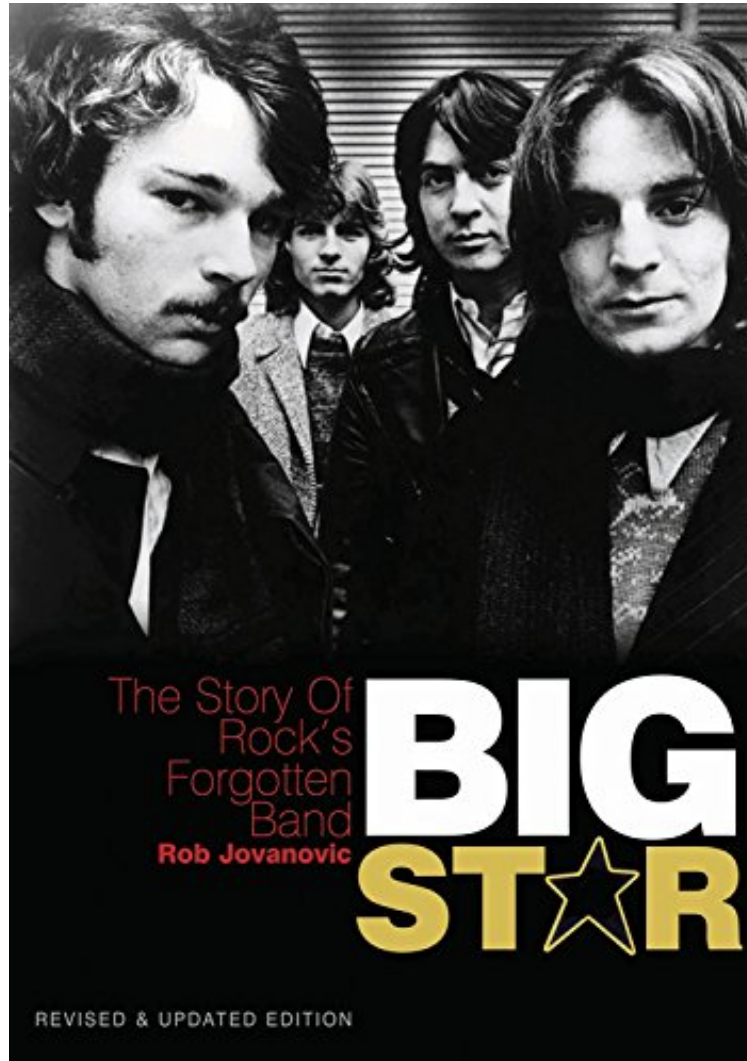


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Big Star: The story of rock's forgotten band - Revised Updated Edition

Rob Jovanovic

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Rob Jovanovic : Big Star: The story of rock's forgotten band - Revised Updated Edition before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Big Star: The story of rock's forgotten band - Revised Updated Edition:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. History still a mystery...By George M. Not quite as impressed as the gallery on this one. The author did his best in documenting the historic details of Big Star. But his lead character and creative force the reader is most interested in -- the mysterious (and somewhat self-limiting) Alex Chilton -- turned out

to be an uncooperative and quixotic interview-phobe who cared little to help the author tell this story. And also that Alex was caught in a psychosomatic denial of the value of what he created in the 2 Big Star albums of 1972-1973, ostensibly because he never made a nickel from them. This setup results mostly in a lot of hearsay descriptions of Alex's strange attitudes by his bandmates, short-span girlfriends and record industry minions around him who frankly weren't all that interesting. I'm sure it's difficult to tell this kind of story -- try reading a novel where you don't like the lead character. This leaves Mr. Jovanovic without the means to get any of it connected to his theme: `Why is it that a previously established multi-million-selling singer (Alex during the Box Tops), great songs, good band, raving reviews, vast critical acclaim, eventual cult status, more subsequent solo albums than you can count on both hands, and 35 years of trying, could not make a sustaining commercial living from it`? I guess we'll never know for sure. Alex died in 2010 penniless.³ of 3 people found the following review helpful. No Longer Forgotten...By Barron W. Chandler Jr. Like the Velvet Underground as the urban myth goes, Big Star sold very few records during their lifetime but everyone who did manage to get a copy of one of their three releases was inspired to form a band of his or her own. I was fortunate enough to appreciate Big Star while they were still together and treasure all three of their albums. I just missed seeing the three-piece version live (long story, don't ask) but that didn't dampen my enthusiasm for their music. As one may have discerned by now I am quite prejudiced in my opinions when it comes to this band. However, I don't believe that this book is for the curious. It is for the true believer. That should not prevent any music lover from reading Big Star's history as it is never too late to discover them and their sounds. Anyway, this book is thoroughly researched with interviews of most of the principals involved and a very easy read. Mr. Jovanovic puts the reader right in the middle of things as they happened. He provides a very real experience of a time and place long gone. As three of the four original members are no longer alive, this is the closest most of us will ever get to knowing this band. Further, while reading this book, I was inspired to listen to all of their records again and heard many of the songs with fresh ears thanks to Mr. Jovanovic's many perspectives. Read and listen, one could do much worse. I am envious of anyone who will discover and read this book and listen to Big Star's music for the first time as a result of same.⁰ of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book about a great band...By Pedro Castillo I was aware of Big Star since a few years ago, and became a fan instantly. This band was a nucleus of good talents and great songs. This book and the continues reissues of old records, help to make justice about one of the great pop bands of all times.

Although Big Star were together for less than four years and had little commercial success, the influence of their three original albums - #1 Record, Radio City, and Third - continues to grow. Big Star bucked all the musical trends of the 70s. In an era of glam and prog rock they wrote catchy, radio-friendly power-pop tunes that remain influential today. Artists as diverse as Primal Scream, R.E.M., The Bangles, The Posies, Teenage Fanclub, Jeff Buckley, and Wilco have spoken about the Big Star legacy. In the decade since the original version of this book was published, Big Star have made a belated fourth album, In Space, and released an acclaimed four-disc retrospective, Keep An Eye On The Sky. The band have also lost two original members, an influential producer, and the photographer of their iconic logo. But interest in the group is as high as ever in the 21st century, with new bands such as Yo La Tengo and Hot Chip - and even pop superstar Katy Perry - carrying the flame. Now fully updated, and drawing on firsthand interviews with the band, family members, friends, and the major players at Ardent Records, this is the definitive history of rock's forgotten band.

About the Author Rob Jovanovic is the author of numerous books on such diverse subjects as Pavement and Kate Bush, Big Star and George Michael, R.E.M. and The Kinks. His books have been published in ten countries and in nine different languages. He is also a contributor to magazines including Mojo and Uncut. He lives just outside Nottingham, England, with his wife and two young children.