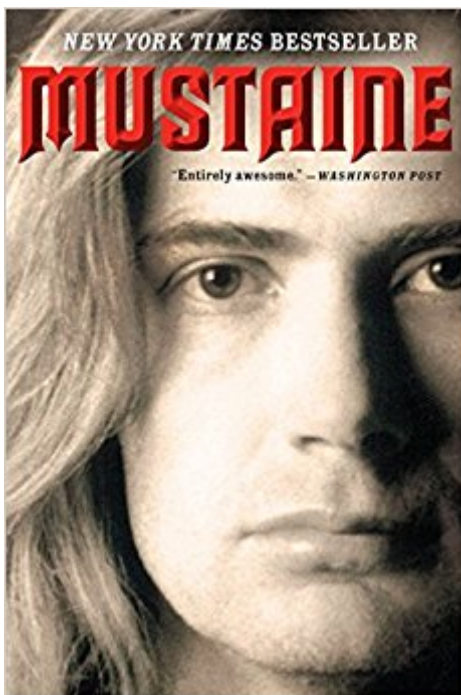


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Mustaine: A Heavy Metal Memoir



Synopsis

New York Times Bestseller Founding member, singer, and lead guitarist of Metallica and Megadeth shares the ultimate, unvarnished story behind his involvement in the rise of two of the world's most influential heavy metal bands in history. Dave Mustaine is the first to admit that he's bottomed out a few times in his dark and twisted speed metal version of a Dickensian life. From his soul-crushing professional and artistic setbacks to his battle with addiction, Mustaine has hit rock bottom on multiple occasions. April 1983 was his lowest point, when he was unceremoniously fired from Metallica for his hard-partying ways. But, what seemed to be the end of it all was just the beginning for the guitarist. After parting ways with Metallica, Mustaine went on to become the front man, singer, songwriter, guitarist (and de facto CEO) for Megadeth—one of the most successful metal bands in the world. A pioneer of the thrash metal movement, Megadeth rose to international fame in the 1980s, and has gone on to earn seven consecutive Grammy nominations for Best Metal Performance. In this outrageously candid memoir, one of heavy metal's most iconic figures gives an insider's look into the loud and sordid world of thrash metal—sex, drugs, and rock n' roll included.

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Customer Reviews

“Entirely awesome.” (Washington Post) “One hell of a story” (

Crawdaddy) “Dave Mustaine's memoir is the narrative of a struggling, hard-won music career. It is also a story of survival, redemption and faith... Transcending simple religion and

music, Mustaine's Heavy Metal Memoir will leave you moved and inspired. (Globe and Mail (Toronto)) "Remorseless. (Rolling Stone) "A fascinating and sometimes eye-opening look at Mustaine the man as well as Mustaine the rock star... A must read for Megadeth fans, and highly recommended for metal fans in general.

(About.com) "(Mustaine's) memoir is honest, certainly - and not without that trademark bite - but there is also considerable maturity in his words. (The Quietus) "A must-have for all fans and haters alike

(Metal-army.com) "[MUSTAINE] is more tenacious, more introspective, and ultimately more relevant than you'd expect. (CHARTattack.com) "A frank and detailed account of the life and times of the infamous vocalist/guitarist/song writer|Mustaine's account of Megadeth's early years is told with humor and with real honesty| A riveting read. (blistering.com)

Now with a new chapter Dave Mustaine is the first to admit that he's bottomed out a few times in his dark and twisted speed metal version of a Dickensian life. Impoverished, transient childhood? Check. Abusive, alcoholic parent? Check. Mind-f**king religious weirdness (in his case the extremes of the Jehovah's Witnesses and satanism)? Check. Alcoholism, drug addiction, homelessness? Check, check, Check. Soul-crushing professional and artistic setbacks? Check. Rehab? Check (seventeen times, give or take). Near-death experience? Check that one, too. James Hetfield, with whom many years ago Mustaine founded a band known as Metallica, once observed, with some incredulity, that Mustaine must have been born with a horseshoe up his ass. That's how lucky he is to be pulling breath after so many close calls. But here's the thing about having a horseshoe lodged in your rectum: It also hurts like hell. And you never forget it's there. Mustaine has battled it all to achieve dizzying heights. From the early, heady days of Metallica, being unceremoniously let go only to become a world-famous rock star • founder, front man, singer, songwriter, and guitarist (and de facto CEO) for Megadeth, one of the most popular bands in heavy metal • Mustaine's story will inspire, stun, and terrify.

