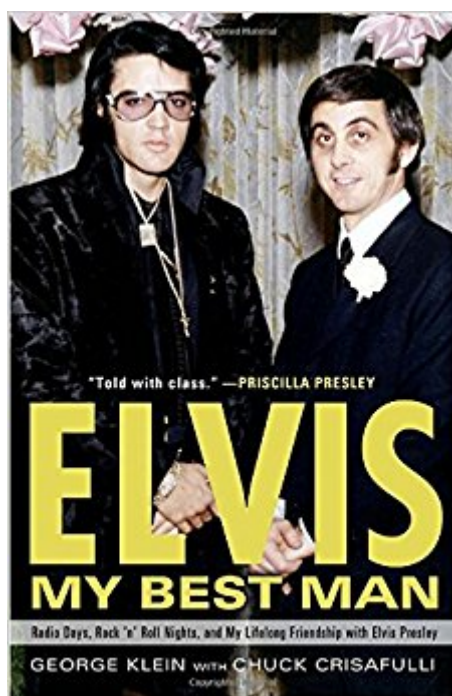


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# Elvis: My Best Man: Radio Days, Rock 'n' Roll Nights, And My Lifelong Friendship With Elvis Presley



## Synopsis

When George Klein was an eighth grader at Humes High, he couldn't have known how important the new kid with the guitar—the boy named Elvis—would later become in his life. But from the first time GK (as he was nicknamed by Elvis) heard this kid sing, he knew that Elvis Presley was someone extraordinary. During Elvis's rise to fame and throughout the wild swirl of his remarkable life, Klein was a steady presence and one of Elvis's closest and most loyal friends until his untimely death in 1977. In *Elvis: My Best Man*, a heartfelt, entertaining, and long-awaited contribution to our understanding of Elvis Presley and the early days of rock and roll, George Klein writes with great affection for the friend he knew about who the King of Rock and Roll really was and how he acted when the stage lights were off. This fascinating chronicle of boundary-breaking and music-making through one of the most intriguing and dynamic stretches of American history overflows with insights and anecdotes from someone who was in the middle of it all. From the good times at Graceland to hanging out with Hollywood stars to butting heads with Elvis's iron-handed manager, Colonel Tom Parker, to making sure that Elvis's legacy is fittingly honored, GK was a true friend of the King and a trailblazer in the music industry in his own right. From the Hardcover edition.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Klein's paean is awfully sincere but, in its folksy naiveté, oddly fetching. Maybe it's the bio the King would have most wanted. Klein, who met Elvis in eighth grade, has been in the music business most of his life. He hosted early rock shows on Memphis radio and TV, was close at hand

during Elvis's early career, and remained a member of the inner circle to the end. Since then, he has hosted various Elvis-related radio shows and produced an Elvis documentary, and been interviewed by the likes of Larry King, Oprah, and Geraldo Rivera. He recalls a 1955 colloquy in which he suggested Elvis had already risen to such heights that he was a competition for Webb Pierce and Ferlin Husky and Hank Snow. Tellingly, Presley shook his head and let out a little snort of a laugh. "No, George, I'm shooting for Bill Haley," he replied. Soon enough, Elvis was at the top of the pop as well as the country charts, and Bill Haley was looking for a new hook. --Mike Tribby --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"George, bravo! I learned some new things about you and your life, especially the earlier years. I feel you capture the essence of Elvis not only in dialogue, but also in giving the reader a sense of his personality, humor, and his spirit of play. . . . I know that Elvis would be proud that you've remained his loyal and lifelong friend." "Priscilla Presley" "George was with Elvis from the beginning. He personally knows the story." "Dick Clark" "George Klein is something else. Through the years, George has been right there. He's got the great stories and he's always talked about Elvis and presented him with great dignity." "Tom Petty" "GK was there from the beginning, and there 'til the end. This book is fact." "Jerry Lee Lewis" "GK was one of the most important friends and confidants of Elvis Presley. This book captures all the excitement of the birth of rock'n'roll, and reminds us of the very significant roles that Elvis and GK played as rock'n'roll pioneers." "Jerry Schilling" From the Hardcover edition.

It was okay, but George Klein has such an inflated ego, that everything that happened in Elvis' life, HE WAS THERE WITH ELVIS. No one cares if George was there. Just write about Elvis.

Nothing different or illuminating in this book as it was just another story of a friend who took/accepted all the perks( gifts) that Elvis bestowed on him. Also another one of the entourage that did not want to see that the drug use was dangerous. Saying anything could have resulted on being "cast out" of the group and all the benefits it entailed. For the die hard Elvis fans this is not a necessary book to read.

I enjoyed the book. It is presented to the reader as George Klein's memory of his life long friend. Starting in 8th grade it details bits and pieces of Elvis' life, his friends, his music and the birth of Rock and Roll. Although Elvis is the center of the book, the authors also weave in other characters

and how they interacted with Elvis. If you are an Elvis fan, or just interested in the early days of Rock music then this is a book that is worth reading.

There is not too much that can be written about Elvis that hadn't already been written. I enjoy George's radio show and enjoyed the part in the book about his own life more than the part on Elvis. I think he should have named the book "I Was A Pimp For Elvis". As always-- I got good service from --that is why their stock is going through the roof. Forget all the Elvis books except "Last Train To Memphis". The people around Elvis didn't know the man --he went through life acting a part.

It was good reading but for some reason I came away from it not liking George Klein too much. This is only my feelings, you have to decide for yourself if you choose to read it.

A faithful friendship, that proved true to the very end, about a common man with faults like you and I truly blessed by the Lord, in many ways. His gratitude for this from the beginning, is shared by George, in such a way, that makes one feel they are there as a witness. This is a welcomed book of information that is difficult to put down. Well worth the wait.

This is a great book about Elvis and the author George Klein. Ofcourse the whole book isn't about Elvis but we learn about a different side of Elvis, that for my side didn't know about him. I can recommend this book for Elvis fans and other people who will know a little bit more about The King of Rock'n' Roll, Elvis Presley !

Special thanks to George Klein for writing this book. Although George has been generous over the years with his Elvis input via his radio shows, his interviews and personal appearances, it is great to have his stories all in one place (with, of course, new input and perspective from George). There are only a few who were around from the beginning. While there are many people who shared major portions of Elvis' life, such as Jerry Schilling, Joe Esposito, Sonny West and Marty Lacker, George is one of the rare people that was there during the entire ride. Other than perhaps Red West and Billy Smith, George is one of the rare individuals who can take us all the way through Elvis' High School years to that unfortunate August 1977 day. George writes a great book here. He gets into previously unknown details, he doesn't sugar coat certain aspects of Elvis' life and he takes the reader on a great journey.

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