

She Loves You

An Audiobook Review:

by Victor Cantu

If you love John Lennon, The Beatles, and their astounding history, you will probably love the audiobook of Jude Southerland Kessler's *She Loves You*. It is an elaborate re-creation of the book of the same name, recounting John Lennon's life during the first year of Beatlemania: 1963 through early 1964. It ends soon after The Beatles' legendary performance on "The Ed Sullivan Show," which set records then for the biggest audience ever to watch a TV show!

The *She Loves You* audiobook is enriched by fascinating, very realistic impersonations of all 4 Beatles: John, Paul, George & Ringo, along with many other principles, all by renowned voice actor, Scott R. McKinley. The *She Loves You* printed book is a mammoth 950-pages long, so the audiobook's deep-dive into the stories, adventures, and details of this era is magnificent.

The printed version of *She Loves You* is the 3rd of 5 books written so far in **The John Lennon Series** by Southerland Kessler. Each book has been over 800 pages, making **The John Lennon Series** already the longest written history ever on the life of John Lennon. The entire project is planned to be 9 books total, each continuing where the last one left off.

She Loves You gives listeners a rare, front row seat behind the private scenes of John Lennon's life during that fateful year. It makes the listener feel as if they were one of Lennon's closest friends, hanging out with him through all the crazy ups and downs with The Beatles, his young, "secret" wife Cynthia, and their baby son, Julian. It covers a myriad of Beatle milestones, such as the making of their early songs and their first major shot at mainstream, national stardom in England on the popular TV show, "Sunday Night At The London Palladium." That's the show which spawned the term "Beatlemania." Lennon and The Beatles are shown handling it all with their customary calm, good-natured sarcasm and hilarity – traits that, along with their irresistible music, helped make them literally the coolest people in the world then.

Narrator Scott McKinley expertly reproduces the voices of The Beatles and others, giving the historically-documented scenes a very realistic feel. The incident where John attacks popular Liverpool DJ, Bob Wooler, leaving him bloodied and bruised, needing hospital care is particularly shocking.

She Loves You is the Lennon-Beatle tale in narrative format, using hundreds of meticulously sourced, historical references, with fascinating after-chapter notes recounted in animated fashion by the author. Southerland Kessler had previously taught English at the university level and did gargantuan research for the series, including traveling from the US to Liverpool 7 times.