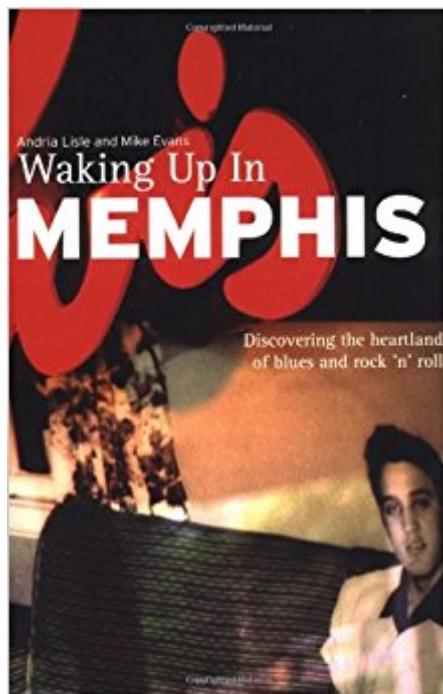


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# Waking Up In Memphis



## **Synopsis**

What make Memphis music so lasting? Why have the blues become such an iconic form of expression? What makes a bluesman? How did country and blues music merge to form rockabilly and rock n'roll and was Elvis the first true exponent? All these questions and more are answered in this book.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This is the 2nd book I've reviewed on , and I've got the same gripe about it that I did about the 1st book I reviewed, Peter Guralnick's "Sweet Soul Music".... if you're going to author a non-fiction book, especially one that is supposed to be about places to see and things to do, or about historical facts, then at least get your facts right. I've lived in Memphis all 45 years of my life, but it doesn't take that to see a glaring error in this book. There are several pages of photos in the book, inserted between pages 96 and 97.... the pages containing the photos are not numbered. The authors included a photo of what is supposed to be The Pyramid in Memphis.... concert hall, boxing ring, home of the NBA Grizzlies and the U of Memphis Tigers..... what the authors included is a photo of the Rock-n-Roll Hall of Fame Hall of Fame & Museum, which is in CLEVELAND, OHIO, of all places!!!! Granted, that's a pyramid-shaped building, but who are they trying to fool? There's even a sign in front of the building in their photo that says "Rock & Roll Hall of Fame & Museum"..... and anyone with any sense of popular music knows that museum is in Cleveland, not Memphis. The authors do themselves no favors if they're trying to pass this photo off as the Pyramid in Memphis. If

it was an honest mistake, then they need to fire their editor, who's supposed to catch stuff like this, right? I haven't finished the book yet, but so far have found it fun to read and reasonably accurate except for the photo mentioned above. It does make me wonder though, if there's one error that little-old-me found, how many other errors and mistakes are there in this book???

A very enjoyable book, takes the reader on a musical joyride around Memphis, the Delta and mid-South in general. Full of brief interview tidbits with musical luminaries, many of whom live in relative obscurity in the area. The book has a few minor errors I noticed, including labeling part of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, OH incorrectly as the Pyramid Arena in downtown Memphis in the photo section. Other than very minor annoyances like that, I highly recommend this book to any fans of rock, r & b, blues or roots music in general. An engaging read about the music and performers and the city that literally changed the world.

If you have ever wanted to read a book that tells you all the cool spots in and around the Memphis area pick this one up. These are the places that are not on that cute tourist pack you get at the welcome center. These places are real and the authors writing about them understand their importance. I read the book in one sitting and I have only done that with about 3 books in my life. This puppy is jammed packed with wonderful recollections and people who are very active in southern and blues culture. As this book shows those who thought blues was dead are sadly mistaken. Great read!

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Andria Lisle has written a personal tribute to the warm, eternally fulminating Memphis Music scene. For such a short book it encompasses so much history, taking you literally from W. C. Handy to 2003. Lisle knows what she's talking about and her tour of her home town is inspiring and full of interesting arcana about the mystique of the River City's constantly changing and important

contributions to the art of music. Al Green, Big Star, Stax, Sun, even Elvis--they're all here and in a fresh, invigorating format.

I reviewed this book earlier and jumped on the authors and/or editors for a pretty significant photo error..... trying to pass off a photo of the Rock-n-Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, OH, as The Pyramid, in Memphis..... pretty lame, I still say. But, having read the entire book, and having lived in Memphis all of my 45 years, I would like to say that, the above-mentioned goof notwithstanding, I really enjoyed the book, found it to be pretty accurate, and learned some things I didn't know. It's definitely worth reading.

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