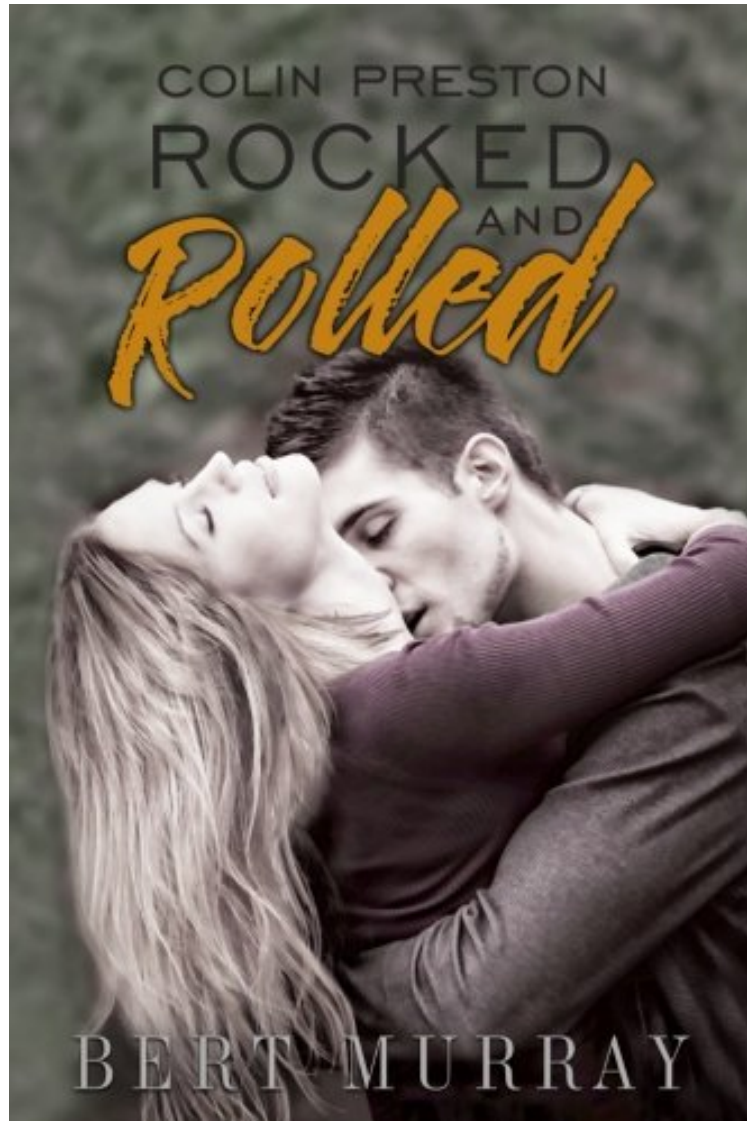


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## Colin Preston Rocked and Rolled: Books 1 - 3

*Bert Murray*

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#1296901 in Books 2011-01-26Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.00 x .65 x 6.00l, .84 #File Name: 1439275300258 pages | File size: 49.Mb

**Bert Murray : Colin Preston Rocked and Rolled: Books 1 - 3** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Colin Preston Rocked and Rolled: Books 1 - 3:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Authentic and SatisfyingBy CustomerMore often than I'd like, I do not finish books that have appeared to be more interesting than this one. The cover is well done, but along with the title, it did not suggest a story that would interest me. I downloaded it because I was curious about Bert Murray's writing.From the first page, I was drawn into Colin Preston's world and completely immersed in it. I needed to know

