



Baby, Let's Play House: Elvis Presley and the Women Who Loved Him

By Alanna Nash

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Thirty-three years after his death, Elvis Presley's extraordinary physical appeal, timeless music, and sexual charisma continue to captivate, titillate, and excite. Though hundreds of books have been written about the King, no book has solely explored his relationships with women and how they influenced his music and life . . . until now.

Based largely on exclusive interviews with the many women who knew him in various roles—lover, sweetheart, friend, costar, and family member—*Baby, Let's Play House* presents Elvis in a new light: as a charming but wounded Lothario who bedded scores of women but seemed unable to maintain a lasting romantic relationship. While fully exploring the most famous romantic idol of the twentieth century, award-winning veteran music journalist Alanna Nash pulls back the covers on what Elvis really wanted in a woman and was tragically never able to find.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Nash culls reminiscences from long-term girlfriends, starlets like Ann-Margret and Cybill Shepherd, and assorted strippers, showgirls and groupies for this gossipy, besotted biography of rock's original sex god. They attest to the allure that had females lining up for access to the young Elvis's bed: devastating looks, pelvic gyrations and a bad-boy sneer combined with a romantic soul, sublime kissing technique and a courtliness that lulled parents into handing over their underage daughters. (He was attracted to 14-year-old brunettes, Nash argues, like future wife Priscilla.) And there's the indefinable magnetism—i.e., celebrity—that kept them coming through the drugs and debauchery, the bizarre monologues and random gunplay, the impotence and incontinence and vomit and bloat of the King's declining years. Nash's mix of breathless melodrama (his voice was soft and sensuous, and he had a mischievous grin on his face, and he was looking straight at her) with rote psychoanalysis (Elvis could never really let go of [his mother] Gladys) often reads like a fan magazine. Her shallow but vivid portrait nonetheless manages to evoke much of what made Elvis so enthralling. (*Jan. 5*)

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Review

“Alanna Nash’s long look at Elvis’ bizarre history with women...collect[s] all the madness, badness and sadness of the Elvis myth in one exhaustive and embarrassingly tempting volume.” (New York Times)

“In this astounding look at the King’s unstoppable pursuit of women from his elementary school days until his untimely death at 42, hundreds of girls and women pass through the revolving doors of Elvis’ love life.” (Atlanta Journal-Constitution)

“An exhaustive and penetrating work that functions as an intimate personal profile, a family study and a psychosexual investigation of one of the 20th century’s true cultural icons.” (Memphis Commercial Appeal)

“A major new contribution to Presley lore...[Alanna Nash’s] focus on Presley’s relationships with women takes us on a long and often fascinating journey...It’s a welcome and well-crafted addition to our understanding of his strange, triumphant and tragic life.” (The Globe and Mail)

“The most comprehensive work ever on how the women in Presley’s life...influenced him and his music.” (New York Newsday)

“Un-put-downable.” (Jezebel.com)

“Alanna Nash...turns her eye toward The King’s other women in a psychological history ...Among those who loved him tender - Ann-Margret and Cybill Shepherd. Those who turned him down include Cher and Karen Carpenter. And of course, there’s plenty on the No. 1 woman in his life - Mom Gladys Presley.” (New York Post)

“A frank and fascinating portrait of an essentially lonely man...[told] with grace and intelligence...The work of a master.” (Louisville Courier Journal)

“New girls slip between [Elvis’] satin sheets on nearly every page...Combine that with an absorbing snapshot

section, and [Baby, Let's Play House] will leave you all shook up.” (BettyConfidential.com)

“If anything, *Baby, Let's Play House* heightens the heartbreaking aspects of Presley's life.” (Los Angeles Times)

“By far the best study of Elvis Presley I have read. ‘The King’ emerges more clearly from this mosaic of his troubled love life than from any linear biography to date. Impressively researched, written--and felt.” (Philip Norman, New York Times bestselling author of *John Lennon and Shout!*)

