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NYC's notorious *Mudd Club* where art and music intersect with sex, drugs and the slumming glittering elite.

The Mudd Club Details

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Author : Richard Boch

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From Reader Review The Mudd Club for online ebook

Diane says

Riveting. At turns hilarious, poignant, dishy and achingly beautiful. The inside outside guy, Richard Boch's memoir shines a light on a time when art, music and fashion were at their creative, collaborative best and anything and everything was possible. For some, these are our collective half remembered memories, for others, a way behind the ropes and up and down the stairs of that epoch called Mudd.

The Literary Chick says

Vividly captures the scene. Closest you'll ever get to going back.

Angela says

I absolutely loved this book. I was at least 10 years too young to be a part of this scene and have lamented that since I was a child. Richard Boch has an easy style that makes you feel like one of his friends.

Richard Boch says

Thanks Feral House... Great job putting it all together...and a special thanks to Steve Mass and everyone who walked thru the doors of 77 White.

Dave says

You can't read this book without thinking of the second chorus to The Talking Heads' Life During Wartime

This ain't no party, this ain't no disco,
This ain't no fooling around
This ain't no Mudd Club, or C. B. G. B.,
I ain't got time for that now

Fact is it's a great song and I would fully encourage you to listen to it over and over again. To most of us it was just another throwaway line in a rock song, to David Byrne and the glitterati of 1979 and 1980, there were a few places in NYC to be seen and to see the ones that mattered. There was the disco inferno of Studio 54, which by 1979 was so yesterday. There was CBGB and there was the Mudd Club, where punk and rock and new wave raged. This book is about sex, drugs, and rock n roll and the club where it all happened and the Stars who partied there and the famous who even got turned away by a Richard Poche, the world's most powerful doorman. He speaks here of the excitement he experienced in an easygoing narrative voice and it's all quite interesting until you decide you had enough of the namedropping and you get what's being

conveyed. It's not a plot driven novel, but vignettes of the experience.

John Spiller says

Late 70's/early 80's New York -- well, Manhattan -- is a source of endless fascination. From 1978 to 1981 or 1982, The Mudd Club was arguably the hub around which the no wave, art, drug, avant garde scenes revolved. Richard Boch was the doorman at Mudd pretty much from the beginning until 1981. He was an actual artist (painter) and a figurative artist (selecting the right mix of glam and weird to give Mudd its frisson.)

Boch more or less provides a chronological narrative of his tenure with interludes where he expands upon certain Mudd regulars. Boch captures the anarchic spirit of the times. I wish he would have spent more time describing some of the Mudd theme nights. I don't know if it was his intention, but he also captured the tedium as well. Even a seemingly glamorous job at the It club, what with rubbing shoulders with celebrities, ingesting mass quantities of coke, 'ludes, and smack, and engaging in causal sex on the job, even *that* could get old.

I had a few minor quibbles that kept me from giving this book 5 stars. I was a little overwhelmed by the number of people mentioned in the book. A glossary of names would have been helpful. I was baffled by Boch's decision to leave Mudd, which he doesn't explain. To be sure, these are minor gripes and should not dissuade anyone who has an interest in this time and place from devouring this book.

Claudia Summers says

A luminous and dark tour through the infamous Mudd Club, as seen through the eyes of the ultimate insider, doorman Richard Boch, when Mudd was the cultural epicenter of New York's downtown art and music scene. This book is so much more than just fun dish on underground legends and front page celebrities though. Particularly compelling, and intimate, is Boch's own personal journey through an underworld of drugs interwoven into the Mudd gestalt. For anyone interested in New York City's late 70s/early 80s art and music scene in all of its debauched excess and epoch defining creativity before that scene was shattered by AIDS and gentrification--this is a must read.
