

LONNIE LEE

BOOKS 1,2,3, of 4

in AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL SERIES



ONCE UPON A STAR

known as

Lonnie Lee



An autobiography by one of Australia's first major music stars
Book one - The start of it all
1940-1958

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An autobiography by one of Australia's first major music stars
Book two - Australia's most popular star
1959-1971

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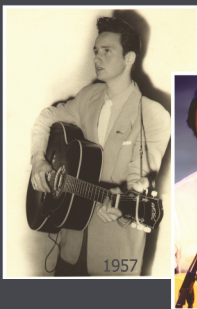


An autobiography by one of Australia's first major music stars
Book three - His years and career in America
1971-1983

ONCE UPON A STAR

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The first part of the life and career of one of Australia's first Rock'n'Roll music and television stars. It covers his family heritage, what influenced his interest in music and what inspired him to be a professional singer.

His first successes were a 1956 2UW radio contest and a 1957 MGM movie studios talent contest at the Sydney Trocadero, which led to his first professional shows in 1956 and subsequently the formation of his rockabilly band, possibly the first in Australia.

This book finishes as a Dec 1957 car accident takes him back to the family sheep station in Rowena NSW, then finally his return to Sydney in Dec 1958. Within months he was on his way to becoming one of Australia's first stars of popular music.

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Exactly a year after he had to give up his Rockabilly Band and leave Sydney for the family sheep property, he found himself back where he started. 1958 had been an amazing year full of experiences, from being a full-on Jackaroo to introducing Rock'n'Roll to the country, and hearing a psychic's prediction of stardom. Now, back in Sydney, 1959 was about to commence, bringing with it the fulfillment of dreams he could only have imagined. His name change, the first Leemen, a recording contract, television and touring success, and the first of many stadium shows to thousands of fans. This was the explosive start to an incredible career.

After years of Gold Awards and Hit records, he faced new challenges in Europe and England, then performed throughout the Pacific Islands on his way back to Australia for new hits, Swinger circuit tours and a spiritual awakening. Confronted by personal and career challenges, it wasn't long before he looked overseas, this time to America, but that's another story.

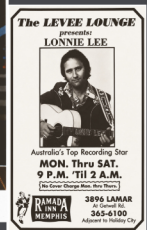


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As his story continues in Book 3, we follow an extraordinary and often turbulent journey in America. Already established as an Australian pioneering rock'n'roll star, as he was unknown, he was forced to begin at the very bottom, just as he had fifty years earlier in Australia. He had determination, resilience, and an unshakable belief in destiny.

This chapter is equally complex, from songwriting and friendships with world-renowned artists, close encounters with the FBI and Mafia, to ground-breaking business ventures, all set against a backdrop of spiritual searching, emotional highs and lows. Though not uncommon for public figures, his story is one of reinvention, resilience and conviction showing how close he came to major global success. Ultimately, his remarkable journey remains as singular as the man himself.

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