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# Confessions Of A Serial Songwriter

## CONFESSIONS -of a- SERIAL songwriter



## Synopsis

(Book). *Confessions of a Serial Songwriter* is an amusing and poignant memoir about songwriter Shelly Peiken's journey from young girl falling under the spell of magical songs to working professional songwriter writing hits of her own. It's about growing up, the creative process the highs and the lows, the conflicts that arise between motherhood and career success, the divas and schemers, but also the talented and remarkable people she's found along the way. It's filled with stories and step-by-step advice about the songwriting process, especially collaboration. And it's about the challenge of staying relevant in a rapidly changing and youth-driven world. As Shelly so eloquently states in *Confessions of a Serial Songwriter* : "If I had to come up with one X factor that I could cite as a characteristic most hit songs have in common (and this excludes hit songs that are put forth by an already well-oiled machine...that is, a recording artist who has so much notoriety and momentum that just about anything he or she releases, as long as it's 'pretty good,' will have a decent shot at succeeding), I would say it would be: A universal sentiment in a unique frame ."

Peiken has tapped the universal sentiment again and again; her songs have been recorded by such artists as Christina Aguilera, Natalie Cole, Selena Gomez, Celine Dion, the Pretenders, and others. In *Confessions of a Serial Songwriter* , she pulls the curtain back on the music business from the perspective of a behind-the-scenes hit creator and shares invaluable insight into the craft of songwriting.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Shelly Peiken is an amazing songwriter. If you heard about her you already know that. This book is not just a story about her career as a songwriter writing songs for artists like Christina Aguilera, Britney Spears, Celine Dion and Jessie J. It's the story about her life and it was a blast to read this book. The pages kept on turning until there was no more page to turn. The book is very personal and intimate. In a nutshell it's Shelly's memoir and thoughts about life and music and how to live it to the fullest. If you're a songwriter, it's a must read. I wouldn't call it a songwriting technique book, though there are lots of tips and ideas for how to become a better songwriter in it. What it has is something far more interesting.... The life story of a successful songwriter and what really goes on inside her mind as she progresses through her career and personal life. There are a lot of celebrity cameos throughout the book and Shelly shares many funny and hilarious (and also upsetting) moments when she encounters and approaches artists that have recorded her songs. She also shares many of the negative aspects of the changing music industry. Her interactions with various producers and how they treat their co-writers were very interesting, especially the chapters "How Hard Can You Get Me" and "The Worst Session Ever". Shelly Peiken was a lot of fun to hang with in the form of this book.... it was kind of like sitting on a couch with a glass of wine listening to her telling all her best juicy stories. Some of the nuggets of advice and overall approach to both life and songwriting are things I will carry with me and hopefully put to use going forward. Highly recommended.

Shelly Peiken's "Confessions Of A Serial Songwriter" is simply UN-PUTDOWNABLE!!! I confess, from the very start, you feel her, you like her, you even LOVE her and her optimistic, attitude and frankness. She can be electrifying, defying and sensual while still open and vulnerable in her friendships, relationships and her love affair with music and all its baggage. Just as a great painting begins with a blank canvas, she takes us from a pencil sketch to a rich, colourful and unexpected masterpiece that she herself could never have anticipated. It truly is what a girl wants ... and the best is yet to come. You can't help but marvel with starry eyes at her unique narrative which is all the more endearing in this male dominated world.

Whether you're a seasoned, chart-topping songwriter, a professional musician, an aspiring singer/songwriter or simply a music fan, "Confessions of a Serial Songwriter" provides a fascinating look inside the mind and heart of the immensely talented and successful artist, Shelly Peiken. She describes in great detail the process(es) involved in bringing songs to life, from the first moment of inspiration, collaborations with other artists, recording of demos, placement of material with recording artists, the inherent treachery of the music business, right up to the triumphant moments of hearing her creations on the radio and ultimately seeing them reach the very top of the charts. More than once! All told from the unique perspective of a woman charting her course through an evolving, yet still often-times male dominated industry. Inspiring, hilarious, touching and genuine, "Confessions" is both entertaining and educational. She makes the leap from writing "3 minutes worth of lyrics" to full-length book flawlessly and sticks the landing. In the interest of full disclosure, it has been my recent good fortune to become acquainted with Shelly and her wonderful family via my work with her husband, Adam. I can attest firsthand that the wit, charm and intellect found within "Confessions of a Serial Songwriter" jumps off the page and into real life. We truly wouldn't have it any other way.

I LOVED this book. It was like Shelly was in my living room (or on her terrace in Laurel Canyon) and we were having coffee, talking, and having a good time. I love her conversational style of writing. I simply love her.

Known as one of the nation's premiere songwriters, Shelly can now add premiere authors as well with the release of her book "Confessions of a Serial Songwriter". Shelly's book provides an true insight into what it takes to be a songwriter and what it takes to make it in the music industry. Her first person accounts provide the reader with a true firsthand account of her career along with candor and humor. What I took away from Shelly's book more than anything was a true understanding and appreciation for her and other songwriters' contribution to the music industry. Whenever I hear one of my favorite songs I now also think about the person who brought that song to the singer and band, the true unsung hero of the music industry, the song writers. Many give credit to shows like American Idol for creating some of our nation's newest and freshest top talent but in reality, it's the songwriters that make that show and every song possible because without the words, a song would just be musical notes on a piece of paper waiting to be set free with words! Thank you Shelly and all the songwriters out there for bringing joy to all our lives, each and ever

day, note by note, word by word. Rock on unsung heroes, Rock On!!Art FemisterCanyon Lake, CA

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