



The Anthology Part 1 Limited Edition

Garth Brooks

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From Reader Review The Anthology Part 1 Limited Edition for online ebook

Steve Peifer says

If you miss liner notes, this is a feast. So much great music, and it was fun to hear how the songs came together. No one is more full of themselves than Garth Brooks, but with his first five albums, maybe he had a point.

Sara says

Like him or not, there's no denying the impact that Garth Brooks has had on the music industry. I became a fan as a teen simply because I needed something to listen to on family car trips that wouldn't offend anyone! This book is for the fan like me who knows all the lyrics and even knows the names of the songwriters and producers. The accompanying CDs contain masters of some of the biggest hits and sound way better than my old scratched-up original CD copies! The demos are intriguing as a way to see how much certain songs later developed into the finished product. I really like the never-released songs "Leon" and "Tomorrow and Today"—although they're just demos, they sound great! Looking forward to future anthologies and more songs!

Valerie says

If I could give a book 10 stars, I would give it to this one. This book is full of information, facts, and details about the crazy talented Garth Brooks. In all fairness, Garth is one of my favorite artists, so I am a bit biased. That say, I loved reading the details, looking at the pictures, hearing the stories. So much fun and so many details. Worth every single penny!

FloeticFlo says

This book was a lot of fun. I went through reading about the songs I knew (admittedly, there are several that I didn't) and I really enjoyed learning about how they came into existence. The writers for each of songs were identified and often contributed to the stories. My favorite parts were the ones where Trisha Yearwood shared her experience, because I love her and I love them together.

If you are a Garth fan, I think you'll enjoy giving this a read or a skim. I think there is going to be Part 2 coming, and I look forward to reading that one as well.

Read the full review on Book Nerds Across America: <http://www.booknerdsacrossamerica.com....>

Terric853 says

Great read for any Garth Brooks fan - lots of "behind the scenes" information about the songs on his first five albums. Included are CDs of the songs, the "rough" cuts and the masters.

Kayleen says

A fantastic book for any Garth Brooks fan!

Genevieve says

Loved learning about how the music was written and the process he went through.

Colleen Whale says

This is more than a book. This is an experience. There are no words for this, really. I'll agree with some of the other reviews I read, that I just wish there was *more* to it. More about his life. But I realize this is an anthology, and not an autobiography. I can only hope that one day Garth will write an autobiography that goes deeper into his life. But back to part 1 of his anthology, the first five years. If you consider yourself a Garth Brooks fan at all, you need this. I thoroughly enjoyed listening to the tracks as I absorbed the information about each song, how they were written, how they were discovered. The pure genius behind it all. I love how humble Garth was, and still is. It's like he still doesn't quite believe this has happened. I knew some things, like I knew he always hand-picked the final track on each album, but I didn't realize that there was such a craft behind picking the order of tracks for each album. I could really go on and on about this. I am anxiously awaiting for Mr. Brooks to finish part 2 of his anthology. I want more!

Ash Wilson says

Garth Brooks would have to try extremely hard to get me to not absolutely love every little thing that he does. I inhaled this book in less than 2 days, while very, very sick. I did nothing but read and sleep. I adored it. I learned a lot. I thought it was SO cool to be able to get all of the original (living) musicians, producers, songwriters, etc to be interviewed with their input for the anthology. And the few that have passed were still included and thoroughly represented throughout the book.

The price is absolutely unbeatable. The pictures incredible. The casing and put-together so neat and well done. The 'book to music' idea was incredible. I LOVED being able to read each year & then listen to it on cd.

I also loved how much Trisha was included throughout and even info on her song at the end such as "Like We Never Had a Broken Heart".

So overall? For what this was, it was definitely a 5 star effort to someone like me who has been literally a life-long Garth obsessed girl. My family jokes that I was singing his songs before I was speaking in full sentences.

This anthology book is very bare bones though. It goes song by song on the first five albums with little page inlets in between sometimes about writers, the early days, etc, but very little else. Nothing about anything in the first 5 years of Garth's career besides the songs themselves & nothing at all about his personal life. Now, I, myself am fine with nothing being in the book regarding his personal life - others should beware though if that's what they're looking for, but I feel that his career, especially that first 5 years, is SO much bigger in the scope of history than just a page or two about each song from that time period, and I was disappointed that we couldn't delve deeper into that.

