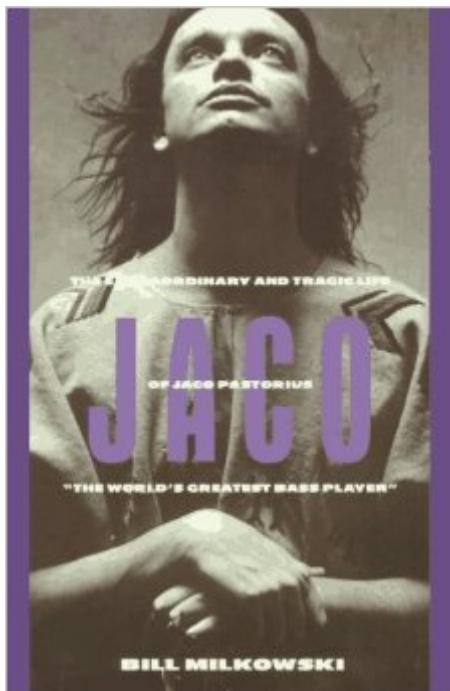


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Jaco: The Extraordinary And The Tragic Life Of Jaco Pastorius, "the World's Greatest Bass Player"



Synopsis

The life story of the man who revolutionized the electric bass is an in-depth look at a tormented genius who achieved international fame and died tragically at a young age. First serial, Bass Player. IP.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I couldn't believe it when I finally found a book about Jaco. Where have I been? I was thinking of writing my master's thesis about Jaco a couple of years ago. But how could I top this book. What a great read. I read it in 2 days. I couldn't put it down. Of course when you love someone's music, and are amazed and saddened by someone's life like Jaco's, it's not hard completely diving into the book and not coming up for air. I wish someone would option this book for a movie. It's a great, yet tragic tale.

Well written, this is a sorrowful story of talent, idiocracy and self indulgence gone amuck. Yes, it isn't a happy ending, but his talent shines through and survives, even though, his earthly journey was short lived and tragic in the end.

Even when we know that there are issues with some parts of it between Ingrid and Bill, every page reveals amazing things about Jaco. Those stories have the power to immerse us in the life of the Greatest Bass Player in the World. From the beginning and the good moments, to the suffering of

an unknown psychiatric illness. Jaco even now is the greatest, and his life shall be preserved through the memories that survived him and that are transmitted by Word of Mouth. Jaco shall live forever on all of us.

This book was recommended to me by a friend (that happens to play bass). Not ever being exposed to jazz before, it sounded like an interesting read so I bought it for my Kindle. As I started to read the story, my immediate reaction was to purchase all his music. Although I don't have all the music yet (I'm working on it), I was intrigued at once by not only his music but the story behind it all. I'm not going to get all analytical about the book however I will say it's a must read for anyone.

Jaco was a genius trapped on this planet! He inspired me to keep going even though his talent may never be reached by a common man. Sad and Amazing!

I picked up this book out of curiosity after buying Jaco's solo album. I heard of him and I wanted to read about him. This book has changed my views on the music industry and performing and has ultimately made me a better musician. Jaco single handedly revolutionized the electric bass to unimaginable proportions. No bass player should ever go without a Jaco album and no musician should go without reading this book. Informative, tragic and educational. I love this book and have read it through four times. Jaco and his music will live in my heart forever.

Jaco Pastorius's story is a very interesting one; certainly fitting to the extremes of the American culture. Even if you are not a bass player, or even a musician, you should find Milkowsky's chronicle of Jaco to be an interesting, emotionally charged, reading. However, I think a question is unconsciously brought up by the author. That is, just how far outa whack should you stretch your neck looking up towards Jaco? Honestly, the author is very one-sided about how he presents Jaco: Jaco was a very sweet man of a musical genius that most cannot begin to imagine. He was tormented by a mental disorder and it, unfortunately, caused the ruin of his career. The author makes it very clear that he sympathises with Jaco, that he, as best as he can, sees it from Jaco's point of view. I disagree though. I have known several of those who suffer from bi-polar disorder. They do find it hard to get along, but not like Jaco. I don't think his illness was his only problem. I didn't know the man personally, but I don't think that disqualifies me as a critic of him. He made beautiful music, but that doesn't excuse his behaviour either. Milkowsky does a great job telling you how Jaco lived and died, but leaves the reader wondering just what Jaco's problem was. I think it

makes the book even more interesting though.

As I read the book I was overcome with the sense that there wasn't anybody in Jaco's life that wanted to offer some substantial help in his recovery,(just for the sake of preserving one of the 20th century's greatest contemporary composers who had barely started to show the world as a whole what he stood for) but, rather just for the sake of making it to the next show to fatten someone's wallet. Unfortunately even that small percentage of help disappeared when his so-called friends and hangers on lost interest. Overall I think Bill Milkowski did a fantastic job of portraying Jaco's life story. He wrote the story as someone who missed a friend and not a business associate. Hats' off to him, and shame on those who caught on only after it was too late and chose to opportunise on his music at the expense of his estate, (posthumously of course).

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