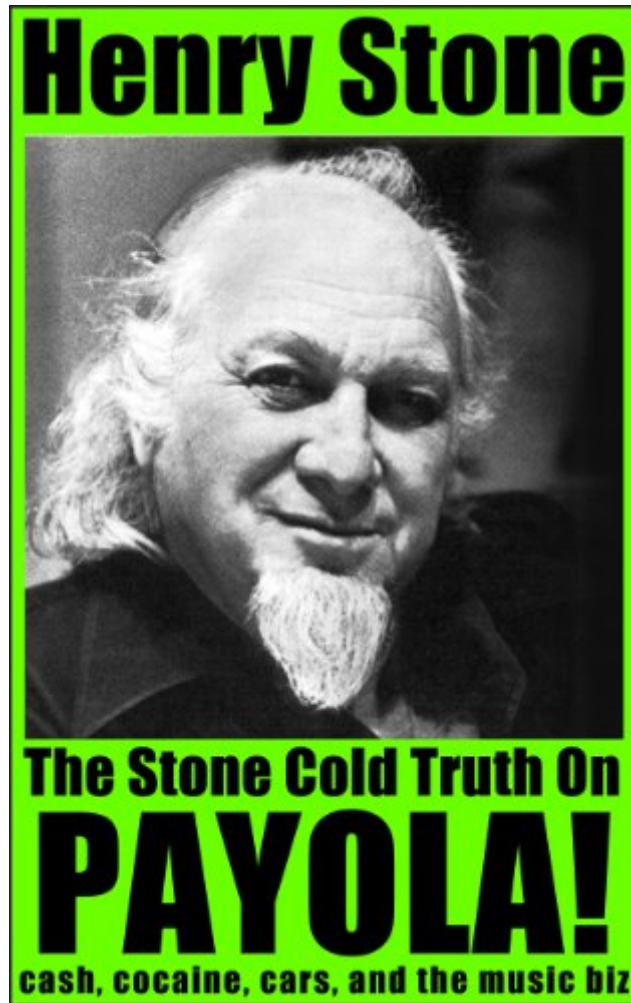


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# The Stone Cold Truth On Payola In The Music Biz



## Synopsis

In the 1970's, Henry Stone's TK Productions was the largest independent record company in the world. Here is the true story of the money, cars, and drugs that powered its radio promotion as told by Stone himself. The irreverent record mogul also relates his insider knowledge on the "Payola Scandal" of 1959 as only one who has been in the record business since 1946 can. Henry Stone is ready to give the world his Stone Cold Truth on Payola. Stone worked directly in dialogue with co-author Jacob Katel in their collaboration to bring this book to life.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Amazing book about an amazing person. If you want to hear about James Brown, Disco and other people and periods in the music business, you need to read this first hand account of a music business legend.

First true book on Payola. The baksheesh system that helped break more new artists and sounds than we can even imagine today. Henry tells how it worked and how it was the foundation of the music business in the pre consolidation era. Henry is 92, blind and the only man alive willing to tell

the truth.

This book gave me a Saturday Night Fever of 105 degrees! The words of Stone sing like many of the hits he helped make famous during those coked-up, crooked, head- and disco-spinning seventies. Payola is now advertising bucks, as Stone points out, and we might be a bit more sober, but the music biz is still as well-heeled as a pair Manolo Blahniks on Beyonce's mile-high gams. Jodie Gould, coauthor of *Date Like a Man* and *Your Brain on Yoga*

Henry Stone has been through it all in the music business and his accounts are from the heart. His facts, though, are sometimes muddled. For example he states that Alan Freed was in Akron in 1955 when in fact he was already in NYC at WINS radio. He states that Alan received songwriter credits on the Moonglows "Goodnight My Love". First of all, they didn't sing that song. Secondly, I think he meant to mention the song "Sincerely" which the Moonglows did record and Freed was listed as composer. There were other small mistakes such as listing Jerry Butler and the Impressions song as "My Precious Love" instead of "Your Precious Love", for example. This reminded me listening to Doc Pomus, who had wonderful stories of the behind the scenes working of the music business. Overall, a fun account of the music business, that I think could have been even better with longer accounts of coverage of his 50s and 60s exploits.

Payola is cheating! There is nothing 'cool' about this practice. Little did I know that my music collection, purchased with hard earned money, most likely ended up in the pockets of corrupt music producers, distributors, radio DJs who were and still are in cahoots with organized crime. Did you know that profits made from your music purchases bought weak minded radio DJs, club owners and even Billboard, a plethora of street drugs, prostitutes, Mercedes Benz and who knows what else? The whole practice is DEPLORABLE! PRINCE was smart to regain control of his music and career. All musicians should follow his lead. And we the buyers, should buy direct from the artist!

I really liked this book. The voice of Stone is funny and profound. Interesting and shocking as to what the music business is really like. You feel like you are in the room with a very interesting elder of the music industry.

I thought I knew a bit about rock n roll and R & B since my days following Alan Freed and other DJs in NYC in the 50s and 60s. More recently, I've read about Chess records and other white-owned

music moguls. BUT...wow. The sordid stories about the biz told by music impresario Henry Stone -- who is still alive!! -- and Miami writer Jacob Katel are amazing. The book is a page-turner and short enough to be a relatively quick read.

Beautiful accounts of music, record, radio and Miami history through the voice of Henry Stone. Radio will always exist... Would have loved to be a radio DJ back in the day @HenryStoneMusic

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