

Name _____



Keith Richards: Rock 'n' Roll Legend

Keith Richards, often known as "Keef," is a legendary figure in the world of rock 'n' roll music. As a guitarist, songwriter, and one of the founding members of The Rolling Stones, Keith Richards has left an indelible mark on the history of rock music. In this passage, we will explore the life and music of this iconic artist.

Keith's Early Years

Keith Richards was born on December 18, 1943, in Dartford, Kent, England. He grew up in a working-class family and developed an interest in music at a young age. His grandfather, Augustus Theodore Dupree, played the guitar in a jazz band, and this early exposure to music would shape Keith's future.

The Formation of The Rolling Stones

In 1962, Keith Richards, along with his childhood friend Mick Jagger and other musicians, formed a band that would later become The Rolling Stones. Keith's distinctive guitar style, influenced by blues and rock 'n' roll, would become a hallmark of the band's sound. Hits like "Satisfaction" and "Paint It Black" showcased his guitar prowess.

The Glimmer Twins

Keith Richards and Mick Jagger, often referred to as the "Glimmer Twins," became the primary songwriting duo for The Rolling Stones. Their collaboration produced some of the band's most iconic songs. Keith's gritty guitar riffs and Mick's charismatic vocals created a unique musical synergy.

Life on the Road

The Rolling Stones gained fame not only for their music but also for their wild and rebellious lifestyle. Keith Richards, in particular, became notorious for his partying



Name _____

and rock 'n' roll excesses. Despite his reputation, his dedication to music never wavered, and he continued to create timeless rock classics.

Survivor and Icon

Keith Richards earned the nickname "The Human Riff" due to his incredible guitar skills. He survived various challenges, including drug addiction and legal troubles, and continued to perform with The Rolling Stones. His enduring presence in the music world made him a true rock 'n' roll icon.

Keith's Influence

Keith Richards has influenced countless musicians with his distinctive guitar style and songwriting. His open tuning technique on the guitar and his use of a five-string guitar contributed to the band's unique sound. Many rock and blues artists cite him as a major inspiration.

Legacy

Keith Richards' contributions to rock 'n' roll have earned him numerous awards and honors. He was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame as a member of The Rolling Stones in 1989. His impact on music and culture continues to be felt, and he remains a beloved figure in the world of rock.

