



Official Truth, 101 Proof: The Inside Story of Pantera

By Rex Brown

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Rex Brown's memoir is the definitive account of life inside one of rock's biggest bands, which succeeded against all odds but ultimately ended in tragedy when iconic lead guitarist Darrell “Dimebag” Abbott was murdered mid-performance by a deranged fan.

This is a lucid account of the previously untold story behind one of the most influential bands in heavy metal history, written by the man best qualified to tell the truth about those incredible and often difficult years of fame and excess.

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Official Truth, 101 Proof: The Inside Story of Pantera By Rex Brown Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

“Rex Brown has long since taken the ‘voice of reason’ mantle in the ever-fracturing post-Pantera camp. Though he’s the group’s least public member, he’s the most fit to write a memoir on the experience. Brown pulls no punches in his yarn, nonchalantly discussing the spandex-clad inception, multiplatinum explosion and untimely demise of the ‘90s’ most definitive metal band. Most compelling are his unflinching looks into the band members’ individual demons, which never come off as antagonistic or gossipy, but genuine attempts at ‘telling it like it is’...As the murder of one Dimebag Darrell becomes more and more distant, no other publication has come this close to truly exploring the impact and meaning of what this band meant to the heavy metal landscape, and for that, Brown’s work shouldn’t go unnoticed, and is highly recommended.”

PowerlineMag.com, 4/27/13

“Pantera’s fans will enjoy this up close and personal look at the band, especially those interested in hearing how the band’s classic records came together.”

Examiner.com, 4/30/13

RidgewoodPatch.com3/11

“A compelling read.”

SonicExcess.com, 3/12:

“Offers a perspective from the eyes of the silent member of Pantera. Often humorous, tragic, brutally honest, and always entertaining...A must read for any fan of Rock, Metal, and Pantera...*Official Truth* is similar to the music of Pantera, no compromise with no room for bullshit.”

SkullsNBones.com, 3/12

“**Rex** holds nothing back and really invites you into his **Pantera** world like never before...Now with this new book, we understand a little more about one of the most historic bands to ever walk this planet...A very blunt and honest read that will definitely get people talking in the metal scene...A must read for all metal fans.”

Examiner.com, 3/12

“Will appeal not just to fans of Pantera and heavy metal, but anyone interested in a look at that time in music.”

Horns Up Rocks, 3/12:

“[A] very honest piece of literature...Not only is it a great read, but it will open your eyes about how the music industry works.”

TheGauntlet.com, 3/13

About.com Heavy Metal

“Brown pulls no punches in the book...The behind the scenes story of Pantera is fascinating...There have been a lot of books written about Pantera, but Brown provides insight an outside author simply can't...It's a very well-written and compelling book.”

Music As Therapy blog, 4/14/13

“Offers a very inside look at the band that we were never afforded the opportunity to voyeur into back in the day...Straight up, if you're a Pantera fan then read the book, you'll enjoy it...A satisfying read. As a fan of Pantera I couldn't put the flippin' thing down.”

Bass Guitar magazine, May 2013

“Rock star autobiographies are everywhere these days, some of them great, some less so. Official Truth, 101 Proof...falls easily into the former category. Brown...waited years to tell his tale, but the wait has been worth it...Official Truth recounts the formation and rise to prominence of Pantera, as well as the stories of Brown's later bands Down and Kill Devil Hill, with unflinching courage, offering a new perspective on the chaos within those bands.”

SLUG (Salt Lake Under Ground) magazine, May 2013

“The journey of the rise and fall of one of the biggest bands in heavy metal history...An honest account of what transpired during [Brown's] years in Pantera.”

Rich Stambolian, 3/15

“Gives you insight to the real world of Pantera and makes no qualms about it...An extremely honest look at the behind the scenes of one of the biggest bands of all time. [Brown] pokes a few holes into the fabric of our perception of band life and what being a rock star is all about...If you are a fan of Pantera and road stories then you should definitely pick this book up. It will make you laugh, choke you up, and blow your mind with the reality of what some of your favorite personalities are really like.”

MTVHive.com, 3/18/13

“Wildly entertaining.”

Boston Phoenix, 3/20/13

“No holds barred' and 'warts and all' are typical qualifiers when it comes to rock-and-roll memoirs, but rarely do they fulfill the promise. Which makes it all the more refreshing when something like Official Truth, 101 Proof comes along. Pleasantries are dispensed sparingly in this unflinching, and often biting, but also affectionate portrait.”

Dallas Observer, 3/18/13

“Rex takes readers into the familiar world of the Rock Star, where rivers of whiskey flow like cash pouring into the band members' bank accounts...Rex's memoir delivers to fans what the bassist intended: a behind the scenes look at the events that led to the downfall of one of America's greatest rock bands. It's full of conflict, raw emotion and backstage antics.”

Loudwire.com, 3/21/13

“An unflinchingly honest look at the group, from their earliest beginnings to the ending moments and the things which have happened since then...The first official statement on Pantera and the legacy of the group

from a band member.”

NoTreble.com, 3/21/13

“Describing the book as ‘starkly honest’ almost seems like an understatement as Brown details his ride with anecdotes on events and the characters involved in the band’s story.”

MediaMikes.com, 3/18/13

“A gritty in your face tale from the man who lived it...Here is your chance to get whole truth and nothing but...Candid, brutally honest, and at times shocking Rex Brown touches on everything and pulls no punches while doing so...From start to finish a great read.”

North Coast Voice, 3/20/13-4/3/13 issue and The Cleveland Sound, 3/21/13

“A candid, unpretentious autobiography from one of rock’s modern day survivors—a southern-fried, fist-pumpingly fun read.”

