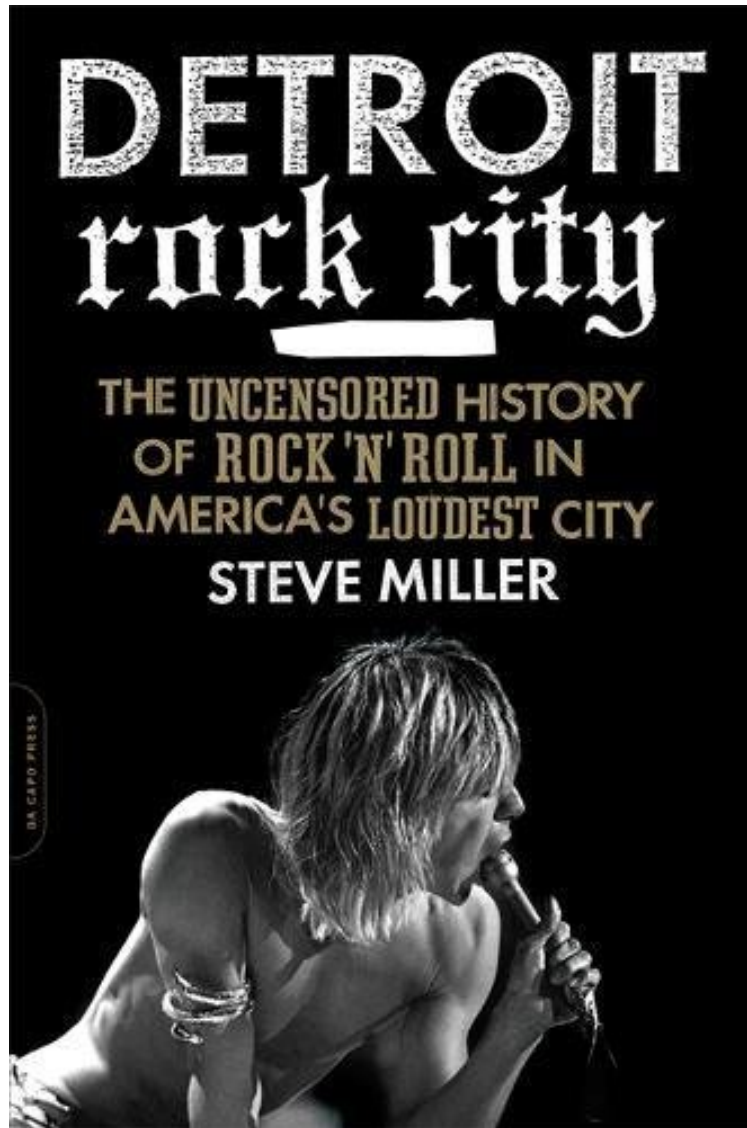


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## Detroit Rock City: The Uncensored History of Rock 'n' Roll in America's Loudest City

Steve Miller

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**Steve Miller : Detroit Rock City: The Uncensored History of Rock 'n' Roll in America's Loudest City** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Detroit Rock City: The Uncensored History of Rock 'n' Roll in America's Loudest City:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Detroit rock history from multiple points of view By Dave Ryan This is an excellent read. Through the voices of Detroit musicians, managers, and scene-makers, the book paints a blunt,