“Alanna Nash meticulously documents and explores all the relationships Elvis had with women that were ‘extremely special,’ as Ann-Margret so delightfully (and euphemistically) phrases it. I was delighted to see my stepmother, June Carter, make an appearance, as she always became uncharacteristically silent when Elvis' name came up in conversation. Nash belongs in the pantheon of great music writers, and this book is a fascinating study (Rosanne Cash)

“What's left to say about Elvis? Plenty, if Alanna Nash is on the case. She rips the satin sheets right off the King, resulting in the most entertaining Elvis book ever. Ann-Margret! Raquel Welch! Barbara Eden! Tura Satana! This is very funny book.” (Jimmy McDonough, New York Times bestselling author of *Shakey: Neil Young's Biography*)

“Deliciously gossipy but never mean, revealingly intimate but never leering, *Baby, Let's Play House* is a masterwork of psycho-sexual history neatly disguised as celebrity journalism.” (David Hajdu, author of *Positively 4th Street*, music critic for *The New Republic*, and professor at Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism David Hajdu, author of *Positively 4th Street*, music critic for *The New Republic*, and professor at Co)

From the Back Cover

Nearly thirty-three years after his death, Elvis Presley's extraordinary physical appeal, timeless music, and sexual charisma continue to captivate, titillate, and excite. Though hundreds of books have been written about the King, no book has solely explored his relationships with women and how they influenced his music and life—until now.

Based largely on exclusive interviews with the many women who knew him in various roles—lover, sweetheart, friend, costar, and family member—*Baby, Let's Play House* explores Presley's love affairs with, among others, Ann-Margret, Linda Thompson, Sheila Ryan Caan, June Juanico, Joyce Bova, Barbara Leigh, Cybill Shepherd, and Priscilla Beaulieu, as well as his friendships with actresses Raquel Welch, Barbara Eden, Mary Ann Mobley, Yvonne Craig, and Celeste Yarnall.

The book also spotlights important early girlfriends and the women who dared to turn him down, including Cher, Petula Clark, and Karen Carpenter, as well as two women—Kay Wheeler and Tura Satana—who taught him dance moves he used onstage.

Baby, Let's Play House, named after the 1955 song that was his first to hit the national charts and his mother's favorite Elvis recording, presents Elvis in a new light—as a charming but wounded Lothario who bedded scores of women but seemed unable to maintain a lasting romantic relationship. While fully exploring the most famous romantic idol of the twentieth century, award-winning veteran music journalist Alanna Nash pulls back the covers on what Elvis really wanted in a woman—and was tragically never able to find.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Peter Hudson:

Do you have something that suits you such as book? The reserve lovers usually prefer to opt for book like comic, small story and the biggest one is novel. Now, why not striving Baby, Let's Play House: Elvis Presley and the Women Who Loved Him that give your enjoyment preference will be satisfied by simply reading this book. Reading habit all over the world can be said as the opportunity for people to know world a great deal better than how they react towards the world. It can't be explained constantly that reading addiction only for the geeky particular person but for all of you who wants to become success person. So , for all of you who want to start looking at as your good habit, it is possible to pick Baby, Let's Play House: Elvis Presley and the Women Who Loved Him become your own personal starter.

Mary Moore:

Many people spending their period by playing outside along with friends, fun activity having family or just watching TV 24 hours a day. You can have new activity to invest your whole day by reading through a book. Ugh, do you consider reading a book can definitely hard because you have to accept the book everywhere? It alright you can have the e-book, bringing everywhere you want in your Mobile phone. Like Baby, Let's Play House: Elvis Presley and the Women Who Loved Him which is obtaining the e-book version. So , why not try out this book? Let's find.

Abigail Shelton:

That guide can make you to feel relax. This kind of book Baby, Let's Play House: Elvis Presley and the Women Who Loved Him was colorful and of course has pictures on the website. As we know that book Baby, Let's Play House: Elvis Presley and the Women Who Loved Him has many kinds or genre. Start from kids until teenagers. For example Naruto or Private investigator Conan you can read and feel that you are the character on there. Therefore not at all of book usually are make you bored, any it can make you feel happy, fun and relax. Try to choose the best book for you and try to like reading that.

Kimberly Casselman:

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