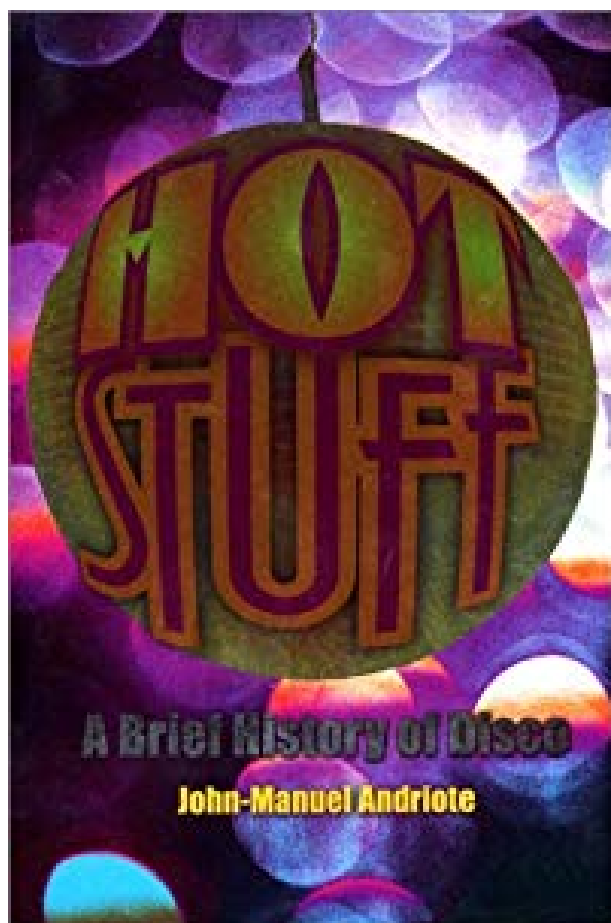


Hot Stuff: A Brief History of Disco



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You either love it or hate it. But one thing's for sure: rumors of its death are premature. This fast paced yet in-depth look at one of the most outrageous eras in musical -- and cultural -- history discusses the fashion and the freaks, the music-makers and the celebrators, to uncover why disco was so revered and reviled. In its early days, disco was dismissed by the public as producers' music made by studio musicians. But this amalgam of African-American rhythm and blues, soul, and funk soon caught fire, bringing together gay and straight, black and white, young and old in a way no other popular music has before or since -- a phenomenon that is still reverberating through the culture.

As it takes you from the history of dance halls to the rise of impossible-to-get-into clubs; from the reigning queens (Gloria Gaynor, Grace Jones, and Donna Summer among them) to the wanna-bes (including Dolly Parton, Frank Sinatra, and even Ethel Merman!); from the political mayhem of the Vietnam era to the party-all-night eighties, Hot Stuff will make you want to dust off those platform shoes, dig out your mirrored ball, and shake your booty all night long.