



The Rice Room: Growing Up Chinese-American from Number Two Son to Rock 'n' Roll

By Ben Fong-Torres

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An instant best-seller when originally published in 1994, this expanded and updated edition of *The Rice Room* tells of growing up with a double identity—Chinese and American. Ben Fong-Torres was torn between an alluring American lifestyle—including Elvis and rock 'n' roll—and the traditional cultural heritage his proud immigrant parents struggled to instill in their five children. Now illustrated with personal family photographs as well as photos of the author with various celebrities, Fong-Torres rounds out his life story with a new final chapter.

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Editorial Review

From the Inside Flap

Praise for the first edition:

“Ben Fong-Torres ran and wrote the music section of *Rolling Stone* and at the same time kept his other foot in the dark, secret world of San Francisco’s Chinatown. It’s an amazing story.”—Jann Wenner

“A poignant examination of Ben’s life. I couldn’t put it down. In fact, I’m still holding it.”—Steve Martin

“I am a fifty-three-year-old Caucasian woman, and I feel as if a forty-seven-year-old Chinese man has just told my story—and that of a generation of Americans. Thank you, Ben.”—Grace Slick of The Jefferson Airplane

“Ben Fong-Torres’s voice rocked over the radio waves and a whole generation listened to one of the pioneer voices to break out of Chinatown. Now Fong-Torres fills his memoir, *The Rice Room*, with worlds of feeling, both tender and tragic, to reveal the fire behind that voice.”—Fae Myenne Ng, author of *Bone*

“Ben Fong-Torres’s book is one man’s journey into the heart of contemporary America. From childhood to manhood we see his struggles and triumphs as he negotiates growing up in the 60s with Elvis, hippie rock and roll, personal tragedy, and a Chinese-American soul. A witty, moving, heartfelt read.”—Philip Kan Gotanda, writer and director of *The Kiss* and author of *Yankee Dawg You Die*

About the Author

Ben Fong-Torres is the author of many books, including *Becoming Almost Famous: My Back Pages in Music, Writing and Life, Not Fade Away: A Backstage Pass to 20 Years of Rock & Roll* and *The Hits Just Keep on Coming: The History of Top 40 Radio*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Julie Flanagan:

Exactly why? Because this The Rice Room: Growing Up Chinese-American from Number Two Son to Rock 'n' Roll is an unordinary book that the inside of the publication waiting for you to snap the idea but latter it will surprise you with the secret this inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who write the book in such awesome way makes the content interior easier to understand, entertaining means but still convey the meaning completely. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this anymore or you going to regret it. This amazing book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book get such as help improving your talent and your critical thinking method. So , still want to delay having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

Enrique Hayes:

Reading can called head hangout, why? Because when you find yourself reading a book specially book entitled The Rice Room: Growing Up Chinese-American from Number Two Son to Rock 'n' Roll your brain will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every single aspect that maybe not known for but surely can be your mind friends. Imaging each and every word written in a book then become one form conclusion and explanation this maybe you never get ahead of. The The Rice Room: Growing Up Chinese-American from Number Two Son to Rock 'n' Roll giving you an additional experience more than blown away your brain but also giving you useful facts for your better life with this era. So now let us show you the relaxing pattern the following is your body and mind will be pleased when you are finished reading it, like winning a game. Do you want to try this extraordinary paying spare time activity?

Jimmy Martinez:

Are you kind of occupied person, only have 10 or perhaps 15 minute in your moment to upgrading your mind ability or thinking skill also analytical thinking? Then you are having problem with the book compared to can satisfy your short period of time to read it because all of this time you only find publication that need more time to be learn. The Rice Room: Growing Up Chinese-American from Number Two Son to Rock 'n' Roll can be your answer as it can be read by you actually who have those short extra time problems.

Mary Linkous:

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