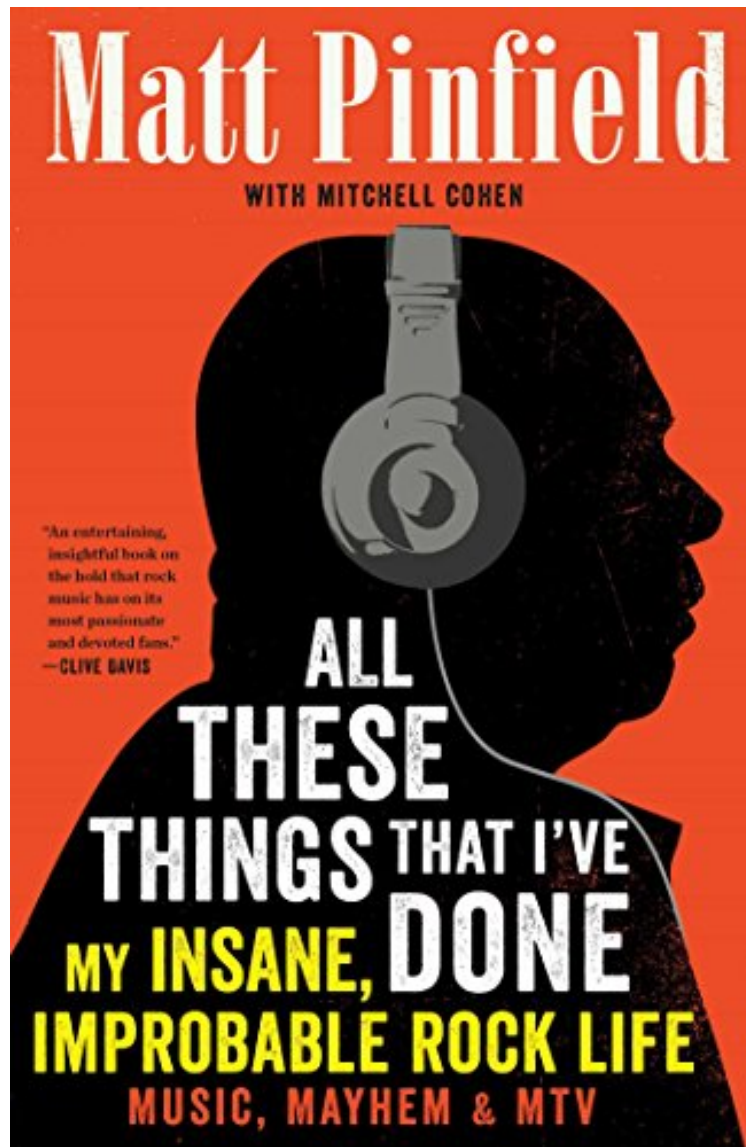


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All These Things That I've Done: My Insane, Improbable Rock Life

Matt Pinfield, Mitchell Cohen

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Matt Pinfield, Mitchell Cohen : All These Things That I've Done: My Insane, Improbable Rock Life before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised All These Things That I've Done: My Insane, Improbable Rock Life:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Love Letter to MusicBy S. BerginReading Matt Pinfield's book you're struck by just how much the man loves music. Not like how you or I love music, but like how a child loves his mother. Maybe even that's not a strong enough analogy: Probably more like how humans love air. The depths of his passion for music are bottomless and his encyclopedic, enthusiastic love for all things rock, both mainstream and

