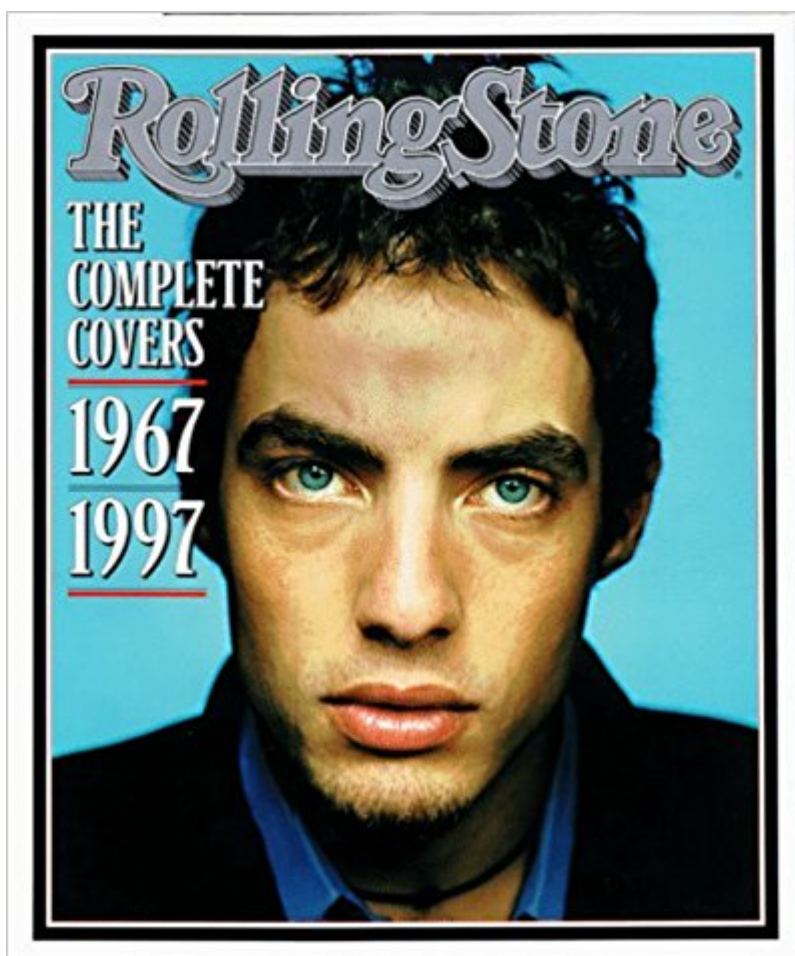


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# Rolling Stone : The Complete Covers (Variable Cover)



## Synopsis

Rolling Stone magazine has been the premier chronicler of rock and roll for 30 years. For artists and entertainers, nothing tops a Rolling Stone cover, where every other week a new legend is born or a familiar face is given a fresh spin. Now, for the first time, all 728 covers are gathered into one fantastic book. The undisputed stars? Mick Jagger (19 covers by himself and with the Stones), Bob Dylan (13), Bruce Springsteen (11), John Lennon (9, plus 9 with the Beatles). Other major players include Jerry Garcia (13), Madonna (9), Tina Turner (8), and Eric Clapton (7), and there are hundreds of cameos, from a young O. J. Simpson to Beck and Jewel. Some covers are moving, especially those commemorating fallen idols ("Kurt Cobain 1967-1994"); others are deliberately provocative (Jim Morrison: "He's Hot, He's Sexy, and He's Dead"). Today, Rolling Stone magazine is enjoyed by 8.5 million readers. Its founder and editor, Jann S. Wenner, has always presented important and innovative photography and writing. The covers have been photographed by Annie Leibovitz, Richard Avedon, Anton Corbijn, Herb Ritts, Albert Watson, Francesco Scavullo, Mark Seliger, and Matthew Rolston, among others, and illustrated by Matt Groening, Mike Judge, Matt Mahurin, Garry Trudeau, and Ralph Steadman. Rolling Stone, The Complete Covers, which includes fascinating behind-the-scenes stories and excerpts from articles and interviews, is an intense and evocative journey through three decades of rock and roll.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 273 pages