If you are a fan of Megadeth this is an eye opening "tell all" book that you should read. It basically affirms the sex, drugs, and rock-n-roll life style of mega rock stars, and in the process gives us a peek into the psyche of Dave Mustaine at various points in his career. My only criticism of the book is not about what was written, but about what I wish was written. I was hoping there would be more

space in the book devoted to the creative process Dave Mustaine has used to write the amazing catalog of Megadeth music, but unfortunately there is only a tiny fraction of the book devoted to this topic.

Great Book! Although I can't say I've listened to any of their music since I prefer a little milder type, I figured it would at a minimum be an interesting read. I couldn't be happier I gave it a shot. It's definitely worth the read and I enjoyed it very much. He explains everything and as I've read in all the other rock'n roll memoirs, the lifestyle can be rough and not as exciting as I always imagined. The life on the road, the excess....It's just hard to do as you get older. I recommend this read, it was very good and extremely well written. He's a very smart person. Since this band went thru so many changes, and the fights over musical direction, money, rights, etc.....I think Dave should have just named the band "Mustaine" from the onset. That would have solved everything over the years (Guessing). I gave it 5 stars, he's extremely funny and has certainly seen more than most people.

If you are interested in first hand accounts of the rock and roll lifestyle, stories of personal growth and victory, humorous anecdotes, or all of the above, this book won't disappoint! Dave Mustaine is someone I've admired for a long, time - about 20 years. And just like everything else changes in life, my reasons for admiring him changed and grew as he changed and grew. As a teenager, I latched on to the intensity and energy of Rust In Peace and I never let go of my admiration for Mustaine. Through changes in musical direction and band members, frequent drug relapses, an ongoing feud with another band I like (Metallica), etc., I continued to follow, and support (by purchasing CDs and concert tickets) Dave Mustaine and Megadeth. You could say I was a loyal fan. Dedicated in my support. Perhaps even tenacious. And tenacity is one big reason why I admire Dave Mustaine so much. He has accumulated a lifetime of reasons to give up, spiral into an empty, bitter life or simply be dead already. But he's not. He's still here and this is his personal story of second chances, third chances, strife, success and redemption. Being a fan of Megadeth, I was at least generally familiar with Mustaine's history; so I guess not much of the book surprised me. If you want to paint with very broad brush strokes, you sum up his life story as not dissimilar from many other rock stars. Sex, drugs, and rock and roll - right? But throughout the book, you get this feeling that all the sensational and sometimes caricature-like anecdotes are being shared by someone who is in a better place now - someone who is wise only in the way that *he* can be, because he has learned from the experiences that only *he* has lived. Mustaine's story is a personal story that you can relate to. Even if you've never played a guitar or smoked heroin. I had the opportunity to meet him briefly in

2001 and again for a little bit longer while in the studio in 2003. When he sat down next to me and asked me "so what's up?" All I could think to myself was "what's up is your Dave Frickin' Mustaine and I'm a nervous fan who's more starstruck than I thought I would be in this situation". But I wasn't just starstruck by my admiration for his musical ability, nor his music business savvy, nor the fact that he seemed to have a great, healthy family, nor even exclusively his tenacity. It was the fact that this guy was simultaneously a success and a failure - he knows what it is like to be truly human. He had often been a bad example as a person who wasn't the easiest to get along with, yet he has in him this inherent good side, a humble side - a vulnerable side, even, that is very refreshing. Considering I can't relate to probably 95% of Mustaine's life experiences, I feel that he is still a completely 100% relatable guy. To me, this autobiography reaffirms my conviction in our shared humanity and reaffirms my faith in God.

I am neither a Megadeth nor Metallica fan - I am a casual listener of both - so I did not buy this book out of some blind devotion for all things connected to either band. However, in recent years I have read many blurbs or quotes from Mustaine and found him to be rather humorous and insightful. I read an excerpt from this book and put on my to-read list and about a year later, here I am. First off, Mustaine (or his handler) is a good writer. He kept the entire book interesting and I was always reluctantly putting the book (or Kindle, rather) down at bedtime or at the end of my lunch break. Despite Mustaine leading a somewhat common life to rock and rollers of that era, it's still fresh for some reason. Second, I had no idea how much his firing from Metallica affected him and he was very open about that entire situation. Maybe that is already well known by fans but again, I am a casual listener. My only gripe was despite the book's ability to draw you in and hold your attention, when I was finished, I felt like more could have been said. I did not feel like I had the whole picture of the "story" like I had after reading Slash's autobiog or Ace Frehley's or Peter Criss's (all great reads). The complaint is that Mustaine is a likeable guy and you want to know more about him. Overall, this was a great read and I recommend it to any fan of rock music. It's not on a gift list for my mother but I have recommended it to my brothers and friends!

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