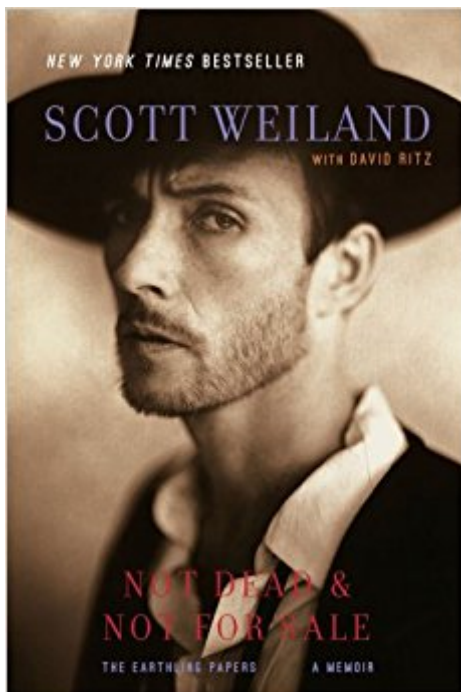


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Not Dead & Not For Sale: A Memoir



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Customer Reviews

"Fascinating . . . Weiland's story isn't over, but the four decades' worth of material he crams into "Not Dead & Not for Sale" makes for a compelling and worthwhile read." --"Associated Press"

Scott Weiland has been nominated for six Grammys, winning two along with numerous MTV, Billboard, and American Music Awards. His work with Stone Temple Pilots has sold more than 18 million records, and his first Velvet Revolver was the bestselling rock album of 2004. David Ritz is the only four-time winner of the Gleason Music Book Award. He has collaborated with Ray Charles, Marvin Gaye, Aretha Franklin, Etta James, and Don Rickles. He also cowrote, with Gaye, the song "Sexual Healing."

I LOVED the book. It is NOT a detailed autobiography, but a MEMOIR. It is about feelings and things that he felt impacted him in his life. It is not the blood and guts retelling of being a junkie. There are allusions, and many of the reviewers seem cheated by this. Well, I'm sure he doesn't/didn't remember that much from those times. Drugs take that away, but they also take away the bad memories, temporarily, and that is the point of taking them. He states that he was raped at 12, and other things that led him to seek respite. He is honest in his inability to stay off drugs despite his sincere desire to do so. I did read the book in about a day. There are MANY photos and

drawings. I cried at the end, because he was so hopeful for the future, and did not have that long to live. This is not a tell-all, or a mini-history of the "grunge era." It is a commentary from one who was front and center. I was not a huge STP fan, but like a few songs. I enjoyed the book, and found Weiland to be intelligent and thoughtful, and more of an artist and poet than I had previously known. It was very readable!

No lack of substance here (literally). True, some readers, reviewers and fans might be disappointed by the terse, tenuous and to-the-point chapters of Scott Weiland's autobiography. However, I found his memoir insightful and edifying. I think he was wise to say just enough and the rest can be gleaned from his lyrics and his vast contribution to music, which is most important. This bio is fast paced, like the author's tempestuous lifestyle, and supports the fact that some of our most gifted artists are often our most troubled (see also my review on *Andy Warhol Was a Hoarder*). It is sometimes a mixed-blessing, curse or nature of the beast. Like the poet Rainer Maria Rilke once said: "If my devils are to leave me, I am afraid my angels will take flight as well." Akin to Jim Morrison's biography *"No One Here Gets Out Alive"* (NOHGOA), *"Not Dead And Not For Sale"* (NDANFS) follows a similar trajectory and classic Three Act Tragedy as we watch The Bow Drawn, The Arrow Flies, The Arrow Falls. Scott Weiland was a self-professed chameleon. He was immensely talented, intelligent, instinctive and most of all deeply sensitive. You can see his influence and "stamp" in all projects ranging from STP, Velvet Revolver and The Wildabouts. He was also a colossal loss, and his lifestyle serves as a cautionary tale. In the final analysis Rock and Roll, at its best, is a circus show of a business, as dangerous as it is entertaining. Scott Weiland took it to the brink as he once wrote in "You Got No Right:" "I've took it farther on the outside I've took it nearly to the brink And if you've seen me on the outside You would have barely seen me breathe..." Addiction is one hell of a demon to slay, and it took a lot of guts to share personal issues of abuse and personal struggles and his bipolar disorder. It is a constant source of frustration, disappointment and devastation to those close to the addict, especially true friends and band mates. He got up close and personal with the hard stuff. Jim Morrison, as it was often reported, steered clear of heroin and that substance might have eventually killed him in Paris, albeit accidental or speculative. Unlike NOHGOA, there is no mystery with Scott Weiland's death and how the Arrow Falls, the hero and author of this tragedy dies on a December 3, 2015, to the world's shock and sadness. He outlived Mr. Mojo Risin' by 21 years (July 3, 1971). Unfortunately, the dragon or demon known as addiction won in the end with Scott Weiland. He leaves us with great insight and three decades of music to enjoy, resonating and/or relating without having to experience the pain

ourselves. As Jim Morrison once wrote: "There Will Never Be Another One Like You..." That applies to both Morrison and Weiland.

Having previously read Scott Weiland's ex-wife's Marry Forsberg "fall to pieces" and despite mixed reviews. I read this book in one sitting and I really enjoyed it from start to finish. Being a memoir I wasn't expecting it to be extremely detailed although it would have been nice if he elaborated on the writing process of how he goes about writing a song like structure and song writing influences and or poets. He was such a sensitive and beautiful soul. It was really raw and heartfelt read and as a fan was sad at times to read especially the ending as he had such optimism about the future and creativity to be expressed. Another thing I might add is that in my opinion he was very different from his stage persona, even though he did mention he felt confident signing I would have liked it if he went into detailed about creating and evolving his stage presence and style but apart from that I highly recommend this book for any music lover.

This is a good book for an STP fan and fan of Scott W. It was interesting to learn more about the other bands that he participated in, and many of those I was unaware of him being a part of. I am not a die-hard Scott W follower, but I sure loved several of the STP albums extensively. It's a good read, but it gets frustrating that he keeps repeating his same mistakes over and over and over and over... you get the idea. I was hoping by mid book something would have "changed" in his story, but it continued. This is a great read for those who don't have a clue how difficult addiction is and how we repeat the same insanity over and over again though we know better. Sad...but true. I would still suggest reading this book, but don't expect to be blown away. But it's a "good" read.

Rest in peace, Scott Weiland! I loved this book by Scott Weiland and his writer. I wish it had been as detailed as his ex wife, Mary Weiland's Book, "Fall to Pieces" and Duff McKagan's book, "It's so easy and other lies." I still enjoyed it and understood that this is all he wanted to share on his life as a man, rockstar, son, brother, father, addict and always recovering addict. I accept him for all the good, bad and ugly. Not for me to judge. And plus I love all his music from STP, Velvet Revolver, his solo projects and everything he did.

A real page turner. I found Scott to be to the point on his trip of self discovery. This book's title is ironic at this time as he has battled to hang onto his personal freedom in music and not sell out as he battled his demons, both in life and in art. I found this book a great read and do highly

recommend it. . RIP Mr. Weiland your gift will truly be as missed as you are. B.Beckner

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