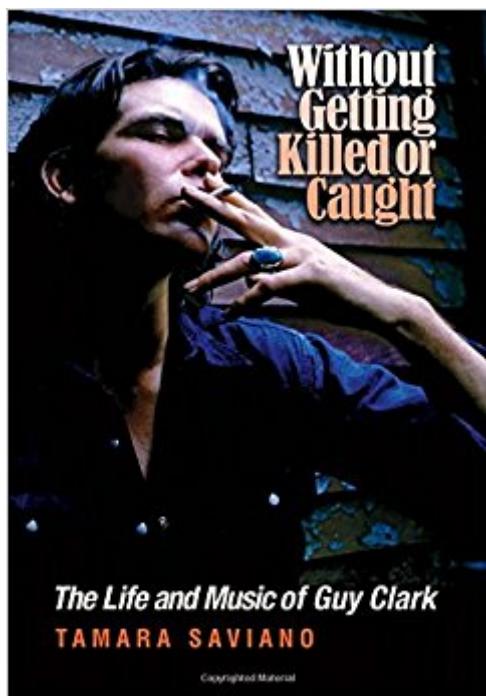


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Without Getting Killed Or Caught: The Life And Music Of Guy Clark (John And Robin Dickson Series In Texas Music, Sponsored By The Center For Texas)



Synopsis

Winner, 2016 the Belmont Book Award, Sponsored by the International Country Music Conference

For more than forty years, Guy Clark wrote and recorded unforgettable songs. His lyrics and melodies paint indelible portraits of the people, places, and experiences that shaped him. He has served as model, mentor, supporter, and friend to at least two generations of the world's most talented and influential singer-songwriters. In songs like "Desperados Waiting for a Train," "L.A. Freeway," "She Ain't Going Nowhere," and "Texas 1947," Clark's poetic mastery has given voice to a vision of life, love, and trouble that has resonated not only with fans of Americana music, but also with the prominent artists—including Johnny Cash, Ricky Skaggs, Jerry Jeff Walker, and others—who have recorded and performed Clark's music. Now, in *Without Getting Killed or Caught: The Life and Music of Guy Clark*, writer, producer, and music industry insider Tamara Saviano chronicles the story of this legendary artist from her unique vantage point as his former publicist and producer of the Grammy-nominated album *This One's for Him: A Tribute to Guy Clark*. Part memoir, part biography, Saviano's skillfully constructed narrative weaves together the extraordinary songs, larger-than-life characters, previously untold stories, and riveting emotions that make up the life of this modern-day poet and troubadour.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Take the dean of the Texas school of songwriting; mix in his wife, Susanna, an ethereal painter and an accomplished songwriter herself; add in their tragic friendship with Townes van Zandt, a tortured genius; and tell it all through the eyes of their friend, Tamara Saviano, one of the most gifted of Nashville chroniclers. With that, you have this book, a haunting account of the fiercely independent Guy Clark, and the '70s songwriting scene that swirled around him, hoping to find its own way to the other side of the sky." • Alanna Nash, author of *The Colonel: The Extraordinary Story of Colonel Tom Parker and Elvis Presley* (Alanna Nash 2016-05-04)"I can see every picture and every character Guy wrote about in his songs. I can't wait to read the book and fill in the missing pieces of my friend who I knew for 40 years" -Vince Gill (Vince Gill 2016-06-08)"Tamara Saviano hasn't just written the definitive biography of the definitive Texas singer-songwriter. She goes deep in unfolding the intimate relationship between Guy Clark, his wife and creative muse Susanna Clark, and their best friend, the other definitive Texas singer-songwriter, Townes Van Zandt." -Joe Nick Patoski author of *Willie Nelson: An Epic Life* and *Stevie Ray Vaughan: Caught in the Crossfire*. (Joe Nick Patoski 2016-05-11)"Is one of the very best musical biographies in many years" • The Morton Report (The Morton Report 2016-10-06)"Detailed, enlightening account. She maneuvers the story elegantly from biography to memoir." • The Wall Street Journal (The Wall Street Journal 2016-11-29) "Saviano has patiently compiled a must-have edition to the library of any actual or amateur musicologist, and a compelling story of love, friendship, tragedy and cultural magic for the rest of us." • Lone Star Book Reviews (Lone Star Book Reviews 2017-01-25) "Saviano captures the full story of an extraordinary life and talent, told with both an unwavering honesty and loving admiration." • Austin Chronicle (Austin Chronicle 2017-01-25)"reads like an Americana version of Jack Kerouac's *On the Road* . . . If this were a record, it'd be my record not of just the year, but of the decade." • No Depression (No Depression 2017-04-11)

Producer of *Beautiful Dreamer: The Songs of Stephen Foster*, which won the 2005 Grammy Award for Best Traditional Folk Album, TAMARA SAVIANO is a publicist and producer living in Nashville. She is also former managing editor of *Country Music* magazine and produced the 2012 Americana Album of the Year, *This One's for Him: A Tribute to Guy Clark*.

