



Don't Forget Me: The Eddie Cochran Story

By Julie Mundy

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Before Bruce Springsteen and Bob Dylan, before Carl Perkins and Bo Diddley, there was Eddie Cochran--one of the early teen idols, a star of film and television, and a major influence on generations of rock 'n rollers and rockabilly bands to come, including Paul McCartney, Pete Townshend, Marc Bolan, Jimi Hendrix, and Brian Setzer. In his all-too-brief professional career, Cochran wrote and recorded four of the greatest rock 'n roll songs of all times-- "Summertime Blues," "C'mon Everybody," "Something Else," and the timeless "Three Steps to Heaven." A gifted guitarist and exciting concert performer, as well as an early master of studio overdubbing, Cochran was only 21 years old when he died in an auto accident on his way to the airport in London.

Now, forty years after his tragic death, comes Don't Forget Me: The Eddie Cochran Story, the first biography ever written on this music legend. Chronicling Cochran's life from his birth in Albert Lea, Minnesota in 1938 to playing lead guitar in a hillbilly duo, from becoming one of the most sought-after guitarists on the West Coast to his cameo role in the film *The Girl Can't Help It* singing "Twenty Flight Rock," and from his first hit, "Sittin' in the Balcony" (1957), to his final groundbreaking tour of England with co-headliner Gene Vincent, the book includes contributions from Cochran's family, friends, and associates, as well as from fellow musicians. Written with the cooperation of Cochran's family, Don't Forget Me includes a hundred rare, unseen photos spanning Eddie's entire career.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

In his native America, Cochran (1938-60) is remembered primarily for his hit "Summertime Blues." Yet England rightfully regards Cochran as one of rock'n'roll's most important pioneers. It is therefore not surprising that two Brits, freelance writer Mundy and musician/producer Higham, penned this first-ever Cochran biography, published in England last year. They respectfully recount Cochran's brief career, aided by interviews with many of the guitarist's closest associates. By all accounts, Cochran was a pleasant, friendly, and talented guy, and, in a perverse way, that is part of the problem with this portrait. The lack of drug addictions, family dysfunctions, and sexual promiscuities, which are so often the *raison d'être* for many rock biographies, makes for pretty dry reading. The book only really takes off in the final section, in which Mundy and Higham deftly capture the excitement Cochran and Gene Vincent generated during their wildly successful 1960 British tour, which ended tragically when Cochran was killed in a car accident. While this book fills an important gap in rock music literature, its limited appeal means smaller libraries may pass.

Lloyd Jansen, Stockton-San Joaquin Cty. P.L.

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Review

"Eddie Cochran had the whole package. He was a songwriter, he was a guitar player - boy, was he one of the first guitar players - and he had a natural voice that just rocked, plus he was good-looking but cool too. When I first heard "Somethin' Else" it blew my socks off? It was the hardest rockin' song that I still think I have ever heard. And hard rock doesn't just have to be your guitar turned up to eleven, it's the attitude.' Brian Setzer 'Unless you were lucky enough to know him and be able to sit backstage in his dressing-room when he would pick up his guitar and play what he felt, you never got to hear Eddie Cochran really play the guitar. People are so amazed by what they've heard on record. If you could have heard him, it was a million times better than anything they ever got on record. He was phenomenally talented. It was mind-boggling how a boy that young could play like he did.' Sharon Sheely"

About the Author

Author of the official Elvis Presley Fan Club Commemorative Album, Julie Mundy has written many articles for specialist music and rock'n'roll publications as well as for foreign, national and regional newspapers. In addition to making guest appearances regularly on radio and television, she is a full-time writer. An accomplished producer and musician, Darrel Higham toured the United States in 1992 with Cochran's original backing group, the Kelly Four. He has played the part of Eddie Cochran in *Elvis: The Musical*, the *Buddy Holly at Christmas* tour and *The Eddie Cochran Show*. He works extensively throughout the world both as a solo artist and alongside an outstanding list of prominent contemporary musicians.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

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What do you with regards to book? It is not important together with you? Or just adding material when you really need something to explain what your own problem? How about your extra time? Or are you busy particular person? If you don't have spare time to do others business, it is gives you the sense of being bored faster. And you have time? What did you do? Everyone has many questions above. The doctor has to answer

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Edna Davis:

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Donna Willeford:

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