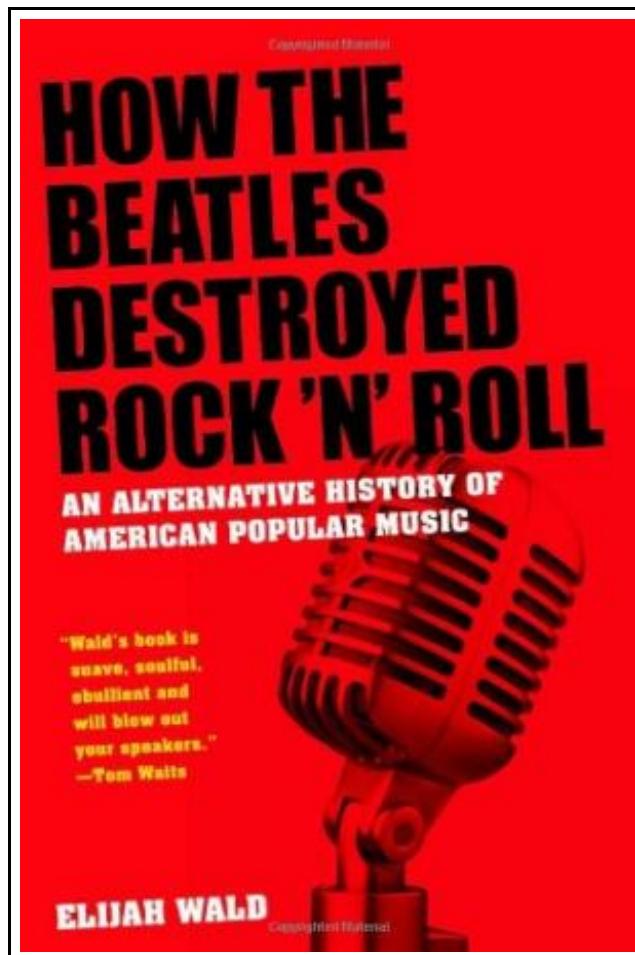


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Oxford University Press Inc, United States, 2011. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 234 x 155 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Overthrowing the conventional pieties of mainstream jazz and rock history, Elijah Wald traces the evolution of popular music through developing tastes, trends and technologies-including the role of records, radio, jukeboxes and television-to give a fuller, more balanced account of the broad variety of music that captivated listeners over the course of the twentieth century. Wald revisits original sources-recordings, period articles, memoirs, and interviews-to highlight how music was actually heard and experienced over the years. In a refreshing departure from more typical histories, he focuses on the world of working musicians and ordinary listeners rather than stars and specialists. He looks at the evolution of jazz as dance music, and rock n roll through the eyes of the screaming, twisting teenage girls who made up the bulk of its early audience. Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman, Frank Sinatra, Elvis Presley, Chuck Berry, and the Beatles are all here, but Wald also discusses less familiar names like Paul Whiteman, Guy Lombardo, Mitch Miller, Jo Stafford, Frankie Avalon, and the Shirelles, who in some cases were far more popular than those bright stars we all know today, and who more accurately represent the mainstream of their times. Wald's book is suave, soulful, ebullient and will blow out your speakers. -Tom Waits Wald is a meticulous researcher, a graceful writer and a committed contrarian. An impressive accomplishment. -Peter Keepnews, New York Times Book Review One of those rare books that aims to upend received wisdom and actually succeeds. -Kirkus Reviews It is as an alternative, corrective history of American music that Wald's book is invaluable. It forces us to see that only by studying the good with the bad-and by seeing that the...

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