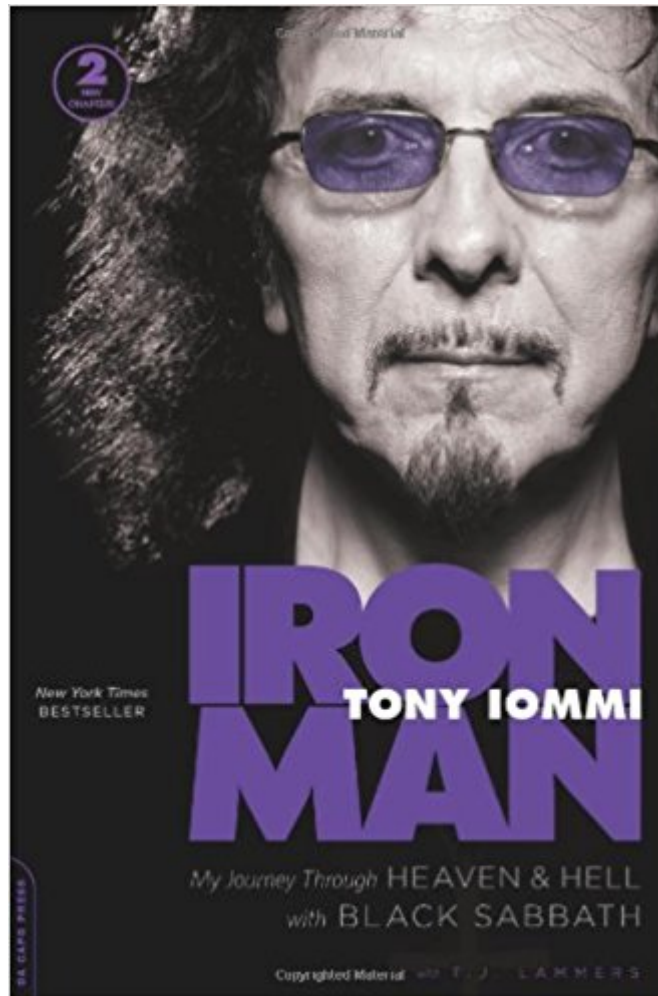


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Iron Man: My Journey Through Heaven And Hell With Black Sabbath



Synopsis

Black Sabbath is currently on 'The End Tour,' which they have proclaimed as their final concert tour. Iron Man chronicles the story of both pioneering guitarist Tony Iommi and legendary band Black Sabbath, dubbed 'The Beatles of heavy metal' by Rolling Stone. Iron Man reveals the man behind the icon yet still captures Iommi's humor, intelligence, and warmth. He speaks honestly and unflinchingly about his rough-and-tumble childhood, the accident that almost ended his career, his failed marriages, personal tragedies, battles with addiction, band mates, famous friends, newfound daughter, and the ups and downs of his life as an artist. Everything associated with hard rock happened to Black Sabbath first: the drugs, the debauchery, the drinking, the dungeons, the pressure, the pain, the conquests, the company men, the contracts, the combustible drummer, the critics, the comebacks, the singers, the Stonehenge set, the music, the money, the madness, the metal.

Book Information

Paperback: 432 pages

Publisher: Da Capo Press; Reprint edition (December 11, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0306821451

ISBN-13: 978-0306821455

Product Dimensions: 2 x 6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars See all reviews (193 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I will preface by noting I got into Sabbath relatively late - in the early '90s by way of Soundgarden, and have not read much about them prior to picking this up, so not sure how much of Tony's story has been previously discussed. Having said that, I thought 'Iron Man' was an entertaining look at Tony's life in and out of Sabbath. The stories of Tony's upbringing and family life were insightful into what shaped his work ethic and drive for success. The fingertip-severing story is so widely known, it was almost a waste of print to detail it once again - but on the flip side, it was a key moment in

defining the Sabbath sound, so of course it must be told. From an outsider's perspective at least, it seemed like Tony delivered a fair picture of the dynamics within Sabbath - the increasing focus of creative output upon him, the deterioration of band relationships leading up to Ozzy's firing. Then the rebirth with Dio, the various iterations of the band until it basically became "Tony Iommi and Black Sabbath". Then the reunions and up to the present day. On the lighter side, the constant practical jokes, particularly the relentless torturing of Bill Ward, got me laughing many times, as well as the Spinal Tap-ish moments with the Stonehenge debacle and the "Black Sabbath with Magic Show" gig [or whatever the opening act was]. Regarding the format of the narrative - it definitely took me a couple chapters to get the rhythm. At first, I was a little disappointed by how brief each chapter was - 3-5 pages for many. I flipped ahead a little to see if things got longer as it went along - they did not.

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