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Great Pretenders: My Strange Love Affair with 50s Pop Music (Paperback)

By Karen Schoemer

SIMON SCHUSTER, United States, 2007. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.February 1964: The Beatles step onto the tarmac at JFK International Airport and turn the country on its head. It s the advent of rock and roll s uninterrupted reign, youthful rebellion, and overt teenage sex. It s also the deathblow for the pop music of another generation -- the songs of Pat Boone and Georgia Gibbs -- and all its perky, white-bread conformity. Not two years later, Karen Schoemer is born, and comes of age with rock and roll. While her parents might enjoy the new music, the cultural upheaval passes them by, and they cling to the promises made by the music they loved as teenagers, the sweet, innocent 1950s pop of Patti Page, Frankie Laine, and the like. But having courted and wed against a backdrop of ideals peddled by this music -- finding true love, living happily ever after -- Schoemer s parents, like so many people, are crushed by disappointment when love doesn t deliver what the songs promised. Fifties pop falls quickly off the charts; their marriage eventually falls apart. In Great Pretenders, a lively, provocative...


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