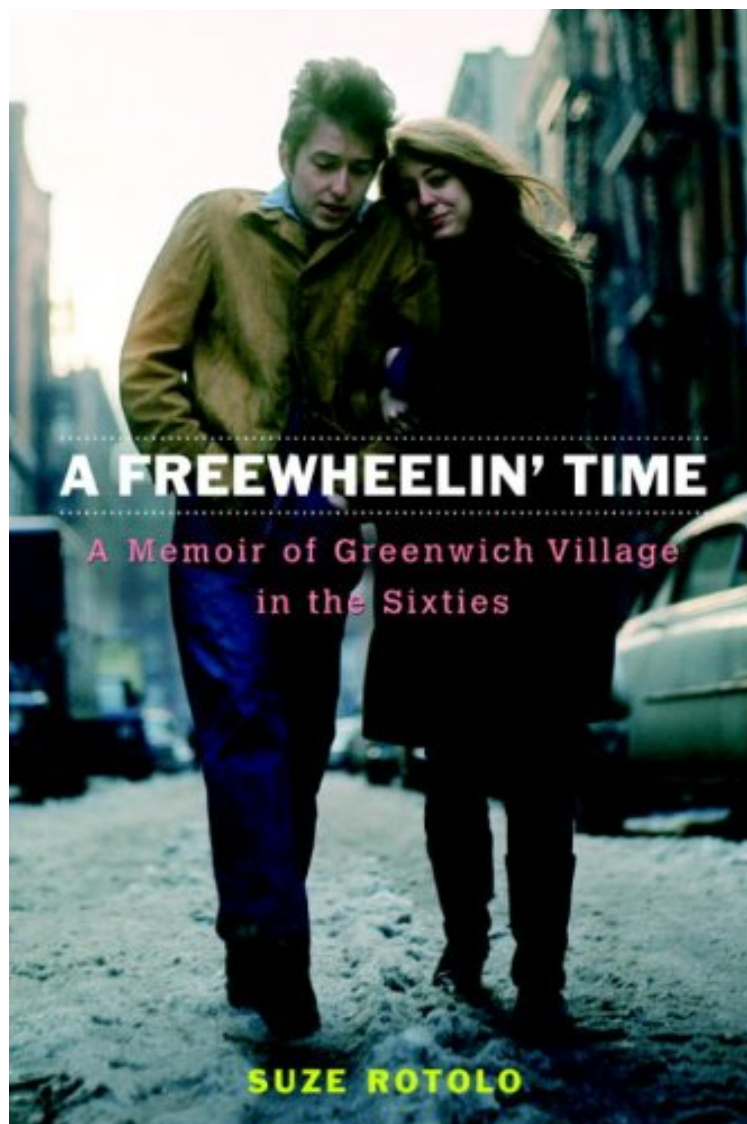


## A Freewheelin' Time: A Memoir of Greenwich Village in the Sixties

*Suze Rotolo*

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**Suze Rotolo : A Freewheelin' Time: A Memoir of Greenwich Village in the Sixties** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Freewheelin' Time: A Memoir of Greenwich Village in the Sixties:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. I was disappointed in this book By Mandogirl I was disappointed in this book. Although it was somewhat interesting, it didn't seem very perceptive. She spent a lot more time describing her own life as a "red diaper baby" than in telling us much about Dylan which is probably why most people are reading this book. They were both very young during their relationship and I don't think she understood him or herself for most of that time. Also, I don't think that the book was written that well and it was pretty disorganized. I'm

guessing that I would probably have been better off to have read Dylan's own autobiography "Chronicles". 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. i deeply connected with this story By Jawi loved this book, getting to know the person in the songs and the relationship, i really liked Suze in reading this book, would've loved to know her, grateful for her sharing of her experience, she was a couple of years dead when i read it, i'm glad she wrote the story while she was still here. Unlike some reviewers, for me, the book was a page turner and did not last long enough, even though i read it slowly and closely. The story is told with genuineness, as the person she is, not who other people want her to be. She's someone who knows how to be true to herself. One of the most heart wrenching parts of the book for me was when she was about 14, her sister, Carla, moved out on her own, and Suze was left alone with their mother, who was an over the top alcoholic and rage-aholic. During that period, Suze endured brutal emotional abuse, the target of wild loud hate-filled rants from which she had no escape, as her tortured depressed mother blamed Suze for her unhappiness. Suze had some support from outside the home, family friends who knew what she was going through and let her come and stay with them for respite sometimes. Like all people, her mother was a mixture and Suze took the best and tried to shut out the worst. Maybe this had something to do with her increasingly difficult reaction to the raucous and chaotic atmosphere involved in being Dylan's girl. She was his first love, and he was hers, their relationship lasted most of 4 years, which is a long time for any first relationship, much less one that had so little privacy, and so many amazing challenges to cope with. Suze grew up lonely and often alone as a kid, she knew and adapted to solitude. She drew on her strengths to entertain and educate herself and to develop her creativity and to evolve her morals and values. It was one of those stories where, even though i know how it's going to turn out, i couldn't help wishing for a different ending, for true first love to triumph and all romantic dreams to come true. The story gives context to Suze's rejection of the relationship with Dylan and moving on to do many other things with her life, in which she surrounded herself with a loving family of her own and continued to develop and exercise her own special talents. It's no wonder Dylan, and then her husband to be, fell in love with her. She has a simple and honest charisma. She gives her experience of the Village at that intense exciting time in history. i had a feeling of her disconnectedness throughout, of an objective observer, keeping a self-protective distance. Clearly, she maintained a limit on the depth of feeling she shared for the most part, she shared what she was comfortable sharing, she shared the person that she shares with the world, drawing the boundaries she chooses to draw. It's a memoir, it's not an expose or tell-all kind of style. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Not to miss By M. Brooks An intelligent and warm book, and an important memoir. As the title suggests, it is not just about Dylan, but also about the context of the times, places and other people. I admired her writing voice, her reflective distance from the material and the degree to which she included herself, also an interesting person to learn about. This is a great follow-up book to Dylan's "Chronicles: Volume One." (Ha - he would never write what would come in Volume Two.) She added to my understanding of Dylan as a person and musician, as well as many topics in what is becoming a large reading web. It's engaging - couldn't wait to get back to reading.

“The girl with Bob Dylan on the cover of *Freewheelin'* broke a forty-five-year silence with this affectionate and dignified recalling of a relationship doomed by Dylan's growing fame.” —UNCUT magazine Suze Rotolo chronicles her coming of age in Greenwich Village during the 1960s and the early days of the folk music explosion, when Bob Dylan was finding his voice and she was his muse. A shy girl from Queens, Suze was the daughter of Italian working-class Communists, growing up at the dawn of the Cold War. It was the age of McCarthy and Suze was an outsider in her neighborhood and at school. She found solace in poetry, art, and music—and in Greenwich Village, where she encountered like-minded and politically active friends. One hot July day in 1961, Suze met Bob Dylan, then a rising musician, at a concert at Riverside Church. She was seventeen, he was twenty; they were both vibrant, curious, and inseparable. During the years they were together, Dylan transformed from an obscure folk singer into an uneasy spokesperson for a generation. *A Freewheelin'* Time is a hopeful, intimate memoir of a vital movement at its most creative. It captures the excitement of youth, the heartbreak of young love, and the struggles for a brighter future in a time when everything seemed possible. From the Trade Paperback edition.