

# the groupies

STEREO

ELPS-1000



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ALAN LORBER  
PRODUCTIONS, INC.



The first recorded documentary study of the international groupie phenomenon as reported in Rolling Stone, Time, the Realist, Cash Box and the Village Voice

# the groupies

## scenes

—Howard Smith

*the village VOICE, May 22, 1969*

"HE WANTED ME TO TAKE a bath with them. That's the newest craze with all the English — they want you to take a bath with them and rub their back.

"Rub their back, what about when he played with himself?"

"Oh, he played with . . . when? when was that?"

"When you wouldn't make piggies with him."

"I wouldn't make piggies with him so he went into the bathroom and whacked off. He's really crazy, he's really horny."

"Randy is what they call it, randy."

"He's puny too."

"These English groups are so kinky, God, (she names a well-known English guitarist) — loves being beaten."

"The English groups are so pure and good, they come over here and get dosed up. He went back with the clap. They all do."

That conversation, as you may have guessed, took place between two groupies. What may surprise you is that it happened in a recording studio. The tape wound around for twelve hours inscribing the views of four girls, 17 to 22. The result will be an album called "The Groupies" that will be released in a month and probably be a big seller.

It was done by Alan Lorber, an arranger and producer who had been reading the proliferation of groupie stories in magazines like the Realist, Rolling Stone, and Time and thought, "Why not?" He chose six girls, flying some of them in from California and ended up using four in the sessions.

Bringing two girls in at a time, he put them in separate booths facing each other but eight feet apart for a lifelike stereo effect. Then they just rapped. Lorber asked them to talk to each other about the things that are important to them and their lives. I heard some of the tapes and the results were sometimes devastating but always interesting. One thing that came across is the ambivalence in the groupies sex habits. On one hand, you have the living, walking result of the sexual revolution. They take the pill. They feel that there is nothing to lose and don't bother counting how many guys they make it with in a day. But rather than being free to do what pleases them most, they are free to submit completely to what the musician wants. The conversations described how the groupie will totally degrade herself in complying with her idol's wishes. Sort of Libertine O.

Another facet of the group-groupie relationship is the symbiotic quality. Of course, the girls achieve a kind of status in being with the people they worship. But the rock stars get something more out of the fuck than the sex. Musicians find touring very disorienting and tiring. Whirling from one unfamiliar town to another, sometimes playing two places in one day, they get lonely. I've spoken with a lot of top groups lately and without exception they all say they feel isolated or desolate on tour. Whether or not they like to admit it, they need the comfort of a warm body and the reassurance of unreserved affection.

Lorber spent 100 hours editing the tapes. Sometimes he just did quick cuts to create a mood, four or five sentences piling up on each other. Sometimes he followed one idea with another that contrasted the contradictions in their lives. The girls' voices, cleverly cut from one speaker to the other, conjured up a very vivid image of the whole lifestyle.

I think "The Groupies" will sell for a lot of reasons. For those on the scene but removed from this particular activity, there is a double-edged fascination. It is both morbid and vicarious in an attraction-repulsion way. The record also probably will be a handbook for teenyboppers with groupie aspirations. For parents of teenage daughters, it will be the scare record of the year.

Like this section, speaking of the road manager of a famous English group: "Oh, he's violent. I got black and blue from him."

"Oh, she's sore! She showed it to me."

"I'm black and blue. That boy is evil."

"To every group there's about 20 chicks and everyone's jumping them and each chick wants to be around. And the way to do that is by being the freakiest, and like Liz had pickles and stuff on the table."

"And they decided they'd try something new."

"Something new, so he stuck a sausage up her."

"And then they stuck it back in the refrigerator. And then they put a cucumber and they put a . . . what else? (Giggles) They put something else . . . (Laughter) it's really killing me."

"Pickle!"

"A pickle . . ."

"Pickles, cucumbers, and sausages."

"I don't know what this girl's made of."

(— Reprinted with permission —)

### GROUPIE GLOSSARY:

POXIE: physically repulsive

PLASTER CASTER (The Plaster Casters): girls who cast plaster molds of the genital organs of male pop stars.

KINKY: attractively weird

RANDY: horny, sexually obsessed

PUNY: small as in male genitals

PIGGIES (making piggies): sexual intercourse

THE FOX (The Brooklyn Fox Theater): scene of early sixties rock shows usually m.c.'d by Murray the "K"

GOOF: an event that occurs contrary to normal social behavior; sometimes just for the fun of it.

SLAGGY: low-life groupie

POP STAR: the artist with the hit record; major recording artist with international popularity.

HEAD (gave him, to give): oral copulation

WHANK OFF: to masturbate

DOSED-UP: having contracted a venereal disease

CREAMIES: reference to the physical properties of venereal disease

DOWNNS: pills with mental and physical depressant qualities

UPS: opposite effects of downs

MESSED-UP: a state resulting from excessive drug-involvement

FLING-ON (to fling-on someone): a groupie who physically throws herself at a pop star.

STONED: mental and physical state of being resulting from the intake of mind-expanding drugs

GROSS: ugly, repulsive person or scene

ROCK-GEISHA: an elite groupie

HANG ON THE WALL: wait around in a rock club for the action

FREAK SCENE: sexual orgy

PRINCE CHARMING: as in "Cinderella"

UP-SEXED: Freudian slip for "upset"

LEADER: lead singer or the star of a pop group

ROADYS: road managers who accompany pop groups

OUT OF IT: stoned to the point of being out of it

POP PEOPLE: those people involved in the music scene including recording, producing and all related fields

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THE GIRLS HEARD ON THIS LP REPORT  
THEIR ACTUAL LIFE EXPERIENCES,  
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**EARTH**

SIDE 2

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