obscure, is contagious as hell. A little backstory - I grew up in Monmouth county, NJ and discovering 106.3 WHTG "Modern Rock at the Jersey Shore," was akin to the moment I suddenly realized I was no longer concerned about the cootie epidemic and was suddenly, surprisingly attracted to the opposite sex. As corny as it may sound, 106.3 was the dawning of a whole new level of cosmic consciousness. A realization that there was so much music I had never heard of out there, and it was, without question, going to change my life. Matt and the DJs at WHTG (for me it was also Rob Acampora and Michele Amabile) were the philosophy 101 professors you get your first semester that completely turn your world views upside down and make you question your own insulated reality. Such was their impact on many of their listeners' lives. When Matt made the move to MTV and hosted 120 Minutes it was like that amazing professor popping back up in a second year class you were taking. There was a tremendous comfort in knowing my musical education was going to continue. The bands he showcased became essential listening for me and completely knocked me on my ass. Sunny Day Real Estate, Hum, Archers of Loaf, Jawbreaker, even obscure bands like For Squirrels, who I absolutely loved, found an eager audience and champion in Matt Pinfield. These bands were the soundtrack of my youth and would have remained anonymous to me without Matt bringing them into my world. Matt made me feel like I was part of a secret club of people that had a line on the good shit nobody else knew about. Matt's book is an unbridled, unfiltered journey through his passion for music. While some reviews on here think he's name dropping or being boastful about his influence in music history, they are missing the point. He's not some polished, haughty journalist who's looking to break a rock scandal or play gotcha journalism with musicians in some misguided attempt to overshadow them. He's not a plastic TV personality asking the same 5 questions of every band or musician. He's a fan. A pure, die hard fan that is all of us. He's any kid that waited outside a venue, hoping to see their heroes, shake their hands or miracle of all miracles - exchange a few pleasantries and relate to them on another level. The conversations he's had with some of the most legendary artists in history are not conversations a casual fan or a journalist with no in-depth knowledge of the artist would have, or could have. His conversations are so granular and knowledgeable that you almost can't believe how much he knows about EVERYTHING in relation to that artist's repertoire. His stories and memories harken back to a simpler time in all of our lives when each new musical discovery felt like the most important thing in the world and the eagerness to share it with everyone you knew left you practically breathless with the anticipation of their reaction. For me, this book was a journey through some of my most formative years and the music I loved, some of which I hadn't thought about in 20 years and the re-connection with that excitement. As I got older, life got in the way and I no longer sought out new music or was interested in expanding beyond what I already knew I loved. Matt has kept that torch lit for people like me. His insatiable thirst for new bands and new music has reignited my long dormant love of new music. Full disclosure: I downloaded about 20 albums worth of music last night, all Pinfield recommendations from the book and now I feel like I'm 16 again, discovering exciting new music that I never even knew existed. Matt's is an extraordinary story of a regular guy busting his ass, having no fear and making his wildest dreams come true, despite whatever odds may have been thrown his way. Thank you for sharing these stories, and more importantly - thanks for the music, Matt!

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. It's about the music. By Jon c Palmieri If you're a music obsessive like I am, you'll love this book. A lot of what Matt talks about I totally identify with. Buying way too many cassettes, cds, songs, going to show after show because you just can't do without it, I know it well. Matt is honest and he knows his stuff. I can't recommend this book enough. I read it in a couple days, just couldn't put it down. Well done Matt.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good read By Mark Litarowich I liked the sincerity that Matt shared in this book, he. Ones across as a true fan. I also liked all the Jersey references, he grew up in the town next to mine and I loved hearing about the Melody. Now I know why he was so open about music when I used to talk with him DJing at the Melody in New Brunswick

"The most trusted opinion in rock music" (Billy Corgan, The Smashing Pumpkins), Matt Pinfield offers the ultimate music fan's memoir, a chronicle of the songs and artists that inspired his improbable career alongside some of the all-time greats, from The Beatles to KISS to U2 to The Killers. Matt Pinfield is the ultimate music fan. He's the guy who knows every song, artist, and musical riff ever recorded, down to the most obscure band's B-side single on its vinyl-only EP import. As a child, music helped Pinfield make sense of the world. Later, as a teenager, Pinfield would approach his music idols after concerts and explain why he loved their music. As an adult, rock music inspired his career, fueled relationships, and, at times, became a life raft. In this expansive, no-holds-barred memoir Pinfield traces his lifelong music obsession—from the heavy metal that infused his teenage years, to his first encounters with legends like Lou Reed and The Ramones and how, through his post-MTV years, he played a major role in bringing nineties alt rock mainstream. Over his long career Pinfield has interviewed everyone from Paul McCartney to Nirvana to Jay-Z, earning the trust and admiration of artists and fans alike. Now, for the first time, Pinfield shares his five decades of stories from the front lines of rock and roll, exploring how, with nothing more than passion and moxy, he became a sought-after reporter, unlikely celebrity, and the last word in popular music. Featuring a rousing collection of best-of lists, favorite tracks, and artist profiles, *All These Things That I've Done* explains how a born outsider wound up in the inner circle.

