

Thought her death came suddenly at the age of 27 and fans were evidently shocked, *Pearl* went on to receive worldwide acclaim. The album peaked at #1 on the Billboard Top 200 and held the spot for nine weeks, ultimately reaching quadruple platinum status. *Pearl* features many of Joplin's most iconic songs including "Move Over," "Me and Bobby McGee," and "Mercedes Benz." More stripped down than anything she had previously recorded, the album focused specifically on Joplin's strengths as a songwriter and vocalist, turning the backing band down and turning her vocals way up.

Although it has been 44 years since the release of *Pearl*, Janis Joplin's uninhibited voice, inspired lyrics and whimsical personality have stood the test of time. She left her mark on an industry that was largely dominated by men and has, even after her death, continued to shape both blues and rock and roll alike.