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Dylan 'Chronicles' to make the scene

WHAT SIMON & SCHUSTER once called "the most-awaited book of 2002" will finally be published, on Oct. 12.

Bob Dylan's "Chronicles: Volume One" will be "the first in a series of the artist's self-penned personal histories," the publisher said yesterday.

The initial volume will consist of "firstperson narratives focusing on significant periods in Dylan's life and career."

When Dylan's writing plans first became known in 2001, he told USA Today his memoir would include a "take on people who've had takes on me" and recollections of his breakthrough in New York's folk music scene of the early 1960s.

Three years later, evidence that the enigmatic Dylan will still cover his early career is found in the cover images released by S&S yesterday.

The front cover shows a night scene of Times Square in the '60s. The back will feature a portrait of the young Dylan from the same period.

S&S and Dylan's spokesman offered no explanation when "Chronicles" was delayed two years ago.

This is Bob Dylan, after all.

However, the wait has resulted in a longer book.

S&S said "Chronicles," at \$24, will run 304 pages — 92 more than when it was listed in the company's fall 2002 catalogue.

S&S plans a first printing of 250,000 copies.

BY PAUL D. COLFORD

A second book due out on Oct. 12, an updated edition of "Lyrics: 1962-2001," will gather the words to "nearly every song Bob Dylan has written," the publisher added.

As fans have waited for "Chronicles," his official Web site, bobdylan.com, has called attention to some of the many other books about him and his music, including the recently published "Dylan's Visions of Sin."

It's an appreciation of Dylan's music by Christopher Ricks, a poetry scholar at Oxford University.

When Dylan was interviewed by USA Today, two new biographies were in stores, and he voiced irritation that certain sources had shared personal revelations about him.

"People tend to ingratiate themselves with other people by passing along information," he said.

"I have the same feeling about them that Sherman and Lee had about people hanging around their tents," he added, referring to the two Civil War generals.



A picture of singer Bob Dylan from the '60s is on back cover of book that was supposed to arrive in 2002, but now has Oct. 12 publishing date.

"They're spies. All informers should be shot. A person should not rat on anybody. It's a principle I adhere to."

Now, Dylan will have the chance to set the record straight.

Meanwhile, the ceaselessly touring artist has been on the road this summer with Willie Nelson, appearing at Minor League baseball parks.

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CHRONICLES