

THE MUSIC MAN

The storybook contains some biography and quotes from selected artists – to include musicians and those who love music.

Inspired by the talent of Matt Rainer, for whom I am immensely proud, I dedicate this storybook-writings to them...

By

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Introduction

“The Music Man” is the least developed in terms of ideas and content; but is still greatly inspired by son, Matt Rainer, who is musically talented and accomplished. Somewhere he have acquired this performing art and – as proud a parent as I can be – I am inspired to embark on the mystery of music...at least a mystery to me, that is.

So, let me turn to some artist that have something to say about it – and maybe I’ll have something to say too.

Music to Move By

Odetta (Holmes) was born in Birmingham, AL in 1930. Her musical training began as early as age 13 and she continued in music and theater, eventually moving to folk music by 1950. In 1961 she was deemed the “Queen of American Folk Music” by Martin Luther King; while continuing in the growing civil rights movement. To learn more about her, visit wikipedia.org/wiki/odetta

“No one can dub you with dignity. That’s yours to claim.”

- Odetta

Uptown or Universal

Billy Joel was born in 1949 in Bronx, NY. As a songwriter as well, his first recording was “Piano Man” in 1973. From a family of musicians, he began the piano very early and is well-known as the 6th best-selling recording artist in U.S. history. Scheduled to embark on another tour, he will begin in Jacksonville, Florida. To learn more about him, visit wikipedia.org/wiki/Billy_Joel

“I think music is in itself healing. It is an explosive expression of humanity. It’s something we are all touched by. No matter what culture we’re from, everyone loves music.”

- Billy Joel

My Dad Loved my Music

Pat Terry (the Pat Terry Group) was born in 1952 – during the rise of Rock&Roll. A pioneer of Christian Contemporary music, he (his band) recorded 7 albums between 1974 and 1980. Such recordings as “Home Where I Belong” were further popularized by artist such as B.J. Thomas – To learn more, visit patterryonline.com

(On writing his first song)

“I wrote a song called “Let’s Go to Town”...it was basically done for the amusement of my parents, and I remember that my father thought it was great...my dad was my biggest fan.

- Pat Terry

When I Hear Music

Henry David Thoreau is most identified with his “dwelling” build on Walden pond in 1845 – and the experience documented in the writing of like title. As an aside, he was temporarily imprisoned while residing there for not paying taxes. All other time was distributed between reading, writing, living in nature...and just living. Henry makes one point that “government is at best an expedient” – which is to suggest that the it operates on the basis of policies...not principles.

“When I hear music, I fear no danger, I am invulnerable, I see no foe, I am related to the earliest times, and to the latest.”

- Henry David Thoreau

The Mind of Music

Luciano Pavarotti was steeped in music – beginning his climb to a world-renown tenor through a church chorus or choir that his father belonged to – and from there, to small Italian opera houses. Many years of voice training occurred after WWII with more intense training in his late teens. A minor setback of a growth or nodule on his vocal cords was overcome – and he continued...

“You don’t need any brains to listen to music .”

- Luciano Pavarotti



A Master of Music

Duke Ellington

“The wise musicians are those who play what they can master.”

- Duke Ellington



All Shook-Up

Elvis Presley

“I don’t know anything about music. In my line of work, you don’t have to.”

- Elvis Presley



Patsy is no Patsy

Patsy Cline

“You’re gonna have to learn to get out there in front of those cameras and hold your head up. Take charge when you’re singing.”

- Patsy Cline



A Mystery of Music

“Phantom of the Opera” is

***“Only love and music are
forever.”***

- Phantom of the Opera



Ode of an Oasis

Pat Conroy is

***“Without music, life is a journey
through a desert.”***
- Pat Conroy



A Horse with no Song

Louis Armstrong is

“All music is folk music. I ain’t ever heard a horse sing..”
- Louis Armstrong



The Song that Ever Was

“Mr. Holland’s Opus” was

***“You can take away music,
but pretty soon children will
have nothing to read or
write about.”***

- Mr. Holland’s Opus



String me a Song

Les Paul was

“Paint pictures with sound. First, find your white – the deepest, roundest sound you can play on a guitar. Then find your black – which is the most extreme tonal difference from white you can play. Now, just pick the note where you’ve got white, pick it where you’ve got black, then find all the colors in between. Get those colors down, and you’ll be able to express almost any emotion of the guitar.”

- Les Paul



The Son's Song

“The Merchant of Venice” was

“The man that hath no music in himself, nor is moved by the concord of sweet sounds, is fit for treasons, stratagems and spoils; the motions of his spirit are dull as night, and his affections dark as Erebus. Let no such man be trusted.”

- Shakespeare from “The Merchant of Venice”



A Dying Dirge

Oliver Wendell Holmes was

***“Alas for those that never sing,
But die with all there music
in them!”***

- Oliver Wendell Homes



A Refrain of Refuge

Maya Angelou was

*“Music was my refuge. I could
crawl into the space
between the notes and curl
my back to loneliness
- Maya Angelou*



Mediating with Music

Ludwig van Beethoven was

***“Music is the mediator
between the spiritual and
the sensual life.”***

- Ludwig van Beethoven



Lord of the Lyrics

Johnny Cash was

“All music comes from God..”
- Johnny Cash



Music Makeover

Ray Charles was

“Music is nothing separate from me. It is me...You’d have to remove the music surgically.”

- Ray Charles



Solace by Song

Martin Luther was

“My heart, which is so full to overflowing, has often been solaced and refreshed by music when sick and weary.”

- Martin Luther



Jailhouse Jam

“Anonymous” – whoever you are – sounds somewhat like the wit of “Foghorn Leghorn” – the “too-proud” rooster character in the Looney Tunes cartoons.

“He played like he was in jail – behind a few bars and couldn’t find the key.”

- Anonymous



All the Voices

Henry David Thoreau –

“The woods would be very silent if the only birds that sang were those who sang best...”

- Henry David Thoreau