Comment on Rock Me, by Marcelle Clements (S & S, 1989)

Rock Me is a raw, affecting sixties-into-eighties novel about love, fame, burn-out, and survival. It center on a middle-aging rock singer trying to sort out her memories and pull her life together in the twilight zone of the grey present. In the flashbacks of her mind we get an unusually convincing, erotically charged picture of the druggy, bombed-out, rock-saturated side of the sixties. The details of life in a traveling rock band--staying stoned day and night in jerkwater towns, being eaten alive by ravenous fans, living on music as sex, sex as music--are sharply etched. It's been said that if you remember the sixties you probably weren't there; Rock Me is a modest but moving exception. There have been few good novels about the sixties generation, but this is one of them.

--Morris Dickstein, author of Gates of Eden