Boys in the Trees: A Memoir

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Rock Star. Composer and Lyricist. Feminist Icon. Survivor.

Simon's memoir reveals her remarkable life, beginning with her storied childhood as the third daughter of Richard L. Simon, the co-founder of publishing giant Simon & Schuster, her musical debut as half of The Simon Sisters performing folk songs with her sister Lucy in Greenwich Village, to a meteoric solo career that would result in 13 top 40 hits, including the #1 song "You're So Vain." She was the first artist in history to win a Grammy Award, an Academy Award and a Golden Globe Award, for her song "Let the River Run" from the movie Working Girl.

The memoir recalls a childhood enriched by music and culture, but also one shrouded in secrets that would eventually tear her family apart. Simon brilliantly captures moments of creative inspiration, the sparks of songs, and the stories behind writing "Anticipation" and "We Have No Secrets" among many others. Romantic entanglements with some of the most famous men of the day fueled her confessional lyrics, as well as the unraveling of her storybook marriage to James Taylor.

An Amazon Best Book of December 2015:

In the trees is just about the only place in Carly Simon's world that there aren't boys, suggests this unputdownable memoir by the beloved singer and the first artist in history to win a Grammy Award, an Academy Award, and a Golden Globe Award for the same song ("Let the River Run" from the movie Working Girl). Growing up the privileged but congenitally anxious daughter of a high-flying publishing executive, Simon learned early on - perhaps from her mother, who moved a much younger male "assistant" into the house when the Simon sisters were small - to crave love and attention. Some of this she got, of course, from performing, even though she famously suffers from crippling stage fright. The rest she sought from men - and her encounters with guys known mostly by their boldfaced first names - Mick, Warren, Jack - are well (and sometimes painfully honestly) documented here. (And yes, she finally reveals who her song "You're So Vain" refers to - sort of.) But it is the story of her marriage to fellow musician and Martha's Vineyard resident James Taylor - whom she met first as a young teenager - that is the most resonant. Although the union lasted two decades, and produced two children - and despite the fact that Simon and Taylor are now not in touch - it is clear that JT is Simon's real-life torch song, the original man who got away. - Sara Nelson Carly Simon lives on Martha's Vineyard.

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