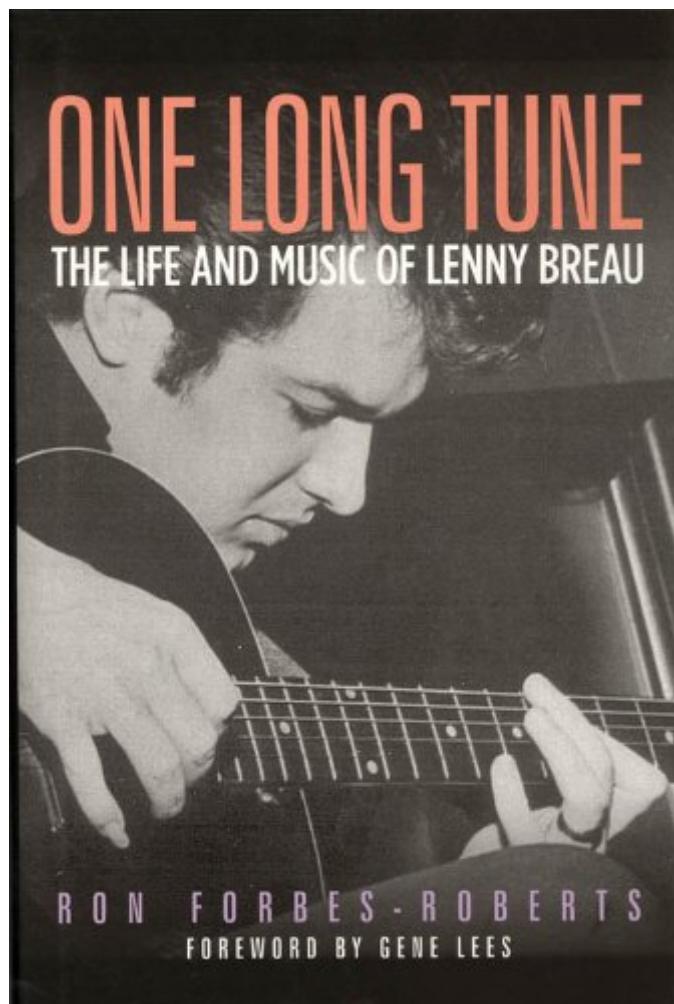


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One Long Tune: The Life And Music Of Lenny Breau



Synopsis

â œMr. Guitarâ • Chet Atkins called Lenny Breau (1941-1984) â œthe greatest guitarist who ever walked the face of the earth.â • Breau began playing the instrument at age seven, and went on to master many styles, especially jazz. Between 1968 and 1983 he made a series of recordings that are among the most influential guitar albums of the century. Breauâ ™s astonishing virtuosity influenced countless performers, but unfortunately it came at the expense of his personal relationships. Despite Breauâ ™s fascinating life story and his musical importance, no full-length biography has been published until now. Forbes-Roberts has interviewed more than 175 people and closely analyzed Breauâ ™s recordings to reveal an enormously gifted man and the inner workings of his music. â œLenny Breau was, and will always be, a great treasure. We need him today more than ever.â • â "Mundell Lowe

Book Information

File Size: 1100 KB

Print Length: 344 pages

Publisher: University of North Texas Press; New edition edition (October 1, 2012)

Publication Date: October 1, 2012

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B009K7W12Y

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #902,067 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #584 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Biographies > Jazz #647 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Arts & Photography > Music > Instruments & Performers > Guitar #1659 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Arts & Literature > Composers & Musicians

Customer Reviews

Was Lenny Breau really the greatest guitarist who ever walked the face of the earth, like Chet Atkins said? Maybe, maybe not, but he's my favorite guitarist and I really enjoyed this book about Lenny. The author balances the story of Lenny's life and the development of his music very well and offers

lots of insights into both and gets totally inside of Lenny's head. There are many quotes and anecdotes from people he knew, sometimes whole paragraphs of friends talking about Lenny in a very intimate revealing way. I especially found the description of his childhood really moving-happy and sad at the same time. No wonder he had problems as an adult. His drug problem is well handled without being sensational and the writer has some real insights into his addiction and problems with alcohol and depression. With all due respect to Joe Pass picker, I was SHOCKED by the ending of the book because I'd always heard that he either drowned while drunk or stoned, or was offed for a drug debt or something. Roberts did an amazing job of describing the incidents that led up to his death. True, there was no interview with his wife (who was a total monster!) but there are quotes from her where she does tell her side of the story. Roberts practically comes out and says who did it. The killer got off scott free but if there's anything that might push the cops to look into the case again, it would be reading this book, if it's accurate that is. It seems to be because there are quotes from the detectives who investigated the murder that back it up and there's some interesting stuff from other people who were involved and quotes from the coroners report. Anyway, I read One Long Tune in one long sitting and I'll probably read it again soon. One caveat though.

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