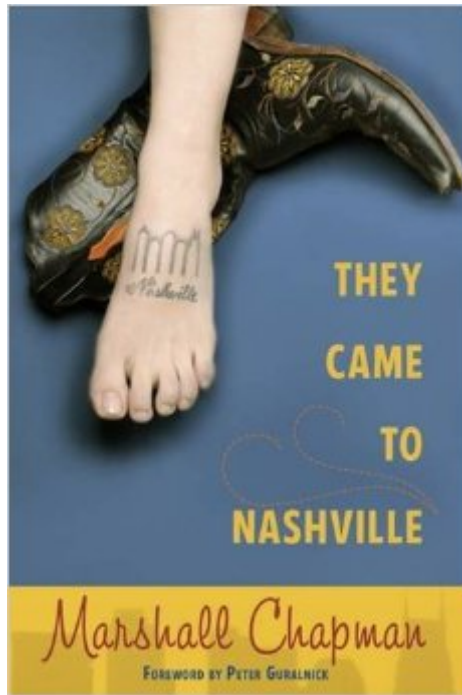


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# They Came To Nashville



## Synopsis

Marshall Chapman knows Nashville. A musician, songwriter, and author with nearly a dozen albums and a bestselling memoir under her belt, Chapman has lived and breathed Music City for over forty years. Her friendships with those who helped make Nashville one of the major forces in American music culture is unsurpassed. And in her new book, *They Came to Nashville*, the reader is invited to see Marshall Chapman as never before--as music journalist extraordinaire. In *They Came to Nashville*, Chapman records the personal stories of musicians shaping the modern history of music in Nashville, from the mouths of the musicians themselves. The trials, tribulations, and evolution of Music City are on display, as she sits down with influential figures like Kris Kristofferson, Emmylou Harris, and Miranda Lambert, and a dozen other top names, to record what brought each of them to Nashville and what inspired them to persevere. The book culminates in a hilarious and heroic attempt to find enough free time with Willie Nelson to get a proper interview. Instead, she's brought along on his raucous 2008 tour and winds up onstage in Beaumont, Texas singing "Good-Hearted Woman" with Willie. *They Came to Nashville* reveals the daily struggle facing newcomers to the music business, and the promise awaiting those willing to fight for the dream. Co-published with the Country Music Foundation Press

## Book Information

Hardcover: 296 pages

Publisher: Vanderbilt Univ Press - Country Music Foundation Press (October 30, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0826517358

ISBN-13: 978-0826517357

Product Dimensions: 6.2 x 0.9 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (16 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #736,936 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #361 in Â Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Biographies > Country & Folk #370 in Â Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Country #1842 in Â Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Biographies > Rock

## Customer Reviews

Yes, it's very readable and interesting, probably worth for the story of a young and unknown Rodney Crowell meeting a another budding country singer, as the latter wandered down the street with his

first record. However, this book is about Chapman, who apparently knew everybody who was anybody in the music business in Nashville. Those of us who are not fans wish she would get out of the way. She prints her interviews in the question and answer format, which makes it very clear where she has interrupted her interviewee in the middle of an interesting story with her own stuff.

It's hard to put down, for sure. But when it's all said and done I was left feeling there is just way too much self promotion from the author and not enough actual interview print. I love the stories but this honestly feels like a vehicle to sell Marshall and her career.

Though apparently rooted in external reality (Nashville) and other people (interviews with country luminaries), make no mistake: this is yet another Marshall Chapman paean to Marshall Chapman. Every interview seems to be re-directed so that MC becomes the focus. Marshall Chapman? Really? She interrupts great stories from truly important & engaging subjects like Rodney Crowell and Kris Kristofferson so that she can splice in & revisit her little 5 minutes of fame? Don't get it. She already wrote a previous book, largely unreadable, about herself. Best moment here: when Kristofferson apologizes in truly modest fashion for losing his train of thought because he's been "talking so much about [himself]." Would never happen with our intrepid author.

Although I loved her first book, I found this one less interesting as Ms. Chapman stuck to the same questions with each person she interviewed. I thought that made it not as interesting as just letting them ramble on; however, I get what she was trying to create. Just didn't really love the result. Still worth a read if you enjoy her work.

After reading this book, skimming, I couldn't believe the great reviews here on . This is a set of interviews with Nashville music scene people about 'coming to Nashville'. It appears she did the oral interviews and then just typed up the transcript - very lazy production. She actually has comments like "tape runs out, had to flip it over". She has a set of questions that didn't work, such as "when did you first hear the word Nashville" and "what car were you driving"? I agree with another reviewer that Marshall Chapman spends too much time talking about herself, and since there was no editing apparently - all those comments are included. She also tells you little about the folks, as if everyone knows who Mary Gauthier is. Get it at the library, you'll be glad you didn't spend money on this. Amazingly, it's put out by Vanderbilt press. I'd have thought they would have higher standards.

A look into Nashville ties from some of the greatest musicians in America. Marshall has a way of drawing out honesty and emotion from her interviewees that is rare!

Nashville's adopted daughter, Marshall Chapman, singer, songwriter, has written a fantastic, first person account of the music scene, filled with tales and tidbits of the musicians' life in Nashville via real interviews, conducted by Miz Marshall herself. Written in a unique interview style, explaining reasons for pauses and interruptions, (and adding her own spellbinding excerpts along the way) the book is a real first person account through the lips of many who came to Nashville -how and why.... And who can make a book signing and reading of excerpts from their book as truly an entertaining experience as a live concert....? Marshall Chapman first saw Miz Marshall at the Bitter End in Greenwich Village NYC... sometime in 78? 1979? sorry.. can't remember.. exactly.. when.. ? doesn't matter... she struck a chord in me and left a note that's still resounding after all these years... In between recording her own albums, CDs, promoting her own causes, searching all the while for her own dreams..and along the way... writing down her own memoirs...and finally obtaining critical acclaim for her first book, *Goodbye Lil Rock and Roller*.. in 2004... Flash forward... Columbus -Ohio, Oct 2010... here to promote her new book... *They Came to Nashville*.... I knew I had to see her once again, and hear her stories. Recounting her adventures, meetings, and mishaps...with an assortment of talent who have made their way through Nashville one way or another and have befriended Marshall along the way.....Some household names and some that not many attuned to the Nashville music scene or country music may never have heard of....Marshall can still give a great performance, catching the listeners with her mesmerizing accounts, excerpts from her book of her adventures with an assortment of talent she has met in her long career, and time spent in Nashville, in her own voice as only she can. Read the book, and if your luck enuff to attend a book signing... go! keep on rockin, don't say goodbye! Yankee Fan

Loved the stories Marshall told about Nashville and the personalities there.

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