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# Joni Mitchell



## **Synopsis**

A lush exploration of Joni Mitchell's career and artWhen singer, musician, and broadcast journalist Malka Marom had the opportunity to interview Joni Mitchell in 1973, she was eager to reconnect with the performer she'd first met late one night in 1966 at a Yorkville coffeehouse. More conversations followed over the next four decades of friendship, and it was only after Joni and Malka completed their most recent recorded interview, in 2012, that Malka discovered the heart of their discussions: the creative process. In Joni Mitchell: In Her Own Words, Joni and Malka follow this thread through seven decades of life and art, discussing the influence of Joni's childhood, love and loss, playing dives and huge festivals, acclaim and criticism, poverty and affluence, glamorous triumphs and tragic mistakes . . . This riveting narrative, told in interviews, lyrics, paintings, and photographs, is shared in the hope of illuminating a timeless body of work and inspiring others.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Normally celebrity interviews are brief, awkward affairs held in sterile hotel rooms or agents' offices.

After you read a few from the same tour, you realize they are just going through the motions, repeating boilerplate stories and once-fresh-but-now-stale observations for lazy interviewers who don't seem to notice or care they aren't getting the good stuff. What's different about this book is that 1) the interviewer is a personal friend of Joni's, and 2) the three interviews evolved over a period of almost 40 years. They took place in Joni's living room, several days per session -- I daresay over wine and cigarettes -- the 1st in '73 during the taping of Court & Spark, the 2nd in '79 around the time of Mingus and the final one just two years ago. By the time they get to 2012, the two of them are flipping through a book of Joni's lyrics and riffing off each other on what things meant, what was cool, what was stolen from others. It helps that the interviewer is a singer and that they met back when Joni was a total unknown.-----To be honest, I'm usually reluctant to read interviews with Joni. I have profound respect for her as an artist -- she truly is a genius and is unique in so many ways\*\* -- but I find her arrogance off-putting. Is she humble in these interviews? Of course not. The difference is that these dialogues actually go somewhere. I found the 2012 conversation particularly rewarding, like an intimate evening with old friends. Check out this nugget from 1973. It summarizes what I love about her (and inspires me to find software to play nursery rhymes in reverse!

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