

U n d e r s t a n d i n g

American Pie III

An American Experience

Verse 2

Did you write the book of love
And do you have faith in God above
If the Bible tells you so?
Now do you believe in rock and roll?
Can music save your mortal soul?
And can you teach me how to dance real slow?

Well, I know that you're in love with him
'Cause I saw you dancin' in the gym
You both kicked off your shoes
Man, I dig those rhythm and blues

I was a lonely teenage broncin' buck
With a pink carnation and a pickup truck
But I knew I was out of luck
The day the music died



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A Period of Prosperity

The 1950s are fondly remembered as a kind of golden age in American history, a charmed moment in time when the country seemed more confident and hopeful than it has ever been. A period of unprecedented economic prosperity, it was the era when the majority of Americans, freed from the constraints of the Great Depression and World War II, took some time off from the uncertainties of life to simply enjoy themselves; and in a long, giddy parade of marriages, babies, automobiles, suburban homes and kitchen appliances... celebrating their achievement of the American Dream.



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Wealth of A Nation

Never before had the wealth of a nation been so widely distributed. But American enthusiasms during these years were rooted in more than just the things that money could buy: Allied victories in World War II had been great moral victories for the country as well, and as the United States rose to economic and political world dominance in the postwar years national pride went soaring upwards right along with it. Americans, for better or worse, were quite simply taken with America – and happy, for awhile

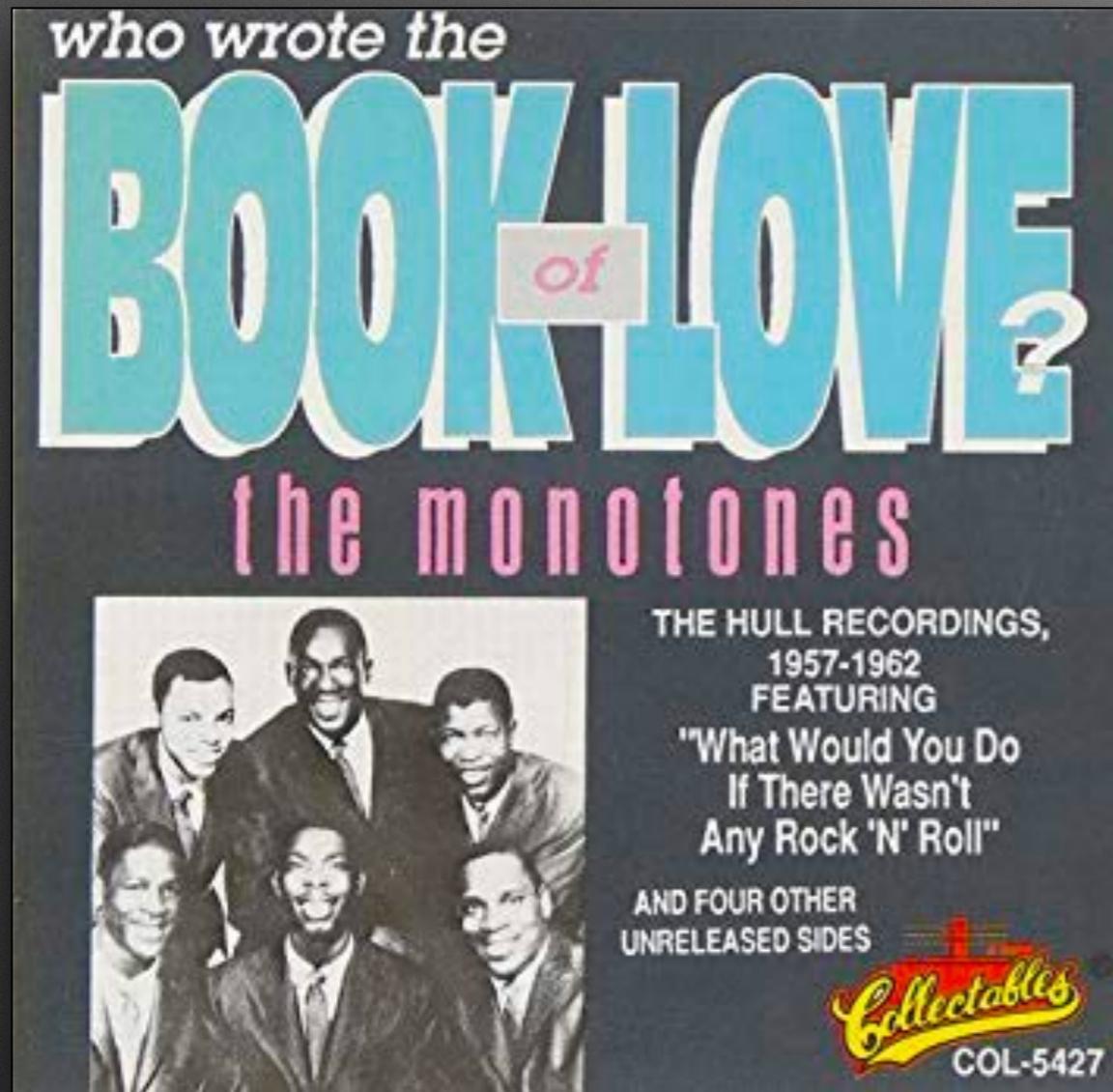


Did you write the book of Love?



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The Book of Love



This is a woman of some importance to the narrator, and if she may have written the Book of Love, she is most likely a symbolic figure, as these lines from the 1957 hit by The Monotones, *The Book of Love*, suggest:

*"Tell me, tell me, tell me
Oh, who wrote the Book Of Love?
I've got to know the answer
Was it someone from above?"*



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