Ticket To Ride: Inside The Beatles' 1964 Tour That Changed The World (with CD)
Synopsis

It was 40 years ago -- more or less -- that a 22-year-old broadcast journalist from Florida was invited by manager Brian Epstein to travel with the Beatles to every stop on their first North American tours. The only American reporter in the official press party, Larry Kane obtained exclusive, revealing interviews with John, Paul, George, and Ringo. Fortunately, Kane saved his original notes and tapes, and shares them here for the first time. That material provides the basis for his intimate look back at the phenomenon of the Fab Four, and insights into the humor and personality of each group member. Ticket to Ride, illustrated with more than 30 photographs, captures a rare time in history, gracefully melding the story of the Beatles revolution with the changing tenor of the country. Hear John Lennon’s early public criticism of the Vietnam War, and learn about the night the Beatles met Bob Dylan. "We had a crazy party the night we met [Dylan]," Paul recounts. I thought I got the meaning to life that night. Ticket to Ride includes a 60-minute audio CD featuring rare interviews.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a sterling, high caliber first rate work. Larry Kane, a veteran news reporter/broadcast journalist shares anecdotes of his year traveling with the Beatles. He covers the concerts from 1964 and 1965 and gives in-depth analyses of each individual Beatle. Kane’s voice, the voice of a newsman rings pure and clear; he not only provides an objective reporting style, but he effectively includes his subjective feelings regarding the events and people he has covered. This book contains material that is new even to inveterate Beatle fans; this book is a treasure trove of historical
information. Kane covers incidents as seemingly humorous as George Harrison aiming his drink at an intrusive reporter to events as serious as the safety and personal observations of each Beatle. Kane’s writing style is very inclusive; in covering the issues and events, he skillfully draws his readers in so that one feels a part of what is taking place in the narratives. He is also quite adept at portraying the individuality of each person mentioned in the book. I like the way he has interviewed fans and included their input as well as updates on them. I was also delighted that Kane included a list of Beatles’ concerts, dates and places during 1964 - 1965. I have had the pleasure of hearing Larry Kane speak several times; he has a real gift and a real flair as a raconteur and this book is proof positive of that. A CD of interviews comes with the book and it is a bonus treat. This is such a worthwhile book. I can’t recommend it highly enough.

Kane had a wonderful opportunity when he traveled with the Beatles during those early tours. This book certainly gives some interesting highlights of how hectic those days were, but the style of his writing diminishes the work to the level of a Stone Phillips report on NBC. There’s way too much foreshadowing, giving it the feel of "When we get back from this commercial, you’ll hear how the one of the Beatles made an anti-semitic remark..." Yes, as one reviewer put it, you’ll see how the boys were actually nice, regular people, but Kane writes with an ineptitude typical of our televised society. Or else he doesn’t have the story he thinks. And yes, the enclosed cd consists largely of John, Paul, George, and Ringo saying, "Hello, Larry." Some interesting tidbits for a Beatle afficionado, but overall, a disappointment.

I’ve read almost every Beatles book out there, and this one ranks right at the top. It’s one of the few “Beatles books” written by a true insider, and you get to experience the Beatles tours of America as real events and not just as hype. Amazingly, the daily reality of the tours was even more outrageous than the hype! Kane not only does a great job of capturing the daily madness of the tours, but he also puts them in historical perspective by adding seamless commentary about the hot-button issues of the sixties. It’s also interesting to see the author’s interaction with the Beatles (especially John) throughout the tour. When most reporters and deejays were asking the Beatles about their hairdos and jellybeans, Kane thankfully took another route, asking them about the things that concerned them, and society at large. The Beatles really seemed to respond to Kane, and opened up to talk candidly about a range of issues that give you a sense of what they were really all about. And they way they playfully harass him is hilarious! Besides being an excellent book, the bonus CD is a rare treasure, filled with the author’s interviews with the Beatles from the ’64-’65 tours. I’ve
never heard any of this material before, and I thought I had heard it all when it comes to the Beatles. If you’re a Beatles fan, check this package out.

Author Larry Kane provides a wonderful, informal and yet crisp account of the Beatles during that unique time when the band - and John, Paul, George and Ringo as individuals - underwent the dazzling transformation into super-stardom. I was eleven years old during their 1964 tour and lived in Los Angeles not far from the Hollywood Bowl. I remember the television coverage, the radio play, my older sister’s screams - and the comments of my parents ("who are these ‘mop-top’s’ anyway?"). This book brings all those memories back, and more. Filled with observations, interviews and anecdotes, the chronology of Larry Kane’s ride along with the Beatle’s during their two marathon concert tours not only provides rich insights into the Beatle’s personalities but also illustrates their connectedness to the dramatic social and political change of the time. A delightful read.

I grew up watching author Larry Kane anchor the 6:00 PM news in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. I also grew up listening to The Beatles. Always hungry for more Beatles history, Mr. Kane’s written journey fascinated me from page one. I learned a tremendous amount of Beatles history from this book and I learned a few things about Larry Kane also, whom I also hold in high esteem. More recently I purchased Mr. Kane’s sequel, "Remembering John", which I also recommend.

I’ve read almost every Beatles book out there, and this one ranks at the top. It’s one of the few written by an insider, and you get to experience the Beatles N. American tours as real events and not just as hype. Larry Kane does a great job of capturing the daily madness of the tour, and adds interesting commentary about the sixties himself and in quotes by the band. Unlike all the other reporters, Kane got the Beatles to talk openly about issues besides their hairdos and jellybeans, so you get a sense of what they were really all about. And they way they goofed on Kane is hilarious! The bonus CD is amazing, filled with Kane’s radio interviews with the Beatles in ’64-’65. I’ve never heard any of this material before, and I thought I had heard it all. Overall, an excellent book and CD package.

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