



# There's a Riot Going On: Revolutionaries, Rock Stars, and the Rise and Fall of the '60s

By Peter Doggett

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Between 1965 and 1972, students and other political activists around the globe prepared to mount a revolution. While the Vietnam War raged, calls for black power grew louder and liberation movements erupted everywhere from Berkeley, Detroit, and Newark, to Paris, Berlin, Ghana, and Peking. Rock and soul music fueled this revolutionary movement with anthems and iconic imagery. Soon the musicians themselves, from John Lennon and Bob Dylan to James Brown and Fela Kuti, were being dragged into the fray. Some joined the protestors on the barricades; some were persecuted for their political activism; some abandoned the cause and were dismissed as counter-revolutionaries. From Mick Jagger's legendary appearance in Grosvenor Square, standing on the sidelines and snapping pictures, to the infamous incident at Woodstock when Pete Townshend kicked Yippie Abbie Hoffman off the stage while he tried to make a speech about an imprisoned comrade, to Lennon's display of self-promotion when he auctioned off his hair on top of the "Black House," Doggett unravels the truth about how these ambitious musicians weren't always the "Street Fighting Men" they saw themselves as. *There's A Riot Going On* is a rich, fact-filled, exceedingly well-researched social history at the nexus of pop culture, celebrity, and politics.

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### **Editorial Review**

#### **Review**

Peter Doggett's weighty tome is a treasure trove of countercultural anecdotes and reportage. \* New Statesman \* Tells the story in an exemplary way. \* Financial Times \* Doggett has mastered hundreds of interviews, contemporary accounts and documents to put together this meticulously researched, scholarly and often gripping portrait of an era. \* Sunday Telegraph \* Doggett's encyclopaedic account of Sixties counter-culture is a fascinating history of pop's relationship with politics, examining the establishment's skill at assimilating rock 'n' roll rebellion into the mainstream. \* Independent \* Doggett has a brisk, readable style, with an astute eye for the idiosyncrasies of the period. \* Telegraph \* ...a fresh and near-definitive slant on a subject you might have thought had been picked clean by journalists and historians. \* Time Out \* Peter Doggett's There's a Riot Going On is a lot of fun, but it also needs to be read by anyone who wants to understand the significance of the 60s or the role of pop culture. It is a very important book and I am sure I will go back to it numerous times. \* Mark Kurlansky, author of 1968 and Salt \* An impressive account. \* Observer \* Doggett examines the era with brilliant, creative meticulousness, song by song, riot by riot, poem by poem, dispelling myths...and uncovering truths...until you get caught inextricably up in the whirlwind of the greatest decade on record. Absolutely unmissable. \* Maxim \* Doggett's voluminous record unveils the hippie dream of remaking the world as mere fashion. \* Sunday Herald \*

#### **About the Author**

Peter Doggett is one of the UK's leading rock writers and journalists. He was editor of Record Collector magazine for fifteen years, and currently writes for Mojo and Q among others. His most recent book is Are You Ready for the Country? (Viking), an authoritative history of country rock. He has also written biographies of John Lennon and Lou Reed.

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