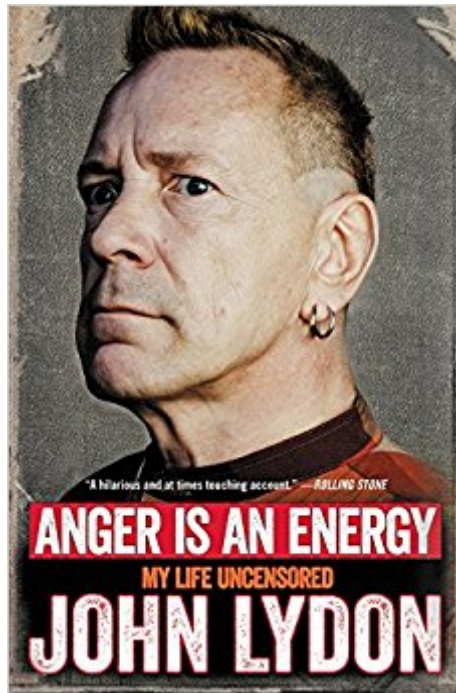




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Anger Is An Energy: My Life Uncensored



Synopsis

From the legendary frontman of the Sex Pistols, comes the complete, unvarnished story of his life in his own words. John Lydon is an icon "one of the most recognizable and influential cultural figures of the last forty years. As Johnny Rotten, he was the lead singer of the Sex Pistols-the world's most notorious band. The Pistols shot to fame in the mid-1970s with songs such as "Anarchy in the UK" and "God Save the Queen." So incendiary was their impact at the time that in their native England, the Houses of Parliament questioned whether they violated the Treasons Act, a crime that carries the death penalty to this day. The Pistols would inspire the formation of numerous other groundbreaking groups and Lydon would become the unlikely champion of a generation clamoring for change. Following on the heels of the Pistols, Lydon formed Public Image Ltd (PiL), expressing an equally urgent impulse in his character: the constant need to reinvent himself, to keep moving. From their beginnings in 1978 PiL set the groundbreaking template for a band that continues to challenge and thrive to this day, while also recording one of the eighties most powerful anthems, "Rise." Lydon also found time for making innovative dance records with the likes of Afrika Bambaataa and Leftfield. By the nineties he'd broadened his reach into other media while always maintaining his trademark invective and wit, most memorably hosting Rotten TV on VH1. John Lydon remains a captivating and dynamic figure to this day "both as a musician, and, thanks to his outspoken, controversial, and from-the-hip opinions, as a cultural commentator. In *Anger is an Energy*, he looks back on a life full of incident, from his beginnings as a sickly child of immigrant Irish parents growing up in post-war London to his present status as a vibrant, alternative hero. The book includes 70 black-and-white and color photos, many which are rare or never-before-seen.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Lydon is an unabashed grammatical scofflaw who can deploy an earthy colloquialism with the best of them. *Anger Is an Energy* is packed with this brand of vivid storytelling. • (San Francisco Gate) Establishes that there's much more to the person than the public persona. • (Paste) A hilarious and at times touching account. • (Rolling Stone) Vintage Johnny Rotten. • (Daily News) A dishy chronicle. • (Details) Lydon is at his best when writing about his family - his parents were working-class Irish immigrants - and . . . quite moving in his account of Vicious. • (Los Angeles Times) Features plenty of morbidly fascinating tidbits from one of England's least likely national treasures. • (RollingStone.com) One of the most important figures in punk history. • (Gothamist) A companion to Lydon's 1994 memoir, *Rotten*. His life is rich enough to warrant another . . . and he's a gifted enough writer to make it a fun read. • (Billboard) It is clear that, though fond of zingers and political put-downs, Lydon is also a serious and thoughtful artist, bookish and unafraid of hard work, and thus serving as a model citizen in a more ideal republic than ours . . . A lucid, literate pleasure. • (Kirkus Reviews (starred review)) Coarse, plain-speaking and mischievous, pitched somewhere between Dennis the Menace and Diogenes the Cynic. • (Financial Times) Ridiculously entertaining . . . His tales of a near-Dickensian life in Sixties working-class London suggest how an inchoate rebel found his purpose in punk. • (Telegraph) Fascinating . . . both elegant and blunt. • (The Guardian) Fills in the gaps that his previous autobiography, *ROTTEN* left wide open, notably his pre-Sex Pistols days, while also going over old ground with a fully-toothed rake . . . fascinating. • (Irish Times) John Joseph Lydon's new autobiography isn't just about his incarnation as Johnny Rotten, but his upbringing, youth and, later, Public Image Limited and further intrigues. His passion and his intellect remain an inspiration. • (NME) A ripe, breathless romp through an extraordinary life . . . But this is a serious book too, about how poverty and illness can create pain that can be turned into something positive, presenting a man keen to fill out the nihilistic cartoon that has persisted in pop culture. • (The Observer) An accurate reflection of the man it seeks to portray: unique, uncompromising, and . . . fascinating. • (Mail on Sunday) The book is most fascinating about his childhood. I was gripped. • (The Times (London)) Rollicking [and] rambunctious. • (Irish Examiner) Both thoughtful and irascible . . . Throughout, Lydon's skills as a storyteller are in evidence. [He] brings a humour to his recollections and is at pains not to take