Publisher: Harry N Abrams; Variable cover edition (April 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0810937972

ISBN-13: 978-0810937970

Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 10.5 x 12.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.9 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,912,904 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #28 in Books > Humor &

Entertainment > Pop Culture > Magazines #1349 in Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Photojournalism & Essays > Photojournalism #4257 in Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Journalism & Nonfiction

## Customer Reviews

YA-A highly enjoyable romp down the memory lane of popular culture. Stunning reproductions of

773 of the magazine's covers, beginning with the first issue released in November 1967 through November 1997, highlight a variety of entertainment-industry icons from Mick Jagger (19 covers) to the Incredible Hulk (only one, so far). Within these pages readers are introduced to the early work of Annie Leibovitz, who cut her professional teeth at the publication. Other top-notch photographers, including Francesco Scavullo, Herb Ritts, and Richard Avedon, provide a study in modern portraiture. Magazine headlines and highlighted features offer an array of political and social issues spanning the past 30 years and present an impromptu history lesson. The accompanying text allows readers to follow the growth and development of a successful periodical from its humble beginnings to its current status as a journalistic giant. Young adults will enjoy this informative and quintessentially hip overview of the music and entertainment industry in the United States from the days of peace, love, and flower children to the present. Debra Shumate, Bull Run Regional Library, Manassas, VA Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This collection offers what it advertises, 30 years of Rolling Stone covers, plus pithy insights and glib vignettes. The covers tell as much about rock history as the commentary from the expected cast of RS scribes and hangers-on. Very early covers were in black-and-white, wrapping a newsprint tabloid featuring articles and reviews redolent of smug, anticommercial hipness. Over time, the attitude eroded, and color covers featured fewer scruffy rockers and more magnificently quaffed celebrities du jour. In short, the covers reflect the drift of RS's focus from music to film, TV, politics, . . . whatever. And still, the "book" is mostly rock 'n' roll. Where else can one see Janet Jackson and Jennifer Anniston naked and Bill Clinton and Woody Allen clothed (good editorial decisions, those), always very well photographed? Buy this for the flash and the history, and ignore anything Pete Townshend or Jann Wenner has to say in it. Aging baby boomers will probably like it most, but it should appeal to pop fans of all ages. Mike Tribby

Fantastic book for a fantastic price!

In the words of Mick Jagger to Rolling Stone, "You set the tone of a magazine by the cover - that's very important". He is correct. From issue #1 of Nov. 1967, John Lennon launches Rolling Stone in war garb and continues to grace more covers with and without the Beatles. "The Complete Covers" is a time machine of photographs (most from acclaimed photographer Annie Leibovitz) reminding us of the issues that we faced and the climate of the music. We can watch our rock heroes get older with us and witness the new birth of music groups over again. Politics are always included at critical

time periods and, of course, our more liberal movie stars are here to set another kind of tome for the period. Although ending in 1997 with the cover of 'Women In Rock', you can bet that Rolling Stone gives us another in 2027. Enjoy!

The cover alone forfeits the ability of this book to rest upon the coffee tables of most. Yes, we all understand the sociological insight the editors have leapt to with the twin placement of a Scraggly Alice Cooper on one side and a Demonic M. Manson on the other -- but the book is not a pantheon to demon music, so why put these two as the only options to show the world what the last thirty years of entertainment were all about. shows an alternate cover with a peaceful J. Dylan on the cover (my guess is the parallel would have his dad on the flip side of the book). While also not exactly genius-level insight, it would still be a heck of a lot more presentable than the tome shipped to me. ONE BIG AAAACK.

This book was one of School Library Journal's Best Adult Books for Young Adults 1998. It was originally reviewed in SLJ in August of 1998.

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