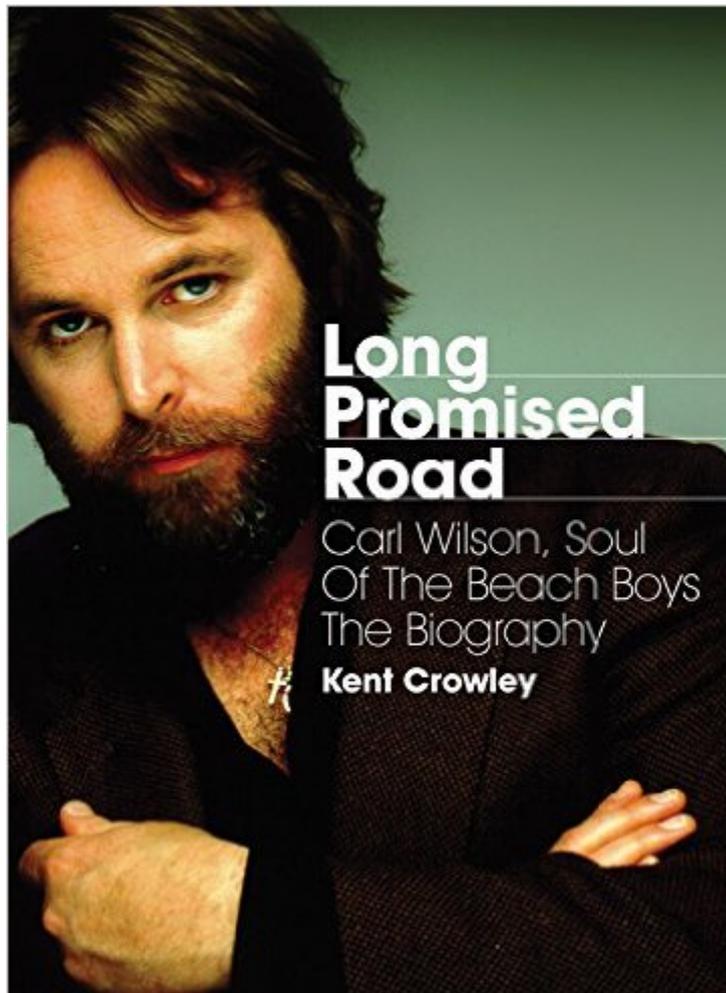


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Long Promised Road: Carl Wilson, Soul Of The Beach Boys - The Biography



Synopsis

No life in popular music touched on as many major musical milestones as that of The Beach Boys' Carl Wilson. While he is often unjustly overlooked as a mere adjunct to his more famous brothers Brian and Dennis, Carl was a major international rock star from his early teens. The proud owner of one of the greatest voices in popular music--one that graced some of the most important records of the pop era, including 'God Only Knows' and 'Good Vibrations'--Wilson was also one of the first musicians to bring the electric guitar to the forefront of rock'n'roll. His musical skills provided The Beach Boys' entree into the music business, from which he then stewarded their onstage journey through the ups and downs of the 60s to their comeback in the 70s and into the role of 'America's band' in the 80s. Along the way, Carl quietly endured his own battles with obesity, divorce, substance abuse, and ultimately terminal cancer, all the while working to protect his family's business and legacy. This major new biography reveals the true story of modern rock'n'roll, lived from the center of the most important decades of popular music.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I've been waiting for this book to come out for some time. So I'm rather disappointed to find out there's not really a biography of Carl Wilson at all. It's more of a year to year diary of the professional activities of the Beach Boys. Also this author seems to be very interested in the technical aspect of Carl Wilson's guitar playing and ability. It would be a good book for guitarists to buy or someone who is interested in the techniques. But unfortunately there's very little in this about

Carl Wilson's personal life--about his childhood, marriages, children, character, worldview or personality in an in-depth manner. Most of what you're reading is information that the author gleaned from other often-quoted past articles. I don't know how you can call this a biography --what it is mainly is more like a magazine piece put together around his guitar technique and his management of the Beach Boys. This book would be a good resource for authors trying to write original books about the Beach Boys. He's gathered together a great deal of information and done a good job with that. But if you already know a lot about the Beach Boys and you really were expecting something new or insightful you're going to be disappointed here. The great events of Carl's life--his divorce, his drug addiction or the death of Dennis are either tossed out with one sentence or with a few paragraphs. Apparently the author did meet Carl Wilson once. The purpose of his writing this book was to showcase Carl's leadership and artistic management of The Beach Boys, along with his production, composing, singing and guitar virtuosity. So the book becomes a case for Carl's talents and abilities but that doesn't make it a biography.

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