himself, or the music business, too seriously.â • (Irish Independent)â œA great autobiography, if you enjoyed Rotten, then youâ™ll enjoy this too . . . Lydon is always engaging, challenging and entertaining.â • (The Register (UK))

From the legendary front man of the Sex Pistols and Public Image Ltd comes the complete, unvarnished story of his life in his own wordsâ œVintage Johnny Rotten.â •â "Daily News (New York)â œPacked with . . . vivid storytelling.â •â "San Francisco Gateâ œA dishy chronicle.â •â "Detailsâ œRidiculously entertaining.â •â "The Telegraph (UK; four stars)â œA ripe, breathless romp through an extraordinary life.â •â "The Observer (UK)â œA companion to Lydonâ™s 1994 memoir, Rotten. His life is rich enough to warrant another . . . and heâ™s a gifted enough writer to make it a fun read.â •â "Billboardâ œEstablishes that thereâ™s much more to the person than the public persona.â •â "Pasteâ œLydon is at his best when writing about his family . . . and . . . [is] quite moving in his account of Vicious.â •â "Los Angeles Timesâ œHis passion and his intellect remain an inspiration.â •â "NMEâ œUnique, uncompromising, and . . . fascinating.â •â "Mail on Sunday (UK)â œA lucid, literate pleasure.â •â "Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

I read Lydon's "Rotten: No Irish, No Blacks, No Dogs" when it came out in 1994 and quite liked it. I got this as a used paperback for a terrific price from a 3rd party seller here on . I can honestly hear John Lydon's voice when I read this book. His writing style is very conversational, and he often uses incredibly grammatically incorrect phrases - but he does that in real life, so it's like he's speaking to the reader, trying to communicate directly to the reader, something he says several times in the book, that his ultimate goal is to communicate ideas. Not that his ideas and your ideas will always align, you may or may not agree with his opinions or his tone, but you DO come away from this book knowing an awful lot about the man - straight from the horse's mouth, as they say. Lydon pulls no punches and he certainly suffers no fools. A funny, informative and often oddly touching account of his life and career in music. Highly recommended.

I started this book believing that the Sex Pistols were something totally different than what they really were. Halfway through I now believe that the Sex Pistols are perhaps the most important rock band since the moment their first album hit #1. Why? Because what you saw was 10000% genuine and honest. And that is my take on JL now...so clear in his vision, so honest, and so fearless. Everyone since has tried to package rebellion and an intolerance to a very tough and hypocritical morality, but they all look to the Sex Pistols for inspiration.

Lydon has always been an inspiration to me. This book is an enjoyable read. The style is somewhat rambling and stream of consciousness. Lydon reveals not quite all to show himself as very talented and exceptionally human.

A book by Johnny Rotten?! Yes, and that is the same reason why I bought it. All this time the image of John Lydon has been overshadowed by his alter ego, so it's refreshing to see his side of the story. His only fault? Not giving a damn.

I grew up in the 80's but was a little too young to be involved in what was happening with the bands I loved. I have always supported PiL and Johnny Rotten's solo works and other artists. Having this insight takes it to another level. People should not look up to Sid, they should recognize that Mr. John Lydon was always the brains of the operation.

Is John Lydon the most honest punk out there. Possibly. He can be refreshingly brutal, but he's obviously trying to cover up his insecurities as well. Probably has a higher opinion of his post SP music than most, but I can forgive him that. It's a powerful read and a great title.

Fairly interesting but the author rambled frequently and sometimes difficult to see the point he was making. But since chaos was always a key factor in the music, I appreciated the twist

LOVE MR LYDON, AS I LIKED THE SEX PISTOLS WAY BACK IN 1979/80 ETC..EXCELLENT BOOK, I RECOMEND IT..

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