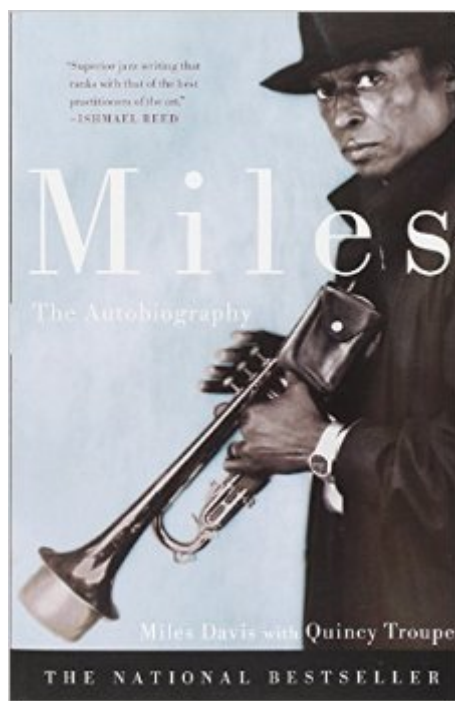


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# Miles



## Synopsis

Universally acclaimed as a musical genius, Miles Davis was one of the most important and influential musicians in the world. Here, Miles speaks out about his extraordinary life. *Miles: The Autobiography*, like Miles himself, holds nothing back. He speaks frankly and openly about his drug problem and how he overcame it. He condemns the racism he encountered in the music business and in American society generally. And he discusses the women in his life. But above all, Miles talks about music and musicians, including the legends he has played with over the years: Bird, Dizzy, Monk, Trane, Mingus, and many others. The man who gave us some of the most exciting music of the twentieth century here gives us a compelling and fascinating autobiography, featuring a concise discography and thirty-two pages of photographs.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (39 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

In the interest of even being able to write a review about this book, I am going to step away from all judgments about Miles Davis's life and stick to the subject of the book itself. Simply stated, Miles Davis was, as this book constantly reminds us, full of fallibility and foibles: drug trouble, merry-go-round relationships with all types of women, racial bias, and sheer anger, as well as incredible musical talent and vision that literally changed the landscape of modern music. This book will tell you all you need to know about those things â " strictly from Miles's own perspective â " and discerning readers can make of it what they want. The book itself is well written. It stays painstakingly true to Miles's own voice, so the book is street-wise and rough. Despite coming from a privileged background Miles not only developed that voice, he cultivated it his entire life.

Taking the language at face value, the book is still very readable, but I would hesitate to say it was enjoyable. At times it was a struggle to read, just because some of it is so sad, and other bits are so acerbic and one-sided. People interested in jazz history, like myself, will appreciate some of the insight this firsthand account brings, but one must keep in mind that when the discussion is not based on historical fact, it is all one man's opinion or, in some cases, a direct account of what might have happened based on his drug addled memory. Personally, I just took everything at face value, and this allowed me to see a little bit inside Miles that I hadn't really been aware of before. This book is excellent. It's a great detailing of a great musician and a wonderful time in the history of jazz.

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