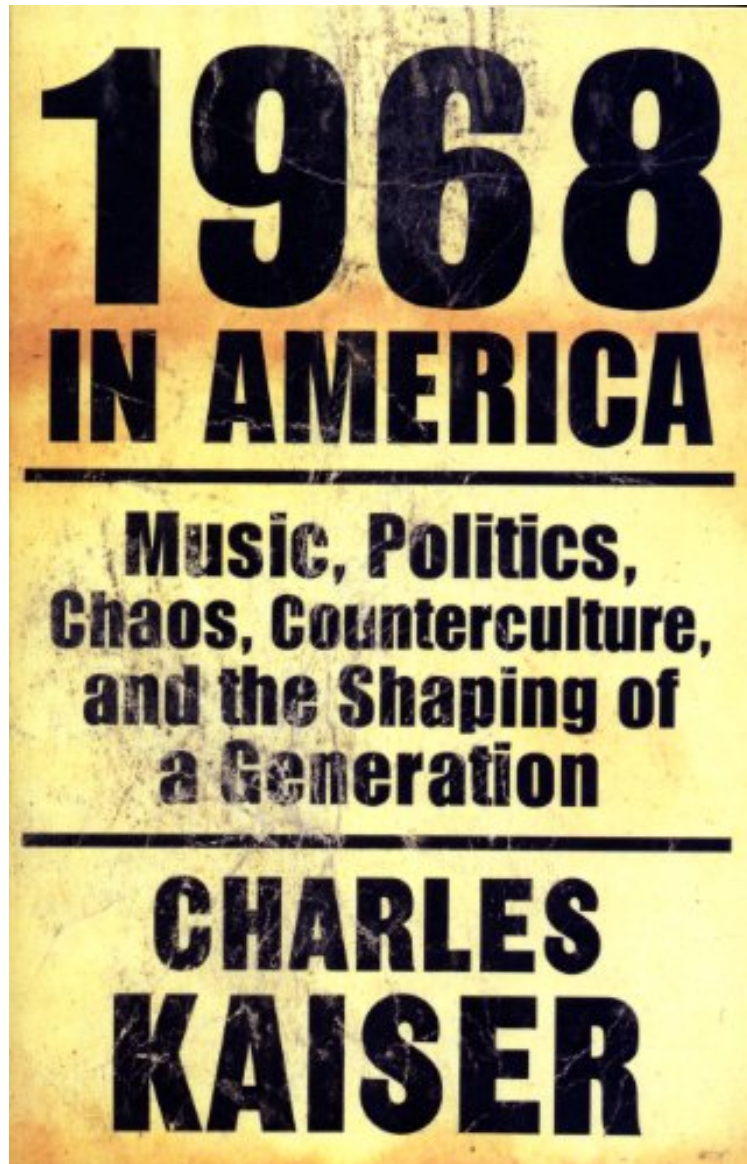


1968 in America: Music, Politics, Chaos, Counterculture, and the Shaping of a Generation

Von Charles Kaiser

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Von Charles Kaiser : 1968 in America: Music, Politics, Chaos, Counterculture, and the Shaping of a Generation before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 1968 in America: Music, Politics, Chaos, Counterculture, and the Shaping of a Generation:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.

Misleading title, too peripheral (hope I spelled that right) Von bkmchorse I finished this book fairly quickly, and I came away from it feeling like I had a decent overview of the atmosphere in America during 1968, but that I had not learned anything other than the basic facts of what went on. In my opinion, Kaiser fails to go in-depth enough into any one subject (except the McCarthy campaign) to give the reader a true understanding of what it must have felt like to be there. I was born in 1982, so I was not there, and I still feel like I lack an understanding of the attitudes and events of the time. Also, I agree with the other reviewer that the title is misleading. This book is not about music or the counterculture or really even the shaping of a generation. It is about the presidential campaign of 1968, and specifically the McCarthy campaign. If someone wanted a more of a cultural account that is specific and goes in depth into the feelings and conflicting spirits that characterized that turbulent year, I would recommend they look elsewhere, as I will. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Informative, but biased. Von Ein Kunde This book was fun to read, but should not be portrayed as a total representation of 1968 in America. Kaiser was very obviously a liberal, more specifically a McCarthy supporter, and much of his book focuses on this. The reader gains a great insight into what it was like on the McCarthy campaign trail. But there is significantly less focus on the other candidates at this time. 1968 is very focused on politics, but the references to music, culture, and the idea of revolution were great. Kaiser should have spent more focus on these topics. 1968 is a good read, but take it at face value, one man's view of the times. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Big Subject -- Tiny Book Von Ein Kunde Does a good job of presenting the outlook of a white, Jewish, liberal college student living in New York in 1968. There is nothing wrong with that in itself but Kaiser's frame of reference and the material he chooses covers are hardly large enough to warrant "The Shaping of a Generation" claim in the title. "1968 on The Upper West Side: Music, Democratic Politics and the Shaping of Charles Kaiser" would seem a more apt title. Despite this narrow focus, what Kaiser does cover is written about in an adequate, if somewhat bland, journalistic style.

Kurzbeschreibung 1968 in America is the tumultuous, comic, tragic, outrageous story of the year that changed a nation. Nineteen sixty-eight has come to be recognized as the pivotal year in a period of nearly unprecedented change and upheaval a year that witnessed the turning point of the Vietnam War and the Tet offensive; the shattering assassinations of Martin Luther King and Bobby Kennedy; the near-breakdown of the Democratic National Convention and, some thought, of the American political system itself. It was also the year in which the disparate strands of a growing youth culture burst forth upon the national consciousness, manifesting itself in a variety of ways from ground-breaking records by the Beatles, Aretha Franklin, Simon and Garfunkel, and the Rolling Stones; to an explosion of student and radical unrest unlike anything this country had ever seen. Much has been written about the sixties, but no one has yet captured the mixture of heady exuberance and sheer desperation that characterized these twelve months. Now Charles Kaiser, former journalist for Newsweek and The New York Times and himself a member of the generation that was irrevocably transformed by 1968, has written a work that at once flawlessly recreates, celebrates, and demythologizes this much-eulogized time. Here is the first book to speak with equal conviction, and equal authority, about such diverse figures and concerns as Martin Luther King and Timothy Leary; Janis Joplin and Richard Daley; the reasons behind Lyndon Johnson's refusal to run for reelection and those pushing Bob Dylan toward electric music; the impact on Vietnam of John Kennedy's death and the way sex, drugs, and rock and roll became a generation's bywords; the Columbia gymnasium as a catalyst for student revolt and the autodestruction of Eugene McCarthy's presidential campaign. Largely based on unpublished interviews and documents (including in-depth conversations with McCarthy and Dylan, among many others, and the late Theodore White's archives, to which the author had sole access), with the honesty and directness that were sixties hallmarks and the compulsive readability of classic social history, 1968 in America is the definitive study of a year when nothing could be taken for granted, and when America suddenly found its comfortable assumptions put on trial.