what happened to Colin and his friends. They are real people instead of characters in a book. I have known them. The story takes place in a college setting, but the conflict is ageless. Most of us have been in this situation or a similar one. We are fascinated by love and its power to fill us with ecstasy or to make us miserable. I enjoy movies because I am in the scene, seeing the actors and listening to their words all at once. Somehow, Bert Murray is able to convey the same feeling. With perfect clarity, the best choice of words, and a little pixie dust, he created a world so real to me that I was surprised when I realized I'd just been reading my Kindle in my favorite chair. I highly recommend this book to everyone, especially if you're older and sometimes wish to be young again. Not only was I pleasantly surprised by the story, but I truly admire Bert Murray's writing. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. **Rocks With Energy, Rolls With Laughter** By Free2Read COLIN PRESTON ROCKED AND ROLLED does not purport to be a Kafka novel. It is an entertainment, and it does that very well. Colin is 19, in his second year of college. His father is still overbearing, weighing in on what an appropriate major should be. Colin cares more for drama than economics. But what he cares about most is GIRLS, and most specifically, girls he can woo into his bed. So not much has changed since Shakespeare wrote MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING and MEASURE FOR MEASURE. Early in the school year, Colin cannot believe his luck when the beautiful Jasmine reciprocates his sexual advances. She is the most beautiful girl on campus. How could he be so lucky? We find out as the story unfurls that Jasmine has particular quirks of character, and she too is seeking something. Colin also befriends a lonely druggie who lives in his basement, a lonely Spanish teacher and novelist who needs a new muse, and almost any girl he can pick up at the local bar. With all this sexual activity to keep him occupied, it's no wonder his grades suffer. Will he get kicked out of school or placed on probation? You know Dad will go ballistic over that. And Jasmine, how can someone as ordinary and kind as Colin keep the campus beauty queen as his own? Despite all the emphasis on sex, Bert Murray has constructed a character with a heart. Murray allows Colin to go off the deep end with his drinking, his schemes to win the war of the beaux, and the responsibility to himself to get the education his parents are paying for. This is a funny, nostalgic look at college in the 80s, which is probably not so different from college in the '90s or college in the 60s. Young adults are seeking to understand the opposite sex, and in doing so, they learn a lot about themselves. I would definitely read another book by Murray. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. **Fun Story** By Daniel Smith This is not a story I typically read, but I'm happy I picked this up. The characters are funny and fun. It felt like what I would experience watching an 80's movie which I loved. This book left you with a good feeling which is always a plus. I can't imagine anyone not liking this story, I would really recommend it.

From Kirkus s Murray charts a lustily tormented story of first love and heartbreak. It's September 1985 in the bosky precincts of Elerby University (though it conveys the intimacy of a small liberal arts college) in upstate New York. Colin is entering his sophomore year with a lousy love life and a lousy relationship with his father, but he does have a good friend in Karl (a handsome natural athlete who has a way with women) and in the Beatles "when you love a band so much that its songs fill the empty spaces inside your head and heart." But along comes Jasmine, a serious dish with lips like butter, who really gets inside Colin's head and steals his heart. Murray's writing is phonetic; Colin's voice lifts from the page young and inexperienced, star-crossed and love-lost, which will come true soon enough as Jasmine drops him like a load of bricks and proceeds, that very afternoon, to have sex with Karl, into whose room Colin charges without knocking, looking for commiseration and finding betrayal: "Yes! Yes! Don't stop! the girl demanded loudly. Her voice sounded familiar." Murray draws Colin with immediate emotional pungency, and he doesn't lose the beat even when the situations turn slapstick. Nor does he tidy Colin up, rather letting him sink into a great morass of self-pity from which he must drag his own sorry butt toward whatever measure of salvation a decent, immature young man can find. Yes, the Beatles do offer the solace of shared experience, of meaning and even a little direction, but it is Colin's slowly gathering circle of friends a very human society of odd fellows, including a dorm-cellar-dwelling delusional, a dark and mysterious Spanish professor on the run from her demons, big-hearted Big Ty and sweet Liz who help illuminate the road ahead. Some of the sex scenes carry informational overload, but even then it is more humorous than cringing, perhaps even another epiphany that Colin collects: "There was no disappointment with Twinkies. You knew exactly what you were getting. Unlike Jasmine. Unlike love. Unlike life." A coming-of-age story with plenty of sting, where love is not only blind, but it blindsides. "With Colin Preston Rocked and Rolled (Davanna), first-time novelist Bert Murray manages a feat that seems to have escaped many writers, mainly women, who try for a Young Adult readership but wind up delivering predictable, generic, forgettable adolescent chick lit. Murray, who delivers here a kind of hard-core Catcher in the Rye, has a good ear for the lingo and speech rhythms of bright 19-year-olds, particularly young men who, despite their vulnerability looking for love, obsess about scoring. The story, set in 1985 at a leafy, upscale college in the Northeast, is full of references to rock that serve as mood markers, especially for the protagonist, Colin Preston, for whom The Beatles are almost substitute friends. An intelligent, likeable guy but (and who isn't at this age) troubled by a first serious love and ambivalent about his parents and career, undergoes "an education in the geography of the human heart." The story has engaging authenticity, though the unfortunate title may

be off putting. For sure, though, the depiction of the extent to which sex, drugs and drinking consume many college students should be sobering, considering the continuing rise of the cost of going to college. One sympathetic teacher, who befriends Colin, cannot compensate for what older adults might well see as the questionable value of higher education."-Joan Baum, Dan's Papers

From the Author  
My name is Bert Murray and I wrote "Colin Preston Rocked And Rolled" because I love coming-of-age novels and I love classic rock. I thought why not combine my passions with a coming-of-age novel about The Beatles and The Doors and college life. I hope you enjoy my book!