Alternative Control blog, 3/22/13

“A great read about one of the best metal bands of all time.”

Houston Press, 3/29/13

“A tell-all history of the band...The most comprehensive insider account of Pantera’s rise and fall.”

BackstageAxxess.com, 3/24/13

“Brown gives us the inside story in his new book...It’s a great read.”

FullMetalRock.com, 3/24/13

“This is the real deal inside story, from the man himself, who was there and lived it...A no holds barred account of the rise and fall of Pantera...It is all covered here straight up...A must read for any fan of Pantera or Rock and Metal.”

Every Day is a New Day blog, 3/28/13

“The story of one of the craziest party bands of all time...This book was an eye opener...If you’ve ever been into Metal music, I’d say this is required reading.”

The Metal Den, 4/8/13

“Hands down the most brutally frank rock memoir you will ever read in your life...This is a cautionary tale (beware of the ‘hangers on’) that will make you laugh out loud and wipe away a few tears at the same time.”

Hard Rockin’ Homemaker, 7/29/2013

“A notable and refreshing change from the vast majority of other memoirs I’ve read.”

MetalKaoz.com, 9/7/13

“I enjoyed every page of *Official Truth, 101 Proof* and learned a ton of stuff about this band.”

HeavyMetalICU.com, 9/9/13

“The pages of this book will flip fast and when you get to the end you just wish there was more...As you

read this book, I DARE you not to think you're sitting right across from the guy sharing each moment...Rex tells the story from his side of the stage and his seat in the bus with dignity and no machismo or chest beating on how great they were...This is the first autobiography I've read truly deserving of 6 out of 5 stars! Yeah it goes one higher than all other ratings.”

BlueCoupe.com, 9/26/13

“Official Truth is a proper rock biography, but it's not for the faint of heart...If you ever thought the world of a rock god was sexy and golden, read Official Truth and think again.”

AOL Music's Noisecreep.com, 3/6/13

“A warts and all look at Brown's journey from small town Texas music geek to platinum-selling, arena-filling rock star. Besides the insightful, and always colorful, Pantera stories included throughout Official Truth, Brown also comes clean about his own personal battles with drugs and alcohol.”

SkullsNBones.com, 3/6/13

“Rex is completely honest and forthcoming in this book, and it's a major insight to one of the most influential bands of all time...A must read!”

The Aquarian, 3/13

“Offers the shocking insight into one of the most influential and extremely popular metal bands to ever reach the annals of heavy metal history!... Fans of Pantera and Rex Brown will love this book!”

BackstageAxxess.com, 3/10:

“Rex's story is both honest and brutally real...Rockstars are often put on a pedestal and made to seem larger than life. Rex Brown gives us the other side of the story. His heartfelt account tells us the good, the bad, and the ugly, making *Official Truth, 101 Proof* much more than just a book about a rock band. It is a tale of friendships made and friendships lost and the triumphs and tragedies along the way. Dust off your bookshelf and clear some space. You're going to want to add this one to your collection.”

John Shelton Ivany Top 21

“Definitive...This is a lucid account of the previously untold story behind one of the most influential bands in heavy metal history, written by the man best qualified to tell the truth about those incredible and often difficult years of fame and excess.”

WomanAroundTown.com, 5/28/13

“A book detailing the highs and lows of super-stardom.”

Curled Up With A Good Book

“No one was closer to the heart of the band than Brown. He was there from the beginning and relates the ups and downs with an unabashed honesty...A book about one of the most original metal bands ever.”

Illinois Entertainer, 7/1/13

“[A] tell-all.”

Soho Tribune, 6/22/13

“A poignant and heartfelt account of life in a monstrous heavy metal band...Read the book. It's like finally

getting the quiet kid in class to open up.”

GhostCultMag.com, 7/12/13

“The book has an easy-going style, and doesn't seem to be ghost-written like so many other tomes of this sort...If you are a fan of Pantera or '90s metal in general, this book is essential reading.”

Metal Hammer

“A no-holds-barred insight into the mind of someone who became known as ‘the drunk guy in Pantera,’ which is some feat.”

“If you are looking for dirt or something shocking, its all there as Rex didn't pull any punches and told it how it was including the bad times as well. If you are a fan of Pantera or if you just like a good biography I recommend this book because it will not disappoint.”

Record Collector (UK), Issue 414

“Brown recounts his life in parallel to Pantera's story, exploring his addiction to alcohol in courageous detail and pulling no punches when it comes to explaining the band's split and its tragic aftermath. He ascribes the various fallings-out to each of the personalities involved, without leaving anyone (including himself) blameless. Kudos to the guy for digging deep into a set of obviously painful memories to get this book done, and to his co-writer Mark Eglinton for focusing Brown's recollections into an eminently readable memoir.”

Decibel, June 2013

“Revealing...Brown deftly explains why Pantera's music works...This book won't interest the casual Pantera fan. But are there any casual Pantera fans?”

Metal Forces, March 2013

“Official Truth, 101 Proof sugarcoats nothing.”

About the Author

Rex Brown was born in 1964 in Graham, Texas. He joined Pantera in 1982. He has also played with Down and Kill Devil Hill.

Mark Eglinton is a Scottish author, based mostly in the U.S. As well as being a friend of Rex Brown's having spent time on tour with Down in 2010, he's the author of *James Hetfield: The Wolf At Metallica's Door* (IMP, 2010) as well as being a frequent and highly acclaimed contributor to *The Quietus* – a popular culture website voted Best Website by *Record Of The Day* as well as being hailed by multiple publications including *The Guardian*, *The Times*, *The New York Times*, and *Chicago Time Out*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Paul Hill:

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