



Michael Jackson FAQ: All That's Left to Know About the King of Pop

By Kit O'Toole

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(FAQ). Michael Jackson may be the King of Pop, but his influence extends much further. From his childhood years with the Jackson 5 through his astonishing solo career, he consistently broke sales records, pioneered the modern music video, and infused dance into rock and pop. While his life story has been well chronicled, Michael Jackson FAQ explores the stories behind his achievements. Did he play any instruments? How much of his own music did he compose? Who were his greatest influences in both music and dance? His art is his legacy, and Michael Jackson FAQ takes an in-depth look at Jackson's work with the Jackson 5 and the Jacksons in addition to his solo catalog. Learn why current artists such as Justin Timberlake, Lady Gaga, Justin Bieber, and countless boy bands still emulate his sound, look, and showmanship. Questions are tackled such as whether Off the Wall or Thriller better stands the test of time. From his childhood in Gary, Indiana, through the posthumous albums, this book covers lesser-known but important stories such as how Jackson influenced disco and hip-hop, how his singing style transitioned from childhood to adulthood, and how he learned to moonwalk.

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Editorial Review

Review

"With Thriller, Michael Jackson earned the title King of Pop by dominating several radio formats simultaneously. Kit O'Toole writes about him as a fan: For her, MJ's 1983 appearance on "Motown 25" was like The Beatles on Ed Sullivan to an earlier generation. FAQ clears up some old questions (no, Diana Ross did not discover The Jackson 5), traces Jackson's ascent and eventual wobble as an artist and goes deep into minutiae." --Shepherd Express

"Writer Kit O'Toole has taken a straight-forward, but effective path in providing a bigger picture of Michael Jackson's long career, which included the King of Pop's work and influence in the worlds of music, film, dance and pop culture. Looking at a long career spanning his work with the Jackson 5, the Jacksons and groundbreaking solo career, Jackson's work with Stevie Wonder, Sir Paul McCartney, and even his posthumous successes (notably the 2009 documentary film "This Is It") are also covered by O'Toole in an illustrated book stretching across 464 pages." --Music News Nashville

"Think you know it all about Michael Jackson? Well, I daresay you'll find out much, much more in Kit O'Toole's Michael Jackson FAQ: All That's Left to Know About the King of Pop (Backbeat Books), a jam-packed 445-page paperback compendium of the MJ legacy, from childhood through his lasting impact on pop culture and today's stars." --Parade

About the Author

KIT O'TOOLE (Chicago) is a freelance writer and blogger who has written about rock, jazz, and R and B for over 20 years. Her work has appeared in print publications including Showcase Chicago and Goldmine, and she is a contributing editor for Beatlefan magazine. As a blogger, O'Toole writes for Something Else Reviews, Blinded by Sound, and Cinema Sentries; she previously served as a music editor for Blogcritics.

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Deborah Young:

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