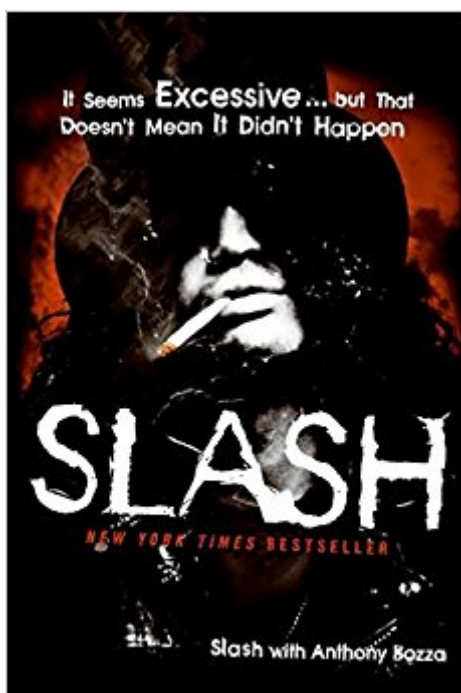


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# Slash



## Synopsis

From one of the greatest rock guitarists of our era comes a memoir that redefines sex, drugs, and rock 'n' roll. For the first time ever, Slash tells the tale that has yet to be told from the inside: how the legendary band Guns N' Roses came together, how they wrote the music that defined an era, how they survived insane, never-ending tours, how they survived themselves, and, ultimately, how it all fell apart. Slash is a window into the world of the notoriously private guitarist and a front seat on the roller-coaster ride that was one of history's greatest rock 'n' roll machines, always on the edge of self-destruction, even at the pinnacle of its success. Slash is everything Slash is: funny, honest, ingenious, inspiring, jaw-dropping . . . and, in a word, excessive.

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## Customer Reviews

• (Entertainment Weekly) • Entertaining and educational...a crash course for aspiring rock gods. • (Spin magazine)

From one of the greatest rock guitarists of our era comes a memoir that redefines sex, drugs, and rock 'n' roll. He was born in England but reared in L.A., surrounded by the leading artists of the day amidst the vibrant hotbed of music and culture that was the early seventies. Slash spent his adolescence on the streets of Hollywood, discovering drugs, drinking, rock music, and girls, all while achieving notable status as a BMX rider. But everything changed in his world the day he first held the beat-up one-string guitar his grandmother had discarded in a closet. The instrument became his voice and it triggered a lifelong passion that made everything else irrelevant. As soon as he could

string chords and a solo together, Slash wanted to be in a band and sought out friends with similar interests. His closest friend, Steven Adler, proved to be a conspirator for the long haul. As hairmetal bands exploded onto the L.A. scene and topped the charts, Slash sought his niche and a band that suited his raw and gritty sensibility. He found salvation in the form of four young men of equal mind: Axl Rose, Izzy Stradlin, Steven Adler, and Duff McKagan. Together they became Guns N' Roses, one of the greatest rock 'n' roll bands of all time. Dirty, volatile, and as authentic as the streets that weaned them, they fought their way to the top with groundbreaking albums such as the iconic *Appetite for Destruction* and *Use Your Illusion I and II*. Here, for the first time ever, Slash tells the tale that has yet to be told from the inside: how the band came together, how they wrote the music that defined an era, how they survived insane, never-ending tours, how they survived themselves, and, ultimately, how it all fell apart. This is a window onto the world of the notoriously private guitarist and a seat on the roller-coaster ride that was one of history's greatest rock 'n' roll machines, always on the edge of self-destruction, even at the pinnacle of its success. This is a candid recollection and reflection of Slash's friendships past and present, from easygoing Izzy to ever-steady Duff to wild-child Steven and complicated Axl. It is also an intensely personal account of struggle and triumph: as Guns N' Roses journeyed to the top, Slash battled his demons, escaping the overwhelming reality with women, heroin, coke, crack, vodka, and whatever else came along. He survived it all: lawsuits, rehab, riots, notoriety, debauchery, and destruction, and ultimately found his creative evolution. From Slash's Snakepit to his current band, the massively successful Velvet Revolver, Slash found an even keel by sticking to his guns. Slash is everything the man, the myth, the legend, inspires: it's funny, honest, inspiring, jaw-dropping . . . and, in a word, excessive. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

I feel lucky I even learned about this book to purchase it. I have had it for awhile, read parts of it, loved it. I need 2 weeks I feel, at a beach to read the whole thing. I will, one day! I adore Slash and his brutal honesty. If I could have one last lunch with one person ever, it would be Slash. Oh, what he has seen, been through! Iconic boots, jeans, guitar, cigarette and hat! I will treasure this book, forever.

