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| Doreen Rappaport, the author of *John’s Secret Dreams* titled it that because John often wrote about how his personal dreams drove his music and impacted his life. (author’s purpose) | John must of had a great imagination and he was never afraid to use it and share it with the world. |
| (author’s purpose) The author of JSD wrote how deeply John’s dreams and song lyrics impacted his fans. | I have always been touched by his lyrics especially songs like “Imagine” and “All You Need is Love.” Imagine talks about people of all races and religions living together in peace and harmony. “All You Need is Love” talks about how nothing is impossible if we set our minds to it but the most important emotion to have in our hearts is love for ourselves and others. |
| John’s parents left him when he was just a little boy. His dad was in the navy and had little contact with him. His mom loved him but couldn’t care for him. John wrote about this pain of losing his parents at a young age in songs like “Mother.” |  |
| John went to live with his strict, Aunt Mimi. She discouraged him from playing the guitar. She told him he would never earn a living playing his guitar. | Boy, was she wrong. Despite not having the encouragement of his aunt with whom he lived, he continued his rock and roll dreams secretly. |
| His mom, Julia bought him his first banjo. Even though they did not live together, they formed a close relationship. Tragically, Julia was killed by a car when John was a teenager. | He wrote of this sadness in beautiful songs like “Julia.” |
| John was very strongly influenced by early rock and roll recordings by artists like Chuck Berry, Little Richard and Elvis. These songs often were about heartbreak and loneliness-feelings John knew all about. These songs also had a driving beat and rhythm which also influenced him. |  |
| Find out exactly when and how John met Paul and other Beatles. |  |
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| John loved to draw and was an artist a well as a beautiful songwriter. |  |
| When John was just 24 years old, Beatlemania invaded the United States. In February 1964, they appeared on the Ed Sullivan show and had one hit rock and roll record after the other including “I Want to Hold Your Hand” and “She Loves You.”  They had millions and millions of screaming fans. Girls wanted to marry the Beatles (John was already married to his first wife, Cynthia). Boys wanted to look and sound just like the Beatles!!!! From John’s Secret Dreams” “Wherever the beatles went, flashbulbs popped, reporters shouted questions, fans screamed & shrieked & fought with police to get close enough to touch them.” |  |
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