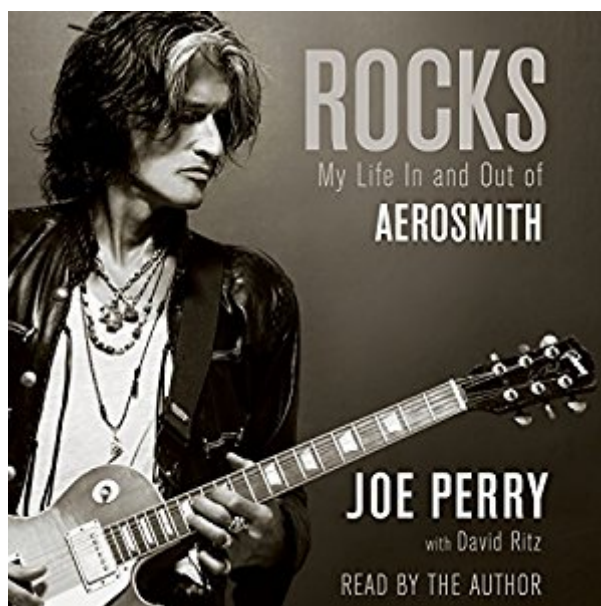


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Rocks: My Life In And Out Of Aerosmith



Synopsis

In the tradition of the megabestseller *Life* by Keith Richards, Aerosmith's Joe Perry opens up for the first time about the wild inside story of his life in the legendary band he cofounded in 1970 - which is still going strong today. In *Rocks*, Joe Perry exposes his unrepentant, unbridled life as the lead guitarist of Aerosmith. He delves deep into his volatile, profound, and enduring relationship with singer Steve Tyler and reveals the real people behind the larger-than-life rock gods onstage. The nearly five-decade saga of Aerosmith is epic, at once a study in brotherhood and solitude that plays out on the killing fields of rock and roll. With record-making hits and colossal album sales, Aerosmith has earned their place in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. But theirs is ultimately a story of endurance, and it starts almost half a century ago, with young Perry, the rebel whose loving parents wanted him to assimilate but who quit school because he didn't want to cut his hair. He met Tyler in a restaurant in New Hampshire and swayed him from pop music to rock and roll, and it didn't take long for the "Toxic Twins" to skyrocket into a world of fame and utter excess. From the megasuccessful song and music video with Run DMC, "Walk This Way", to the realization that he couldn't pay his room service bill, Perry takes a personal look into the human stories behind Aerosmith, the people who enabled them, the ones who controlled them, and the ones who changed them. In his own words, *Rocks* is the whole story: "the loner's story, the band's story, the recovery story, the cult story, the love story, the success story, the failure story, the rebirth story, the redestruction story, the postdestructive rebirth story".

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I had no doubt that I would get around to reading Joe Perry's autobiography; Perry's outtro solo on "No More, No More" is what inspired me to pick up a guitar almost 40 years ago. While fame/infamy seems to go hand-in-hand with the rock-n-roll memoirs being cranked out these days, surprisingly few include anything of substance and most seem to rely on shock value over a worthy story. Arguably, ROCKS proves several things: 1. in some cases, an individual member's perspective of a band is necessary, honest and believable, 2. the experience of surviving 40+ years in the unforgiving world of rock-n-roll and remaining on top is a tale worth hearing about, 3. Joe Perry is a pretty damn good storyteller. Aerosmith, one of rock's preeminent American bands, has certainly provided a cautious template for every band that followed it. That template includes the band's hard-scrabble beginning, rise to fame, exploitation, fall from grace and resurrection. Joe Perry, as a founding member and half of the "Toxic Twins" (the name given to the drug-fueled, but prolific songwriting partnership he shares with Steven Tyler), arguably has the best perspective (and best demeanor) to honestly divulge the band's dirt. While ROCKS is NOT a flame-throwing, bomb-dropping shocker, Perry certainly delivers the hard truths about Aerosmith's tumultuous history, his tempestuous relationship with Tyler, the women, the drugs and the resilience needed to bring life back to a band that he left for dead. What impressed me about ROCKS more than anything was Perry's open and even-handed approach to the book and the band.

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