Couldn't put it down, literally.... The author obviously knew Guy intimately and the revelations here are stupendous! As one of my favorite songwriters of all time, this book captures the essence of

what the man was all about and it's a treasure. I'm ready for the movie but in the meantime I'll let this book settle in for a while...

This book gave me so much insight into so many of my favorite musicians and artists, all through their relationship with the amazing Guy Clark. As avid as a fan as I think I am, I learned of so many connections among all these talented people that I didn't know of prior to reading the book. My only regret is that I wished I had read this book prior to attending the Guy Clark tribute at the Ryman in August 2016. It would have helped understanding the shared history of all these great artists. This was a really well-written biography and a wonderful and loving tribute to an icon. I thoroughly enjoyed it.

I've been a fan of Guy Clark since the 70's, and was thrilled this book was written about him. I went home from work everyday and sat down to read for an hour or so. Now that I'm finished with the book, it's almost like I'm in mourning that I will not have time with Guy, Susanna, and all of their musician friends. I feel like there's a hole in Nashville now that the Clarks are gone. Guy Clark has always been one of my favorite song writers of all time. I lived in Nashville when he did and was fortunate to see him perform at Douglas Corner Cafe as a try out for his Austin City Limits show. Talk about being in heaven! That was one of the best nights of my life. If you're a fan, you'll love the book. You'll probably love it if you're not a fan, but a music lover. Enjoy!

Tamara Saviano has produced a superb biography of one of America's greatest country/folk/Americana songwriters. It covers Guy's childhood, his music, Guy's role in grooming and promoting a large number of current artists such as Lyle Lovette and the complex relationship between Guy, wife Suzanna and Guy's best friend, the extraordinary song-writer Townes Van Zandt. Sadly, although the book has been in the works for a couple of years, Guy died a few months before the biography was released.

Tamara Saviano has captured the essence of Guy Clark not only because of all her hard work and detailed research but because she has taken the time to get to know Guy, Suzanna and so many of their friends in a close and intimate way. I have been a huge Guy Clark fan for over 40 years and actually had the honor and privilege of having Guy and Verlon Thompson play in my back yard in 2011. Yet even though I thought I had learned so much about his life, Tamara provided so much more insight on Guy, his family history, and all of his relationships that formed the character and

legacy of who he came to be in the American Singer/Songwriter Universe. Obviously Tamara Saviano is a talented and passionate writer and if you are a Guy Clark fan this is a must read. Ken Barbe

After seeing Guy's holy-mountain of charisma in 'Be Here to Love Me' I was hooked for life. This is likely the only real-deal Guy Clark bio out there, as Tamara Saviano spent a good deal of years by his side, well up into his last days. This isn't a simple-minded kiss-ass scripting of all of Guy's accolades. You get the good with the bad here, creating an honest, complete and colorful picture of the who, where when and WHY. Man, the things I would sacrifice to have spent a few hours with Guy, Susanna, and Townes. What a ride. Skip to page 38 if you're not into the family background. I must admit I'm curiously intrigued about the inner-workings of the deep connection between Townes and Susanna, but satisfied with the tastefulness in which Tamara leaves out details for only the reader to fill in with his/her imagination. As songwriter, it's invaluablely educational, and a must purchase for the Guy Clark fan.

I picked this book up on vacation and couldn't put it down. I had the pleasure to see Guy perform shortly before his death. That show means a lot to me, and more so after reading this book. Thanks Tamara.

I have been a huge fan of Guy Clark for many years. I was thrilled when I found out about this book. It did not disappoint. I devoured the book, reading as fast as I could. And when it ended, I again cried because he was dead. He was so real to me when I was reading that I had to grieve his death a second time. A wonderful book about an unbelievably talented artist.

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