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A Great Deliverance

Consider Phlebas

Posted on 17 April 2019 By Ryan H. Walsh

[FREE BOOK] ? Astral Weeks ? MOBI eBook or Kindle ePUB free

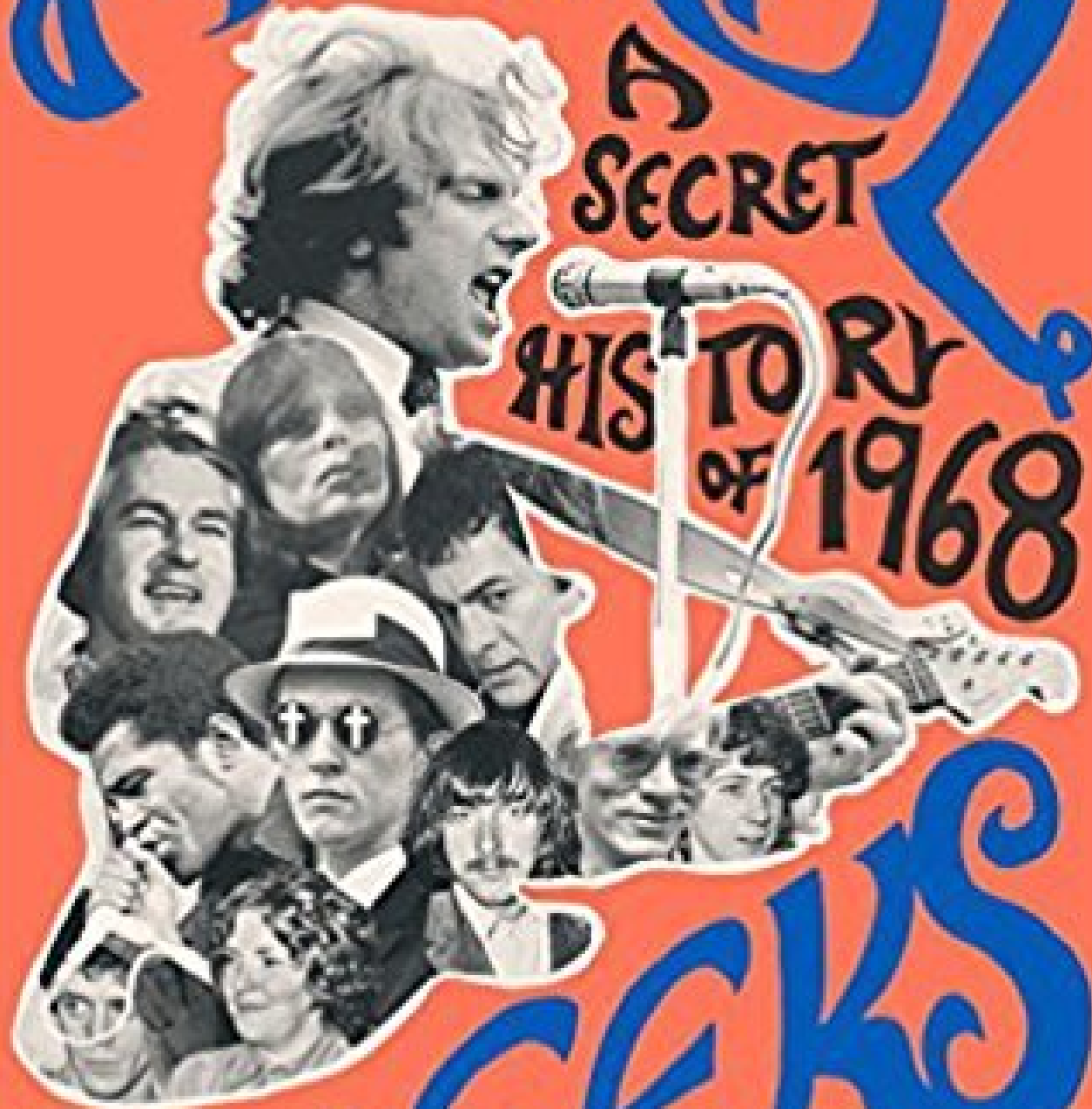
I did not expect it to be so beautifully written. Background I graduated HS in the summer of 1968 in a town nearby to Boston and hid in my room and lived thru my radio I visualized a

lot of this since I could not get to Boston then. The story is really about Boston popular culture in 1968 than about Van Morrison. I received a free copy of this book from Goodreads Giveaways There were so many interesting stories and back stories in this book, that it either needed to be longer or to shorten its scope The Fort Hill Community alone could have taken up the entire book, as could Van Morrison and his time in Boston Trying to mash them together, though in time period they really were in sync, does them both a disservice Then you throw in everything else that was happening at around the same time Dylan goes electric, Timothy Leary's LSD experiments, Richard Alpert's spiritual quests, MLK's assassination, the creation of the Black Panthers, the manufacture of the Boston Sound and that's just some of it and everything gets kind of jumbled and glossed over The interviews are fantastic and what does emerge from this portrait of a year is very good, but it needed either pages or less subject matter.