Here's my top 5 things that I feel could've made this better for us fans that will (hopefully) be taken into consideration for the following years / volumes in Garth's anthology series:

#1 - Garth re-released his first 6 albums in a 'limited edition' box set in the late 90s where each album included a bonus song recorded during the time of that album. These songs went on to actually become very popular as they should have & should have been on the original cds.

One of the last pages of anthology #1 is for one of these songs, "Which One of Them", which I believe was the bonus song on "Ropin' the Wind".

But none of the other songs are mentioned at all and that really bothered me.

For the first album it would have been "Uptown, Down Home, Good Old Boy". For the "No Fences" album it would have been "This Ain't Tennessee". For "The Chase" album it would have been "Something with a Ring to It". And for the "In Pieces" record, it would have been "Anonymous", which actually became so popular that it had its own music video. But none of these songs got mentioned at all & that was a real shame.

#2 - While we're on the subject of music videos - Garth has some of the most famous music videos of all time. Especially in country music and especially during that first five years.

I want to hear the stories behind the highly controversial "The Thunder Rolls" video & how he decided to play the villain, himself. I want to learn more about such emotionally moving videos like "The Dance", "If Tomorrow Never Comes" & "Standing Outside the Fire". I want to learn more about the rumors I've heard on how many gallons of paint had to be used in "The Red Strokes" video, haha! I want behind the scenes pictures and stories on those timeless videos.

#3 - Speaking even more on videos, the television concert specials Garth originally did were out of this world unbelievable. They are the prime examples of why he is the "entertainer of a lifetime".

While the book at least does have some pictures from those and Garth briefly mentions them a few times such as in the chapter where he talks about learning to play saxophone himself on "One Night a Day" for the tour / second tv special, I want to hear the stories of filming a television special in the early 90s in which you set the stage on fire, make it rain from the rafters, fill the isles with a full gospel choir and fly clear to the back of the stadium during the encore!

We won't even get into the historic Central Park concert. (Which I realize wouldn't have been in the first 5

years.) My point is, Garth's television specials, especially the early ones, were literally historic. I feel they should have had their own chapters.

#4 - In the "Cold Shoulder" song section, there is a picture of Garth next to a "Beyond the Season" album cover picture, but why was "Beyond the Season", his first Christmas album, never mentioned in the book at all?

As I recall, it sold extremely well, is still a top staple in my and many other family's Christmas music traditions, and had a lot of super unique songs that you don't hear everyone else singing a billion times every year such as "Santa Looked a lot Like Daddy", (which always makes me laugh), "The Gift" (which always makes me cry), and "Unto You This Night", (which I always have to turn up at full volume). Not to mention a timeless country Christmas collaboration such as "The Friendly Beasts" and Garth's personal family story he tells during the song "Silent Night".

I know Garth is a huge Christmas guy, and that was a huge Christmas album, so I can't believe that it didn't bear any mention at all in the first 5 years book?

#5 - Why was "Night Rider's Lament" the only original album track not mentioned @ all in the book? I mean, they just went from "That Summer" to "Face to Face" as if NRL wasn't even in between. That was weird.

Also, from other things I've heard Garth and others say on his xm-channel and in interviews & at concerts and what not throughout the years, I feel like there was definitely more of a story to some of the songs than what they told in this book. Maybe not, but I feel like there was. Some song pages only had a paragraph or two about the actual song, itself, and the rest of the page / pages was about the writers or other stories.

I don't know. Like I said, I love Garth, I love the effort here and I love what I read. But I'm also sad for what I felt was missing and how much better I feel it could have been. I feel an anthology can encompass more than just the songs in a musicians' career without delving into their personal lives or anything else. And Garth Brooks has definitely broke enough records and made enough history to be able to share more of it with us than just basic song info.

This is the only book I have ever given 5 stars to while still walking away from it longing for so much more. I am very thankful for what we got, but I'm hopeful that volume 2 next year will pack more of a true GB punch.

Amy says

Don't read this book if you want an autobiography of Garth Brooks the man. What it is is a very interesting description of how Garth Brooks the songwriter and musician goes about his craft and artistry. THAT the book does very well.

Calley says

"So when you see the cowboy, he's not ragged by his choice he never meant to bow them legs or put that

gravel in his voice he's just chasin' what he really loves and what's burnin' in his soul" - The Cowboy Song

I'm a huge Garth fan, not just because of his voice but because of the way he can tell a story and make you feel involved and care no matter what the subject is. The way he talks about making these songs and the people he's worked with and who helped start his career makes you feel like you were there and part of the journey of the first couple of albums.

Chip says

Good insight into the history of the music.
