing account into modern perspective. I wouldn't exactly call this book definitive, but I would definitely recommend it to Beatles fans and rock historians.

LOVED the book, and It's even BETTER on CD!!

The only authorized Beatles biography by Hunter Davies. A good factual read although the language is a little dated, but I Guess that's how they Spode (and wrote) then. Well updated with what's happened since the book was written.

Really informative book on the Beatles early years. I really liked reading it. A lot of insights I had never heard or read about before. Good writing. I would recommend it to a serious Beatle fan. It only contains the early years so if you are looking for more you would be disappointed.

This book came quickly and was as described. It's worn but its 45 years old. Its in better shape than I expected. This book means a lot to me. I bought it when it first came out. Several years ago, somebody stole it. Having this book is like meeting up with an old friend. Thank you!

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