

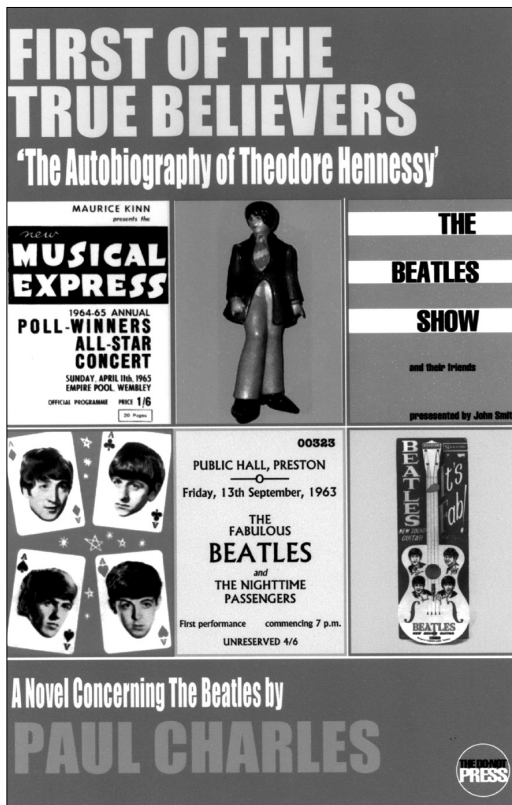
First of the True Believers

A Novel Concerning The Beatles

by **PAUL CHARLES**



ADVANCE INFORMATION



General Fiction (Music background)

TITLE:	First of the True Believers
AUTHOR:	Paul Charles
C-format trade paperback	216 x 135mm
ISBN 1 899 344 78 0	£7.50
Library edition casebound	
ISBN 1 899 344 79 9	£15.00
EXTENT:	288 pages
ILLUSTRATIONS:	N/a
PUBLICATION DATE:	May 2002
AUTHOR'S LOCATION:	London and Dublin
MARKETS:	World English Language
OTHER RIGHTS:	The Do-Not Press Ltd
MARKETING PLANS:	*On-going author activity and interviews. Features promised in national newspapers and local and national radio. *Anticipated review coverage in the national press, crime supplements and magazines.

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THE FIRST NON-SERIES NOVEL FROM THE CREATOR OF DETECTIVE INSPECTOR CHRISTY KENNEDY

THE BEATLES formed in 1959, and by March 1964, every one of the top five singles in the American Billboard chart was theirs. They had become a worldwide pop sensation and their home town of Liverpool was the centre of the thriving British music industry. Among other less celebrated Merseybeat groups of the time were The Nighttime Passengers, led by Theo Hennessy, who – according to his own testimony at least – very nearly replaced Pete Best as drummer of the ‘Fab Four’.

First of The True Believers tells of a decade in the life of Theodore Hennessy. It starts in the late 1950s with his first meeting with the beautiful and elusive Marianne Burgess, and follows their subsequent on-off love affair and his rise to prominence as a musician and music agent. Intertwined is the story of The Beatles themselves: undaunted by his near miss and unperturbed by the presence of Ringo Starr on the drum-stool that should rightfully have been his, Theo remains an enthusiastic Beatles fan and he follows their progress with interest.

First of The True Believers charts the rise of The Beatles through the eyes and ears of a fan, from their early days in Hamburg, through the years of pop stardom to the bitter break-up that signalled the end of the ‘Decade of Love’.

The Beatles provided the definite soundtrack to the Sixties, and in *First of The True Believers*, novelist and musicologist Paul Charles combines their phenomenal story with a tender-hearted tale of sex, love and rock ‘n’ roll in Sixties Liverpool.

PRAISE FOR PAUL CHARLES

- ‘Its masterful sleuthing and romantic sub-plot make for two excellent reasons to settle down for some serious reading... Charles is a writer of real substance’ *What’s On in London*
- ‘Charles makes good use of his inside knowledge of the rock business. An author to watch.’ Martin Edwards, *Solicitors JrnI*.

KEY SALES POINTS

- Author is an influential music business agent (Jackson Brown, Nanci Griffith, Christy Moore, Tom Wait, Kinks)
- Set from the late-’50s to the early ’70s, the book charts the rise of The Beatles, with many facts and figures
- Press agents engaged: expect plenty of coverage

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Paul Charles was born and raised in Northern Ireland. He now lives and works in Camden Town, where he divides his time between writing novels and short stories and working in the music industry. He has written six Christy Kennedy mysteries, the latest of which – I’ve Heard The Banshees Sing – will be published by The Do-Not Press in the autumn/fall of 2002.