



The Sun & The Moon & The Rolling Stones

By Rich Cohen

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A panoramic narrative history that will give readers a new understanding of the Rolling Stones, viewed through the impassioned and opinionated lens of the *Vanity Fair* contributor—and co-creator of HBO’s *Vinyl*—who was along for the ride as a young reporter on the road with the band in the 1990s

Rich Cohen enters the Stones epic as a young journalist on the road with the band and quickly falls under their sway—privy to the jokes, the camaraderie, the bitchiness, the hard living. Inspired by a lifelong appreciation of the music that borders on obsession, Cohen’s chronicle of the band is informed by the rigorous views of a kid who grew up on the music and for whom the Stones will always be the greatest rock ’n’ roll band of all time.

The story begins at the beginning: the fateful meeting of Mick Jagger and Keith Richards on a train platform in 1961—and goes on to span decades, with a focus on the golden run—from the albums *Beggars Banquet* (1968) to *Exile on Main Street* (1972)—when the Stones were prolific and innovative and at the height of their powers. Cohen is equally as good on the low points as the highs, and he puts his finger on the moments that not only defined the Stones as gifted musicians schooled in the blues and arguably the most innovative songwriters of their generation, but as the avatars of so much in our modern culture.

In the end, though, after the drugs and the girlfriends and the rows, there is the music. *The Sun & The Moon & The Rolling Stones* makes you want to listen to every song in your library anew and search out the obscure gems that you’ve yet to hear. The music, together with Cohen’s fresh and galvanizing consideration of the band, will define, once and forever, why the Stones will always matter.

Praise for *The Sun & The Moon & The Rolling Stones*

“Fabulous . . . The research is meticulous. . . . Cohen’s own interviews even yield some new Stones lore.”—*The Wall Street Journal*

“[Cohen] can catch the way a record can seem to remake the world [and] how songs make a world you can’t escape.”—*Pitchfork*

“No one can tell this story, wringing new life even from the leathery faces of

mummies like the Rolling Stones, like Rich Cohen. . . . The book beautifully details the very meaning of rock 'n' roll.”—*New York Observer*

“Masterful . . . Hundreds of books have been written about this particular band and [Cohen’s] will rank among the very best of the bunch.”—*Chicago Tribune*

“Cohen, who has shown time and time again he can take any history lesson and make it personal and interesting . . . somehow tells the [Stones’] story in a whole different way. This might be the best music book of 2016.”—*Men’s Journal*

“[Cohen’s] account of the band’s rise from ‘footloose’ kids to ‘old, clean, prosperous’ stars is, like the Stones, irresistible.”—*People*

“You will, as with the best music bios, want to follow along on vinyl.”—*The Washington Post*

“A fresh take on dusty topics like Altamont and the Stones’ relationship with the Beatles . . . Cohen takes pilgrimages to places like Nellcôte, the French mansion where the Stones made *Exile on Main Street*, and recounts fascinating moments from his time on tour.”—*Rolling Stone*

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

An Amazon Best Book of May 2016: Does the world really need another book about the Rolling Stones? After five highly scrutinized decades of music, drugs, busts, death, jealousy, women, and exile, there's not much new to say that hasn't been broadcast through countless books, movies, articles, and court records. But Rich Cohen's *The Sun & The Moon & The Rolling Stones*--based on his coverage of the band for *Rolling Stone* magazine in the 1990s, as well as his own lifelong obsession--asserts itself as an essential addition to the canon, earning a place on the same shelf as Keith Richards' *Life* and the Maysles brothers' harrowing Altamont doc, *Gimme Shelter*. The success is in the storytelling. Yes, it's filled with detail and stories familiar to any fan, but also driven by prose fit for his gonzo heritage: he's wild within reason and funny in the Thompson style, unafraid of contrarian pronouncements and first-person perspective, with a high hit-rate for memorable, original sentences (to which my dog-eared galley attests). Cohen, who pulled off a similar feat with *Monsters*, his book about the 1985 Chicago Bears, understands that writing--and reading--works when it's personal, a little bit transgressive, and a hell of a lot of fun. Just like the Stones. --*Jon Foro*

Review

"Fabulous . . . [Rich] Cohen interweaves his firsthand accounts of the men in the band with the well-trodden history of the Stones, from inception around 1963 through the golden period of 1968 to 1973 and then hopscotching through time to bring us up to when he met the band. The research is meticulous. . . . Cohen's own interviews even yield some new Stones lore."—*The Wall Street Journal*

"[Cohen] can catch the way a record can seem to remake the world [and] how songs make a world you can't escape."—*Greil Marcus, Pitchfork*

