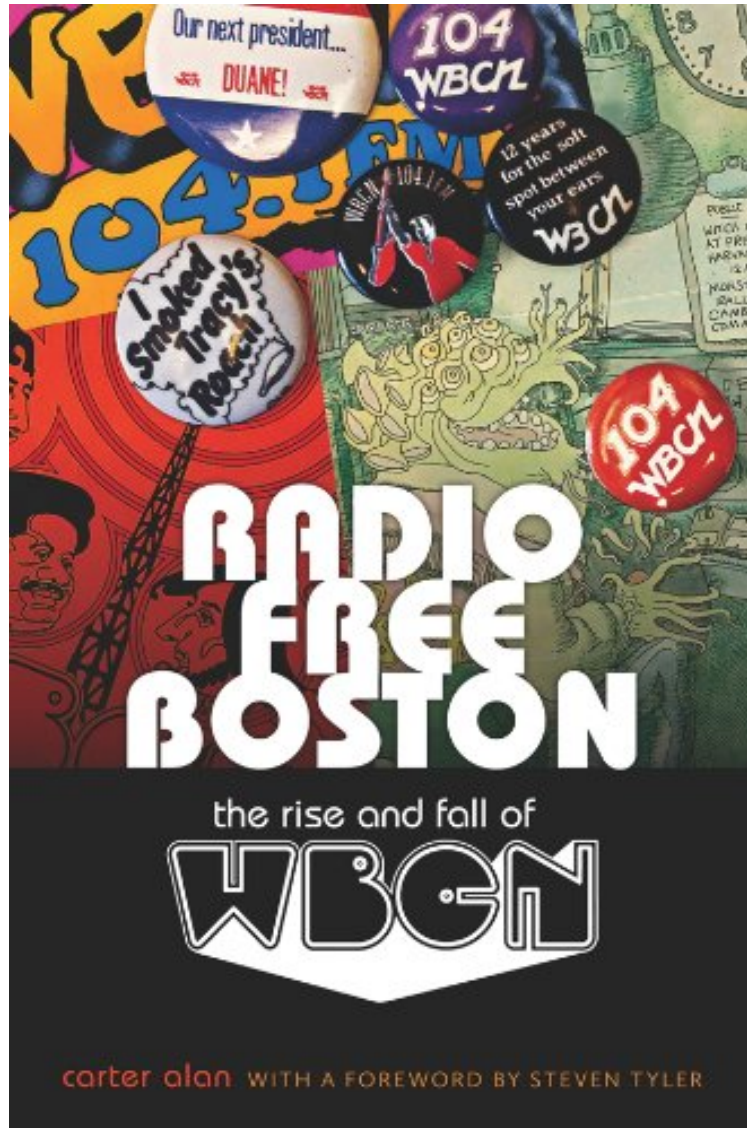


(Read free ebook) Radio Free Boston: The Rise and Fall of WBCN

Radio Free Boston: The Rise and Fall of WBCN

Carter Alan

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Carter Alan : Radio Free Boston: The Rise and Fall of WBCN before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Radio Free Boston: The Rise and Fall of WBCN:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. I hate to start it this way butBy RMurchI hate to start it this way but....."back when I was a kid....."Anyway "back when I was a kid" the DJ's all had their own personalities and played the music they loved. Now you can drive from Boston to LA and it sounds like you are listening to the same radio station for the whole trip (and that's not a good thing).Radio Free Boston takes me back to a time (1968 to 2009)

when music meant the world to me....the story of the station I loved.....and the DJ's who brought it to life (I'm looking at you Charles Laquidara!). From Cream and the Beatles through Punk and Grunge BCN was there for it all.I read this entire book in one weekend....couldn't put it down.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Will bring back many memories. WBCN, the greatest station.By BobExcellent book, long time WBCN listener here, fills in for the last years of the station when many of us had migrated over to WZLX. In it's prime it was the best station going and I constantly had my ear glued to it. My favorite DJ Mark Parenteau who was one of the funniest DJ's I've ever heard in my life sadly just passed away last year. I once heard Mark start record at the wrong speed then go into this long song and dance about how "these modern 12" singles" look like LP's bla bla bla on and on, finally diatribe ended and Mark started the record up again on the wrong speed, this time he changed it back to the correct speed without a word, was one of the funniest things I've ever heard on the radio. I also liked Charles Laquidara and especially miss his Duane Ingalls Glasscock, I used to get up every Saturday morning despite having a good time the night before just to hear the show. I also liked Ken Shelton and Matt Segal and many others The BCN DJ's were like friends, and especially early on they would play a very large variety of music. All I can say is read the book and it will bring back many many memories if you were a listener. I REALLY miss those days when radio when radio was a central part of my life.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A must read for any radio fan or Boston history fan!By Pilot69This book blew me away for it's depth and rendering of the decades where BCN ruled the radio universe. If you were (like me) a devotee of he station and were able to remain accident-free during Charles' Big Mattress, this book will make you laugh, cry and get pissed off. The tragedy to radio that is Stern is well documented here along with the slow and absolutely unnecessary demise of the station.We'll never see the likes of it again and I thank Carter from the bottom of my heart for writing this book, so readable and filled with great pics. As the saying goes: you don't know what you've got till it's gone.....

Blaring the Cream anthem I Feel Free, WBCN went on the air in March 1968 as an experiment in free-form rock on the fledgling FM radio band. It broadcast its final song, Pink Floyds Shine On You Crazy Diamond, in August 2009. In between, WBCN became the musical, cultural, and political voice of the young people of Boston and New England, sustaining a vibrant local music scene that launched such artists as the J. Geils Band, Aerosmith, James Taylor, Boston, the Cars, and the Dropkick Murphys, as well as paving the way for Bruce Springsteen, Tom Petty, U2, and many others. Along the way, WBCN both pioneered and defined progressive rock radio, the dominant format for a generation of listeners. Brilliantly told by Carter Alanand featuring the voices of station insiders and the artists they lovedRadio Free Boston is the story of a city; of artistic freedom, of music and politics and identity; and of the cultural, technological, and financial forces that killed rock radio.

From the first note of Creams I Feel Free carried by the FM signal at 104.1 in 1968 to the final note of Pink Floyds Shine on You Crazy Diamond bringing the story to a close in 2009, Alan traces the stations wild ride from its roots as a foundering classical music operation (WBCN stood for Boston Concert Network and employed a young Ron Della Chiesa), to its evolution into a free-form, counterculture outpost, and finally to a tightly controlled, corporate enterprise with two of its most popular, and controversial, shows emanating out of New York City. . . . The fairy tale of WBCN may not have had a happy ending, but Alan tells it with the kind of flair that does its original free-form spirit proud.Boston Globe