THE STARS

A
SECRET

HISTORY
OF 1968



WEEKS

RYAN &

WALSH

I found this book utterly riveting I had no idea about the Lyman compound or any of the bands profiled here The best nonfiction books feel like stories, and this one did. Guys, my phone's notes that were recording my thoughts on this book read on a long train ride several weeks ago, I've been lazy about reviews got accidentally deleted So this will be a real short review. Basically, it was adequate for what it was, but ultimately the people written about are a bunch of sociopathic wankers and I'm not altogether interested in their lives I only read this because it's set in Boston, where I live, and I've seen a lot of excited reviews about it The musicians and cult leaders written about are basically losers who accidentally got famous because they were lucky or disturbingly charismatic, not because they had anything substantial to say fight me This book quotes Van Morrison himself in saying something about how all his music was just drunk ramblings and had no meaning Cannot cite because, well, page numbers deleted But it happened The writing was fine It was pretty clearly written but I can't say it held my attention I'm not sure if that's purely because of the content or whether this was compounded by the writing style I think the fact that it jumped around between various 60s celebrities made it less engaging for me Whatever If this era is your thing, have at it I didn't love it Edit I just remembered one thing of note they talk about Mel Lyman and his Fort Hill community cult Fort Hill with its Disney princess worthy, Bavarian style castle tower randomly dropped in a park in a neighborhood in Boston near me is actually one of my favourite places in Boston I had no idea the history of the area, including the fact that many of the cult members still live on the properties that border the park Definitely something I'm going to think about next time I'm there [FREE BOOK] ?

Astral Weeks ? A Mind Expanding Dive Into A Lost Chapter Of , Featuring The Famous And Forgotten Van Morrison, Folkie Turned Cult Leader Mel Lyman, Timothy Leary, James Brown, And Many Van Morrison S Astral Weeks Is An Iconic Rock Album Shrouded In Legend, A Masterpiece That Has Touched Generations Of Listeners And Influenced Everyone From Bruce Springsteen To Martin Scorsese In His First Book, Acclaimed Rock Musician And Journalist Ryan H Walsh Unearths The Album S Fascinating Backstory Along With The Untold Secrets Of The Time And Place That Birthed It Boston On The Th Anniversary Of That Tumultuous Year, Walsh S Book Follows A Criss Crossing Cast Of Musicians And Visionaries, Artists And Hippie Entrepreneurs, From A Young Tufts English Professor Who Walks Into A Job As A Host For TV S Wildest Show One Episode Required Two Sets, Each Tuned To A Different Channel To The Mystically Inclined Owner Of Radio Station WBCN, Who Believed He Was The Reincarnation Of A Scientist From Atlantis Most Penetratingly Powerful Of All Is Mel Lyman, The Folk Music Star Who Decided He Was God, Then Controlled The Lives Of His Many Followers Via Acid, Astrology, And An Underground Newspaper Called Avatar A Mesmerizing Group Of Boldface Names Pops To Life In Astral Weeks James Brown Quells Tensions The Night After Martin Luther King Is Assassinated The Real Life Crimes Of The Boston Strangler Come To The Movie Screen Via Tony Curtis Howard Zinn Testifies For Avatar In The Courtroom From Life Changing

Concerts And Chilling Crimes, To Acid Experiments And Hippie Entrepreneurs, Astral Weeks Is The Secret, Wild History Of A Unique Time And Place What do The Jim Kweskin Jug Band, The Velvet Underground, Van Morrison, the Mob, The Bosstown sound, and an LSD based cult have in common They were all active in Boston in 1968 I, like many others, read this because I thought it was going to be about the making of the album Astral Weeks While it touches on Van preparing to make that album, it is really about the underground scene in Boston While that year in San Francisco has been extensively written about, this is kind of an untold story, and a fascinating one It was not what I was expecting, but a great story, and a fun read. This book talked about a LOT of things I love I did want to hear a little about the general population and their experience of Boston in 1968 in contrast to the hippies and cult members and musicians he talks about here The chapter on movies and the Boston strangler was my favorite because of that bigger picture stuff. I got this book because I am an epic fan of the album Astral Weeks, and Van Morrison I didn't know that it was almost entirely a history of Boston, a city I know and love in 1968 If I knew Morrison lived in Cambridge, Massachusetts at some point, I'd forgotten So what is there not to love about this book plenty. As other reviewers have noted, this is not a book about Astral Weeks, and Morrison The first chapter and the final chapter do focus on the man and the album, and throughout the book, there are episodes featuring Morrison A lot of the book is about Mel Lyman, and the Fort Hill Community a bizarre urban commune revolving around Lyman who considered himself God There is a history of the Bosstown Sound, psychedelic rock, and the various bands. I knew almost none of this history, as I didn't move to Boston til the mid 70s For that reason, I found a lot of this history interesting As a fan of Morrison, many of the details were interesting, and unfamiliar But at the end, it was not a book that lived up to the promise of the title. I enjoyed the book but the title is a misnomer It is a collection of chapters on the various counterculture happenings in Boston in 1968 It spends a lot of time on the Mel Lyman cult than it does on Astral Weeks but it is never less than interesting. My friend just wrote this one up

New Post

Death Be Not Proud

Cakes and Ale
The Fault in Our Stars
The House of Mirth
Go Down, Moses
Breakfast of Champions
Pale Fire
The Dogs of War
The Road Less Traveled: A New Psychology of Love, Traditional Values and Spiritual Growth
Nothing Like the Sun
His Dark Materials
Darkness Visible: A Memoir of Madness
Days of Wine and Roses
Winter's Tales
The Lathe of Heaven

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Tender is the Night
Far From the Madding Crowd
A Handful of Dust
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Vanity Fair
The Mirror Crack'd from Side to Side
A Farewell to Arms
The Winter of Our Discontent
Things Fall Apart
Stranger in a Strange Land
Absalom, Absalom!
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings
Cold Comfort Farm

A Thousand Splendid Suns
In Cold Blood
Under the Greenwood Tree
All the King's Men
A Separate Peace
Death Be Not Proud

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