"No one can tell this story, wringing new life even from the leathery faces of mummies like the Rolling Stones, like Rich Cohen. . . . Cohen writes about survivors. Men who will not allow life to grind them down. . . . The book beautifully details the very meaning of rock 'n' roll—the timeless swagger and the way the imperfections of the Stones—their meter, their faces, even Mick's accidentally bitten tongue—embody the dangerousness of kid-oriented popular music."—*New York Observer*

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"Cohen approaches the Stones from two directions. He is the kid discovering the group from muffled, glorious sounds emerging from his older brother's room in the attic. Later, he gets on the inside as a young magazine writer, backstage as he works his way into the good graces of the aging rockers. . . . You will, as with the best music bios, want to follow along on vinyl."—*The Washington Post*

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pilgrimages to places like Nellcôte, the French mansion where the Stones made *Exile on Main Street*, and recounts fascinating moments from his time on tour.”—**Rolling Stone**

“On the short list of worthwhile books about the Stones . . . The book is stuffed with insights.”—**San Francisco Chronicle**

“Cohen’s fresh history of the Rolling Stones is a personal rock and roll memoir that covers the band’s long life with candor, humor and a little awe.”—**Shelf Awareness**

“With *The Sun & The Moon & The Rolling Stones*, Rich Cohen has arrived as one of the greatest social and cultural historians of postwar twentieth-century America. By gracefully blending fastidious reporting, lucid commentary, and an unabashed love for his subjects, Cohen has managed to write about gods and elevate them into human beings. Even if the Rolling Stones were never your particular cup of musical tea, the author’s overarching exploration of what it takes to ‘make it big’ in popular culture—from adolescent anonymity to dream-come-true validation to the soul searching and sometimes destructive aftermath—will have you reading this book deep into the night.”—**Richard Price**

“This is a completely fascinating book. Rich Cohen locks into everything that’s crazy and passionate about the Rolling Stones while never losing his clear-sighted presence of mind. Funny, soulful, impeccably reported, and beautifully written, *The Sun & The Moon & The Rolling Stones* will be the book about the Stones that will last.”—**Ian Frazier**

“Rich Cohen writes like Mick Jagger sings: He’s full of energy, swagger, and creativity. In one sense, this book is easy to categorize: File under ‘books that are awesome and delightful to read.’ But it’s also hard to categorize. It’s part memoir, part cultural history, part biography, part manifesto, part behind-the-scenes look at the joyful debauchery of one of the world’s greatest bands. However you label it, you’ll have a blast reading it.”—**A. J. Jacobs**

“Rich Cohen is one of the select few to be invited behind the curtain of the Rolling Stones’ real-life rock ‘n’ roll circus, but he never loses the perspective of having once been a kid staring in awe at his brother’s poster of the band. With *The Sun & The Moon & The Rolling Stones*, Cohen separates the men from the myth, while also reinforcing why this group means so much to so many of us.”—**Alan Light**

“I have no interest in the lives of rock stars. I could not put down *The Sun & The Moon & The Rolling Stones*. Rich Cohen was born to write this book, and he waited just long enough to do it. Reporting the hell out of a lifelong obsession, he gives us the Rolling Stones in so many dimensions they stalk off the page. The fanboy becomes a man, with judgments seasoned, supple, razor-sharp, slyly funny, and still besotted. A great story, masterfully told.”—**William Finnegan**

About the Author

Rich Cohen is the author of the *New York Times* bestsellers *Tough Jews*, *The Avengers*, *Monsters*, and (with Jerry Weintraub) *When I Stop Talking, You’ll Know I’m Dead*. He is a co-creator of the HBO series *Vinyl* and a contributing editor at *Vanity Fair* and *Rolling Stone* and has written for *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, and *Harper’s Magazine*, among others. Cohen has won the Great Lakes Book Award, the Chicago Public Library’s 21st Century Award, and the ASCAP Deems Taylor Award for outstanding coverage of music. His stories have been included in *The Best American Essays* and *The Best American Travel Writing*. He lives in Connecticut.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Frank Hudson:

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Barbra Poole:

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Lila Costillo:

In this age globalization it is important to someone to obtain information. The information will make a professional understand the condition of the world. The healthiness of the world makes the information easier to share. You can find a lot of sources to get information example: internet, newspaper, book, and soon. You can observe that now, a lot of publisher in which print many kinds of book. The actual book that recommended for you is The Sun & The Moon & The Rolling Stones this publication consist a lot of the information of the condition of this world now. That book was represented how does the world has grown up. The language styles that writer use for explain it is easy to understand. The actual writer made some analysis when he makes this book. That's why this book ideal all of you.

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