



Book of the Week

***Do You Feel Like I Do? A Memoir* by Peter Frampton with Alan Light**

Book Review by Linda Morse

Do You Feel Like I Do? A Memoir by Peter Frampton, with Alan Light (Copyright 2020 by Phenix Books, LLC; published by Hachette Books, New York) is the English rocker's story of his life from post war Britain to his current days as an American musician in Nashville. Frampton, best known for his iconic album *Frampton Comes Alive (1976)*, was a major touring musician with one of the best-selling albums of all time. He has continued to write and perform music but has been less active recently with his diagnosis of inclusion body myositis, a progressive muscle disorder affecting his legs, arms, and hands.

This book is neither an introspective of his life like Elton John's memoir, *Me*, or a self-absorbed review like Keith Richards' *Life*. It takes Frampton through his early days of being in the right place at the right time (London), follows his life through several bands until fame and fortune beckon, describes losing large sums of money and then his fame ebb. He does not go into a lot of sordid details of road life and offers few shocking stories although he does describe some interesting situations (e.g., his uncredited work on George Harrison's *While my Guitar Gently Weeps*, and his former manager's possible ties to organized crime). He lays his faults at naiveté and occasionally being with the wrong people (e.g., his well-publicized relationship with Penny McCall which lead to a palimony suit). While it's an interesting story about how he developed his craft, it fails to probe deeply into his life and creativity which is a major shortcoming. Many sections are disjointed time-wise and people-wise, so it's often unclear or confusing. Detail is frequently left out.

Peter Frampton is a gifted guitar player who produced music that is still frequently heard forty years later. I saw him perform in Meridian's Riley Center several years back when he was doing one of his last acoustic tours. He was engaging and highly entertaining. No longer the iconic flowing hair 70's icon, but still a great musician who managed to stay in the business throughout his lifetime. For Peter Frampton fans, this book will be an interesting read about his various albums, bands, and guitars as he describes his life's work. The book, while an interesting

overview, fails to provide an in-depth study of the musician or his craft. However, if you find the icons of this age interesting, then you may find this book entertaining.

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