I do not like Guns and Roses but for some reason do find Slash interesting. This book is 30% about doing drugs mainly heroin. 10% chicks 10% childhood 50% heavy metal music. It definitely has "the dirt" on Axl if that is what you are looking for. It is a miracle he is alive.

My fourth rock biography in a row brings me to Slash of G & R. Slash is one of the last few classic rock icons from the modern era, which is why I read this. And as he describes it himself, Guns and Roses might well have been the last of its kind before Nirvana and grunge came in & morphed rock music. I've always appreciated Slash as being a great axman and someone who could have gone further with G & R and rock music had they continued. But as we all know, G & R became Axl Rose Inc. and that was that. As an individual, Slash has a tabloid worthy past and personality of his own that keeps his tale an interesting one. Despite careening through a chaotic childhood as a juvenile shoplifter, Slash eventually found his true calling through the guitar. It's like Arthur finding Excalibur, as recounted by Slash. Without the guitar by his side, he would have remained a misfit without a focus. In the book, we find out about how his dedication to his craft kept him going until his fateful encounter with Guns & Roses. Although the story of G & R's rise has been documented here and there, it's nice to hear from one of the seminal members. As with most rock bios - drugs, booze and sex come with the territory. A chronic dope fiend, there isn't much to admire about Slash, but his honesty, childlike charm, and mostly likeable personality come through. In spite of everything, Slash's life really was a train wreck from which he re-emerged from again and again. From being the biggest band on earth, we get some insight into how Axl Rose's need for control torpedoed the band's future - and Slash's ability to continue. But the story's not done yet...this book was released back in 2009 and takes us halfway into Velvet Revolver's journey, so the book is probably due for an update...Whatever the case, kudos to Slash for a highly readable story, and moving on after G & R to other pursuits, and starting a family.

Awesome learning about Slash's early years and how he got his famous name. He had so many ups and downs and is still standing and currently in GNR again. Good to see him back on stage with Duff and Axl. amazing book. Slash had some crazy life and it ain't over yet@!

One of the best books I've read about a Rock band and a young kid's desire to make it. He's an incredible musician and although I hate the band imploded, what an impact he had on my age group of Rock Fans! Great job Slash and keep up the great work!!

i just finished reading Slash. starting with his childhood and detailing most important career points up to Velvet Revolver's success. tons of great insight into GnR and even better insight into his obsessive approach to life. the drug tales abound from adventurous to downright scary. lots of laughs and anecdotes about touring, band moments and personal issues make Slash hard to put

down!you cant beat the intimate account of the genesis of Appetite. many surprises in how much they struggled and how nearly they came to self destructing at very turn !if your a fan of Slash or the genre this will not disappoint. if your looking for him to beat up on Axl, you'll be distracted. hes fair and honest and clearly lays out the biggest pitfalls of their dynamic.

I really liked the book. I liked how Slash talks in detail about stuff that happened behind the scenes specially how the GNR songs came together since I always considered them very original, unique and great songs and very different from what was 'popular' at the time.I'm currently learning again to play guitar after about 10 years of not playing and I found Slash process of learning guitar very inspiring and educational.The only reason I give this book 4 stars instead of 5 is because I had just read Duff's book before this one and I gave that book 5 stars so I could not put them at the same level.Whereas this book seems like a collection of very interesting and cool anecdotes, I felt Duff's book to be about a man's spiritual journey through adversities and temptations and became very inspiring to me.

Too wordy and found that several areas would just drag on... interesting subject matter but professional editorial oversight would be welcomed.

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