"Beautifully crafted....Whether its encounters with The Ramones and Lou Reed or interviewing Paul McCartney, Nirvana and Jay Z, Pinfield tells each story with wit, candor and above all a love and an appreciation for the music." The Interrobang "A true story of a boy's love of music that turned into a career and gave him access to all of his heroes." Billboard "One of the defining personalities of classic era MTV...a frank, funny new memoir." Salon "An entertaining, insightful book on the hold that rock music has on its most passionate and devoted fans. Anyone who's been seduced by the power of music will find something to relate to in it."—Clive Davis "As intensely as any musician or songwriter, Matt Pinfield has walked the walk of rock and roll for decades and in doing so has made and enhanced the careers of dozens of great artists. He also turns out to be a revelatory writer with an ability to express emotionally powerful detail about both his own journey and those of many rock and roll greats. All These Things That I've Done is one of the deepest and most entertaining books ever about rock culture." Danny Goldberg, author Bumping Into Geniuses "Pinfield deftly narrates his musical life, offering a fascinating history of rock music told from his passionate perspective...His encyclopedic knowledge of contemporary sounds makes the memoir as informative as it is personal. This is an excellent read for anyone interested in rock's history." Publishers Weekly "Matt was the Man for those of us who beheld his rock wisdom on MTV. This is his life as a raconteur, a bon vivant, but most of all a fan who never lost his raw passion and burning heart and gargantuan music appetite. He makes rock roll fandom sound like a lifelong heroic quest—which it is."—Rob Sheffield, author of Love is a Mixtape "A charming, rambling account of a life saved by rock 'n' roll...Pinfield is a disarmingly likable guide through rock 'n' roll's twilight." Kirkus "[Pinfield's] obvious joy for getting to work with the very people who have inspired him since his early days in New Jersey, as a boy listening to records at his parents' home, fills each page with warm humor and insider's knowledge of the rock and roll business, from the 1980s through the present." Shelf Awareness About the Author "As intensely as any musician or songwriter, Matt Pinfield has walked the walk of rock and roll for decades and in doing so has made and enhanced the careers of dozens of great artists. He also turns out to be a revelatory writer with an ability to express emotionally powerful detail about both his own journey and those of many rock and roll greats. All These Things That I've Done is one of the deepest and most entertaining books ever about rock culture." Danny Goldberg, author Bumping Into Geniuses "Pinfield deftly narrates his musical life, offering a fascinating history of rock music told from his passionate perspective...His encyclopedic knowledge of contemporary sounds makes the memoir as informative as it is personal. This is an excellent read for anyone interested in rock's history." Publishers Weekly "Matt was the Man for those of us who beheld his rock wisdom on MTV. This is his life as a raconteur, a bon vivant, but most of all a fan who never lost his raw passion and burning heart and gargantuan music appetite. He makes rock roll fandom sound like a lifelong heroic quest—which it is."—Rob Sheffield, author of Love is a Mixtape PRAISE FOR MATT PINFIELD "No one on the planet knows more about rock and roll than Matt Pinfield, and as far as I'm concerned he's in a league of his own when it comes to storytelling and doing interviews. He has my, and all my musician friends', eternal respect." Dave Grohl of Nirvana and Foo Fighters "Matt Pinfield is the most trusted opinion in rock music." Billy Corgan of The Smashing Pumpkins "A charming, rambling account of a life saved by rock 'n' roll...Pinfield is a disarmingly likable guide through rock 'n' roll's twilight." Kirkus "[Pinfield's] obvious joy for getting to work with the very people who have inspired him since his early days in New Jersey, as a boy listening to records at his parents' home, fills each page with warm humor and insider's knowledge of the rock and roll business, from the 1980s through the present." Shelf Awareness "Beautifully crafted....Whether its encounters with The Ramones and Lou Reed or interviewing Paul McCartney, Nirvana and Jay Z, Pinfield tells each story with wit, candor and above all a love and an appreciation for the music." The Interrobang "A true story of a boy's love of music that turned into a career and gave him access to all of his heroes." Billboard "An entertaining, insightful book on the hold that rock music has on its most passionate and devoted fans. Anyone who's been seduced by the power of music will find something to relate to in it."—Clive Davis