

Elvis: All the King's Men Who Left the Building

By Alanna Nash



Ghosts of a Chance 2: Elvis! All the king's men who left the building by Len Berman

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Elvis Presley was one of the most iconic figures in American history. His music and his persona changed the face of popular culture, and his influence is still felt today. But behind the scenes, there were a group of men who helped Elvis achieve his success. These men were his managers, his musicians, his confidants, and his friends. They were the ones who kept the King on track, and they were the ones who were there for him when he needed them most.

In this book, you'll meet the key players who shaped Elvis Presley's iconic career: his manager, Colonel Tom Parker; his backing band, the Blue Moon Boys; his close confidants, Priscilla Presley and Joe Esposito; and many more. Through exclusive interviews and never-before-seen photos, you'll

discover the personal stories, triumphs, and tragedies of the men who helped Elvis become the King of Rock 'n' Roll.

Colonel Tom Parker: The Man Behind the King

Colonel Tom Parker was Elvis Presley's manager for over two decades. He was a shrewd businessman who helped Elvis achieve unprecedented success. But Parker was also a controversial figure, and his relationship with Elvis was often strained.

Parker was born in the Netherlands in 1909. He came to the United States as a young man and worked as a carnival promoter. In 1955, he met Elvis Presley and saw the potential in the young singer. Parker became Elvis's manager and quickly negotiated a recording contract with RCA Victor.

Under Parker's guidance, Elvis Presley became one of the most popular singers in the world. Parker booked Elvis on television shows, movies, and concert tours. He also helped Elvis to create his signature look and sound.

But Parker's relationship with Elvis was not always smooth. Parker was often accused of exploiting Elvis and of taking advantage of his trust. In 1973, Elvis fired Parker as his manager. The two men never reconciled before Elvis's death in 1977.

The Blue Moon Boys: Elvis's Backing Band

The Blue Moon Boys were Elvis Presley's backing band from 1954 to 1960. The band consisted of Scotty Moore on guitar, Bill Black on bass, and D.J. Fontana on drums.

The Blue Moon Boys were a key part of Elvis Presley's early success. They helped to create the unique sound that made Elvis stand out from other rock 'n' roll singers.

Scotty Moore was born in Tennessee in 1931. He started playing guitar at a young age and was influenced by blues and country music. Bill Black was also born in Tennessee in 1926. He started playing bass in high school and was also influenced by blues and country music. D.J. Fontana was born in Louisiana in 1931. He started playing drums at a young age and was influenced by jazz and rhythm and blues.

The Blue Moon Boys met Elvis Presley in 1954 at Sun Records in Memphis, Tennessee. They were impressed by Elvis's talent and agreed to become his backing band.

The Blue Moon Boys played on Elvis's first recordings, including "That's All Right" and "Blue Moon of Kentucky." They also toured with Elvis and appeared on television shows with him.

In 1960, the Blue Moon Boys left Elvis Presley's band. They went on to have successful careers as solo artists and session musicians.

Priscilla Presley: Elvis's Wife

Priscilla Presley was Elvis Presley's wife from 1967 to 1973. She was a young actress when she met Elvis in 1959. They married in 1967 and had one child, Lisa Marie Presley.

Priscilla Presley was a major influence on Elvis's life. She helped him to become more mature and responsible. She also helped him to manage his

finances and his career.

But the marriage was not always easy. Elvis was often away on tour, and Priscilla felt lonely and isolated. In 1973, Priscilla filed for divorce. The divorce was finalized in 1973.

Priscilla Presley has remained close to Elvis's family and friends. She is a co-executor of Elvis's estate and she continues to work to preserve his legacy.

Joe Esposito: Elvis's Close Confidant

Joe Esposito was Elvis Presley's close confidant and bodyguard from 1960 to 1977. He was a former Marine who met Elvis in 1960 while he was serving as a guard at Graceland.

Esposito quickly became one of Elvis's most trusted friends. He was always there for Elvis, both personally and professionally. He helped Elvis to manage his finances, his career, and his personal life.

Esposito was also responsible for protecting Elvis from his fans and from the media. He was a loyal and dedicated friend, and he never betrayed Elvis's trust.

Esposito remained close to Elvis until Elvis's death in 1977. He continues to work to preserve Elvis's legacy and to share his memories of the King of Rock 'n' Roll.

The men who helped Elvis Presley become the King of Rock 'n' Roll were a diverse group of individuals. They came from different backgrounds and

had different personalities. But they all shared a common goal: to help Elvis achieve his dreams.

These men were more than just employees or acquaintances. They were Elvis's friends, his confidants, and his family. They were the ones who were there for him when he needed them most. And they were the ones who helped him to become one of the most iconic figures in American history.



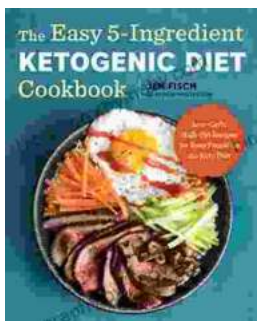
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