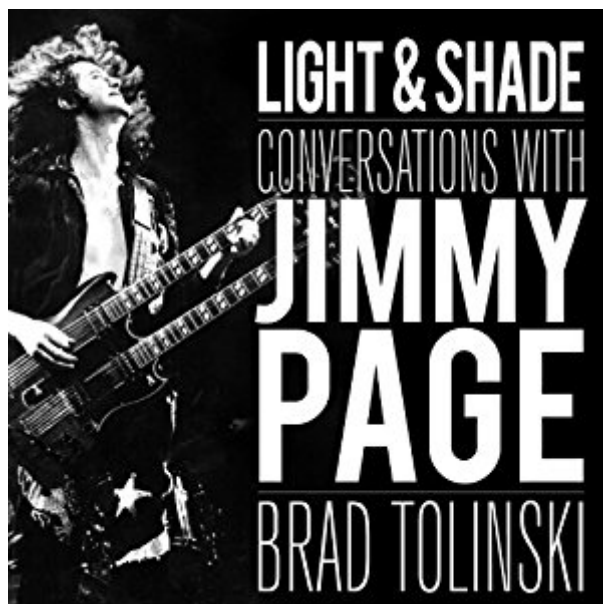


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# Light & Shade: Conversations With Jimmy Page



## Synopsis

More than 30 years after disbanding in 1980, Led Zeppelin continues to be celebrated for its artistic achievements, broad musical influence, and commercial success. The band's notorious exploits have been chronicled in bestselling books; yet none of the individual members of the band has penned a memoir nor cooperated to any degree with the press or a biographer. In *Light and Shade*, Jimmy Page, the band's most reticent and inscrutable member, opens up to journalist Brad Tolinski, for the first time exploring his remarkable life and musical journey in great depth and intimate detail. Based on extensive interviews conducted with the guitarist/producer over the past 20 years, *Light and Shade* encompasses Page's entire career, beginning with his early years as England's top session guitarist when he worked with artists ranging from Tom Jones, Shirley Bassey, and Burt Bacharach to the Kinks, The Who, and Eric Clapton. Page speaks frankly about his decadent yet immensely creative years in Led Zeppelin, his synergistic relationships with band members Robert Plant, John Bonham, and John Paul Jones, and his notable post-Zeppelin pursuits. While examining every major track recorded by Zeppelin, including "Stairway to Heaven", "Whole Lotta Love", and "Kashmir", Page reflects on the band's sensational tours, the filming of the concert movie *The Song Remains the Same*, his fascination with the occult, meeting Elvis Presley, and the making of the rock masterpiece *Led Zeppelin IV*, about which he offers a complete behind-the-scenes account. Additionally, the book is peppered with conversations between Page and other guitar greats, including his childhood friend Jeff Beck and hipster icon Jack White. Through Page's own words, *Light and Shade* presents an unprecedented first-person view of one of the most important musicians of our era.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Laughably maligned by critics for most of its active career, a revision of Greek mythology may now include a 13th slot for the band on Mount Olympus as they are arguably the Zeus of rock and roll music (sorry Elvis, you had the mojo and the hip-swing, but didn't bring the lightning and thunder). While Zeppelin's career may have been relatively short-lived, it still managed to burn an indelible, mysterious mark in modern music history that is largely kept alive by its introverted, immensely talented and equally mysterious mastermind, Jimmy Page. Tabloid-like tell-alls aside, *LIGHT AND SHADE* gives Page a platform to speak somewhat openly about his musical life before, during and after Zeppelin ... a satisfyingly light meal for fans, but few others. Guitar World magazine's Editor-in-Chief, Brad Tolinski, provides a book's worth of material that mainly includes transcriptions of his interviews with Page over the years. Straight-forward and somewhat narrow in scope, Page doesn't reveal too much more that is already known or widely speculated. *LIGHT AND SHADE* is organized in chronological chapters that chart significant periods in the musician's life. The chapters open with the author's summary of the period being discussed and are supported with Q and A transcriptions that allow Page to elaborate. The interviews are fairly safe and it appears clear that Tolinski took great care in avoiding issues that may have irritated Page or made him defensive. *LIGHT AND SHADE* is obviously a book written by a fan, for fans. But, considering Jimmy Page's reclusive/guarded nature, I can't fault Tolinski as he got the man to speak rather openly about his musical career (not to mention Tolinski surely wants to ensure future Page interviews).

*Light & Shade: Conversations with Jimmy Page* by Brad Tolinski is a non-fiction book which is a compilation of interviews the author did with the famed and private guitarist. Mr. Tolinski is the editorial director of *Guitar World*, *Revolver* and *Guitar Aficionado* magazines. *Light & Shade: Conversations with Jimmy Page* by Brad Tolinski shades some light (pun intended) on Jimmy Page, mostly known as Led Zeppelin's guitarist, his career, life and profession. Through hours of interviews we get a glimpse into Page's life and aspects of his life which he has had much influence (fashion, magic and more). I'm sure that if I wanted to know more about Led Zeppelin I could find an almost unlimited amount, all written by other people and maybe with a cooperation of the band. Even though the band is legendary, the members of the band rarely let the

public into their private life which is why I chose to read this book. In the interviews which comprise Light & Shade, Page talks about his early career, becoming one of England's most admired session guitarist, to his work with The Who, Clapton, The Kinks, The Yardbirds and of course Led Zepelin. The interviews continue past the Led Zepelin era into other projects which Page was involved in. It was surprising to learn from the book how professional the members of Led Zepelin were. Page & Bonham were at the top of their game before even starting the band, they didn't hang out socially (unless on tour) and enjoyed each other's company as professionals and musicians. I also never realized that Jimmy Page, Jeff Beck and Eric Clapton were long-time friends.

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