truthful picture of the Detroit rock scene. The reader steps right inside the halls, basements, and bars that gave birth to some of the greatest music in the world. A great aspect of the book is that the author allows the story to be told by those that took part. As the story develops, the reader is allowed to consider multiple points of view, and contradictory versions of the same event or history as told by different people. This permits each reader to come to their own conclusions about what made the Detroit scene work and what its pitfalls were without being restricted to a narrative exclusively controlled by the author. The reader can critically think and use their street smarts to evaluate the story instead of having the author simply instruct them what to think from the narrow confines of one point of view. The reader can also consider what they learn about each storyteller as the book moves forward, and this helps the reader to decide which narrators to trust over others. The result is a tremendously broad sampling that describes Detroit rock history in a much more effective way than books written from a traditional third-person perspective. Here, one can read between the lines, compare both the story and the storytellers, and use their own intuition to walk away with a far more nuanced picture than a traditional history could ever provide. The reader doesn't just get to know the history of Detroit rock and roll; they also get to know the individuals that made it happen.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Entertaining and Gossipy By JerrorUpside: Entertaining, gossipy read. The interview format can be lively, depending on who's speaking. Covers a lot of ground. Downsides: There are a lot of "I was so wasted" stories, and unless you were there, they're usually not that interesting. These tales are often prioritized over the construction of the music -- which is a shame, because many of the players had more compelling musical ideas than they appear to have here. There are plenty of seminal bands missing from the '81-00 section. The emphasis first rests on hardcore, which was just a sliver of the scene, and then on commercial breakouts that already have hundreds of pages of press. If you want a deeper history, you might want to check out "Grit, Noise, and Revolution" by David Carson. It's less gossipy, a little more academic, but thorough, well-researched and offers a better long perspective on a seminal scene. I found it more rewarding.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Home Sweet Home By CustomerFirst off, I may be biased since I live in southeast Michigan. Secondly, I LOVED this book. It made me see the city and all the music that came from it in a very personal, informative way. Even though this book focuses on Detroit music, you also see how the city itself has changed. Starting with the highly political 60's all the way up until now, Detroit has been a city down on its luck. The music that accompanies those times always has a piece of that struggle inside it. You can't be from around here and not carry that burden around with you. This book showcases that feeling and makes you feel proud to call this place home. The rock here never stopped rolling, and the people here haven't either. I strongly believe that if you give Detroit a chance you will find something that makes you want to come back. It isn't a city for the weak, as this book shows, but it's for those who persevere. If you're somebody who likes being in the nitty gritty, read this book and see what a "hopeless" space can contribute to rock and roll and how music can be cathartic for the trodden-upon soul.

Detroit Rock City is an oral history of Detroit and its music told by the people who were on the stage, in the clubs, the practice rooms, studios, and in the audience, blasting the music out and soaking it up, in every scene from 1967 to today. From fabled axe men like Ted Nugent, Dick Wagner, and James Williamson jump to Jack White, to pop flashes Suzi Quatro and Andrew W.K., to proto punkers Brother Wayne Kramer and Iggy Pop, Detroit slices the rest of the land with way more than its share of the Rock Pie. Detroit Rock City is the story that has never before been sprung, a frenzied and schooled account of both past and present, calling in the halcyon days of the Grande Ballroom and the Eastown Theater, where national acts who came thru were made to stand and deliver in the face of the always hard hitting local support acts. It moves on to the Michigan Palace, Bookies Club 870, City Club, Gold Dollar, and Magic Stick all magical venues in America's top rock city. Detroit Rock City brings these worlds to life all from the guys and dolls who picked up a Strat and jammed it into our collective craniums. From those behind the scenes cats who promoted, cajoled, lost their shirts, and popped the platters to the punters who drove from everywhere, this is the book that gives life to Detroit's legend of loud.

San Francisco/Sacramento Book , 7/17/13 The book reads like sitting at a big round table discussion, chatting with the people who shaped it, worked it, and partied through it, from Bob Seger, Ted Nugent, and Iggy Pop, through the top musical venues of the day, to when Kid Rock still rapped. Steve Miller lets the story flow from the proverbial horse's mouth, laying out the dialogue into a coherent whole, but largely letting his interviewees tell the story of Detroit rock in their own words.

My Big Honkin Blog, 7/21/13 Interesting and often entertaining. American Profile (website), 7/28/13 Diehard rockologists will appreciate the depth and detail of Miller's excavation, and even casual fans will enjoy reading the story of one of America's great musical cities in the actual words of the folks who made it.

Slug, 7/31/13 [Steve Miller] believes Detroit to be the mecca of rock n'roll and he'll prove it. A Traverse City Record Eagle Paperback Nonfiction Bestseller, 8/4/13 Curled Up with a Good Book, 8/28/13 It's a vivid and brutal look at some of the edgiest music to come out of an urban American city. If you weren't there, reading this will get you as close as you've ever been.