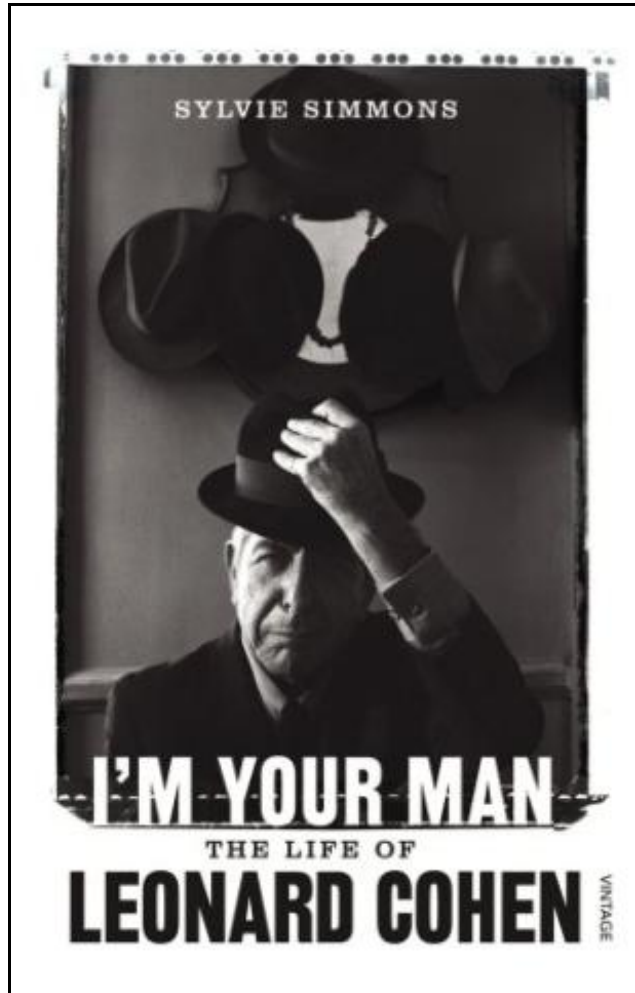


I'm Your Man: The Life of Leonard Cohen



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Reviews

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(Jimmie Schmidt I)

I'M YOUR MAN: THE LIFE OF LEONARD COHEN



Vintage. 1 Paperback(s), 2012. soft. Book Condition: New. The musical legend behind such unforgettable, often-covered ballads as "Suzanne," "Bird on the Wire," and "Hallelujah," as well as groundbreaking literary works like *Beautiful Losers* and *Book of Mercy*, Leonard Cohen is a poet of powerful emotion and intelligence, as well as seeming contradictions. Sylvie Simmons, also the biographer of Serge Gainsbourg, offers a portrait of Cohen as nuanced as the man himself, based on Cohen's personal archives and interviews with his lovers, friends, monks, professors, rabbis, fellow musicians, and his muses, including Rebecca De Mornay, Marianne Ihlen, Suzanne Elrod, and Suzanne Verdal. "I'm Your Man" is the major, soul-searching biography that Leonard Cohen deserves. A mesmerizing labor of love. "NYTimes" As a teenager in Montreal, Leonard Cohen learned six chords on a guitar from a young Spanish teacher that would form the foundation for all of his songs. In this compelling biography, Simmons chronicles the career of the courtly, elegant singer-songwriter, poet, and novelist, from his first band in Montreal (a country-and-western trio, no less) to his early days in New York, where he lived at the famous Chelsea Hotel, to his most recent world tour, during which the seventysomething Cohen literally skipped onstage. Simmons includes fascinating anecdotes Cohen meeting Judy Collins, who would later record one of his signature songs, 'Suzanne'; encountering fellow Canadian Joni Mitchell in Greenwich Village (Mitchell's 'A Case of You' was inspired by Cohen); scary recording sessions with the gun-toting record producer Phil Spector, and spending time at a Zen monastery. Simmons also discusses at length Cohen's impressive body of work, including poetry and prose as well as songs (his iconic 'Hallelujah' has been covered by more than 300 artists), mentions his numerous bouts of depression, and recounts his unfortunate financial difficulties when his former manager...



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