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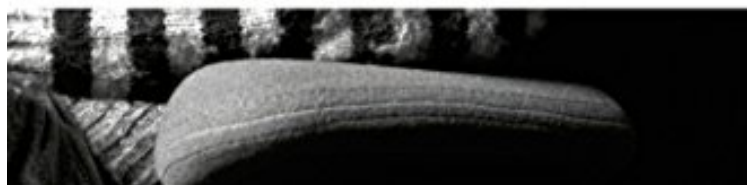
The Bite in the Apple: A Memoir of My Life with Steve Jobs

Chrisann Brennan

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THE BITE IN THE APPLE
A MEMOIR OF MY LIFE WITH
STEVE JOBS
CHRISANN BRENNAN



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Chrisann Brennan : The Bite in the Apple: A Memoir of My Life with Steve Jobs before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Bite in the Apple: A Memoir of My Life with Steve Jobs:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. She has many great insights into the impact of Steve's personality on Apple ...By phoebesmomA really interesting read. I got this after viewing the Jobs movie, and I gained a lot of admiration for Chrisann and what she went through. She has many great insights into the impact of Steve's personality on Apple and the modern way we process information--quite scary at times, and a valuable read for those concerned

with how personal computers have changed over lives over the past 30 years. 147 of 155 people found the following review helpful. Steve, We Hardly Knew Ye By G. Bestick Millions of words have been written about Steve Jobs and the birth of Apple Computer. By the time you finish this courageous and insightful memoir by Chrisann Brennan, you'll realize how little we actually knew about the man who more than any other pulled us into the era of personal tech. Brennan met him in high school, was his lover into their twenties, had a daughter by him, and, through that connection, remained part of his life until he died. This is her story of attempting first to love him, then to understand him, and, finally, to survive him. The push and pull of their relationship is fascinating, and Brennan dives deeply into what attracted them and what kept them apart. In high school they were both outsiders, with a creative, new-age slant on the world. Together they took LSD, stayed on an alternative farm, sat zazen. Separately, both took a spiritual pilgrimage to India. But underneath it all lay a primal power struggle. Jobs defined himself by his ability to manipulate and persuade others to do his bidding. Chrisann was less verbal and charismatic, but even when overwhelmed by Jobs, held on to a stubborn core of self she wasn't willing to surrender. His power threatening to subsume her identity: at one level this is a classic tale of feminist struggle. A large part of the book is taken up with Jobs at first denying paternity for their daughter Lisa, and then being forced through DNA testing to acknowledge her. His conduct toward Brennan and Lisa was shameful, and Brennan suffered from it, both financially and emotionally. Although the behavior got better over time, the scars remained. Still, she stays remarkably even handed throughout, acknowledging Jobs intermittent generosity and genuine attempts to be part of Lisa's life while not glossing over his boorish and selfish behaviors. Brennan has carefully and thoroughly separated the many layers that made up his character, beginning with the trauma of being abandoned by his birth mother and the initially hesitant embrace of his adoptive parents. She is witness to his fierce, observing intelligence as he is formulating his views of the world and his place in it. We see the profound effect of Kobun, his zen master, along with Job's lifelong attraction to the clarity, simplicity and casuistry derived from zen teachings. Chrisann gets bruised by his boundless ambition and the emotional voids that led all too frequently to abusive or amoral behavior. Among his many talents, Jobs was a master marketer of his and Apple's image. Brennan has taken a lot of lumps over the years from people who had a stake in burnishing the myth of Steve Jobs. She may take even more once this book is published. But she was there at the beginning. She bore witness, was damaged, and endured. This is a brave book, full of striking insights. It reveals a much more equivocal tale of inventive genius than the recent biographies and movies about Jobs have described. Through her insights into Jobs and his time, she helps us understand the strange brew of spiritualism, idealism, materialism, hucksterism and self-absorption that propelled us into the modern age of personal technology. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Milli G She did a great job of telling her story. I'm glad I got the book -

An intimate look at the life of Steve Jobs by the mother of his first child providing rare insight into Jobs's formative, lesser-known years Steve Jobs was a remarkable man who wanted to unify the world through technology. For him, the point was to set people free with tools to explore their own unique creativity. Chrisann Brennan knows this better than anyone. She met him in high school, at a time when Jobs was passionately aware that there was something much bigger to be had out of life, and that new kinds of revelations were within reach. *The Bite in the Apple* is the very human tale of Jobs's ascent and the toll it took, told from the author's unique perspective as his first girlfriend, co-parent, friend, and—like many others—object of his cruelty. Brennan writes with depth and breadth, and she doesn't buy into all the hype. She talks with passion about an idealistic young man who was driven to change the world, about a young father who denied his own child, and about a man who mistook power for love. Chrisann Brennan's intimate memoir provides the reader with a human dimension to Jobs' myth. Finally, a book that reveals a more real Steve Jobs.

"Brennan's memoir . . . provides new insight on the heavily scrutinized Apple cofounder. . . . Coleen Marlo delivers a fine performance, skillfully communicating with her tone Brennan's idealism, resilience, and curiosity." ---Library Journal Audio About the Author CHRISANN BRENNAN is a painter living in the San Francisco Bay area.