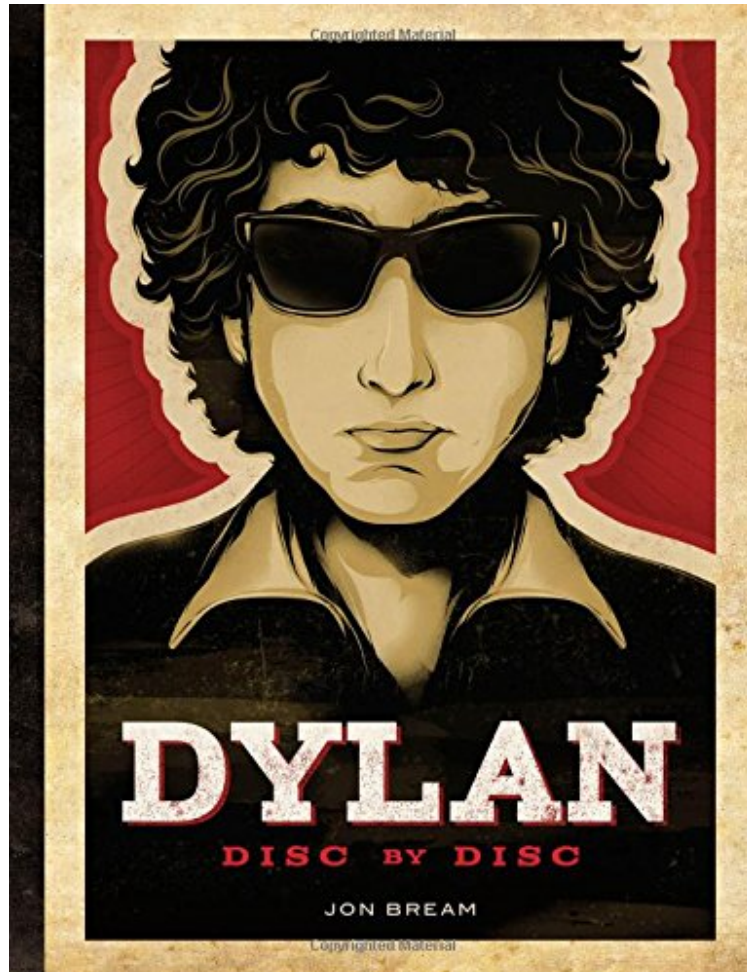


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Dylan: Disc by Disc

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Jon Bream : Dylan: Disc by Disc before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dylan: Disc by Disc:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Great General Overview By Andrew Rooney Great top-level overview of Dylan's studio discography, but not perfect. The premise of the book is simple and straightforward; every studio album that Dylan has released through "Shadows In the Night" gets an entry. Each entry contains a couple of paragraphs courtesy of Richie Unterberger, introducing the album and putting it in context and then 2-3 pages 'including pictures' from two different Dylan critics or authors or famous fans. The drawback is the comprehensive nature, and how in covering every album, certain albums are given less space than they probably deserve. I don't need to list those specific albums here, but suffice to say, with every single Dylan album getting no more than 4 pages, you're bound to overlook a lot of great songs and stories. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Riding along on the Dylan Arc By Jake One the fascinating thing about this book is the enjoyment mirrors the arc of Dylan's

career. The setup, two people from different but knowledgeable backgrounds, commenting on the albums in chronological order from earliest to latest, works. And the first half of Dylan's albums recreate the incredible spark he brought with his genius. As he becomes, let's say nicely, less popular, the reviewers strain to point out the bright spots. It is amazing to have recounted all the songs he did that didn't have legs. But the masterpieces are fun to revisit. I really enjoyed this book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Especially Good Book for Newer Dylan Fans
By ennyman
The setup is this: each Dylan album, from his first to *Shadows in the Night*, is presented with a listing of the songs and several paragraphs of context. This is followed by a discussion between Jon Bream and various commentators, selected for their obvious knowledge about and appreciation for Dylan's music and career. Bream asks questions interview-style to two people with sometimes disparate points of view, more than 50 in all, each of them briefly introduced in the chapters and more elaborately in an appendix. As I see it, this book can be a useful tool for people unfamiliar with Dylan's lesser known albums who wish to start collecting but don't know where to begin. The discussions help acquaint readers with many of the good tracks on these albums, but are also candid enough to shine a bit of light on which albums might not be suitable for first-time listeners. To this end Bream includes an Appendix 3 in which the albums are ranked, based on the opinions of our reviewers. One criticism was that the book could have been expanded, that there is not enough space in four pages per album to adequately cover his greatest albums. As I see it, that's not the aim of this book. Greil Marcus wrote a whole book on *Like a Rolling Stone*, and you can read Kevin Odegard's *A Simple Twist of Fate* for the definitive review of *Blood on the Tracks*. In short, the book makes Dylan accessible without striving to be comprehensive. All writing involves setting down rules and Jon Bream's process made for an easy-to-follow summation of Dylan's studio history.

Dylan: Disc by Disc features each of Bob Dylan's studio LPs--thirty-six releases in all. Rock 'n' roll musicians, songwriters, and critics sound off about each release, bringing from the shadows not only Dylan's extraordinary musical accomplishments but the factors in his life that influenced his musical expressions. From *The Freewheelin' Bob Dylan* to *Blonde on Blonde*, from *Blood on the Tracks* to *Shadows in the Night*, *Dylan: Disc by Disc* rouses generations of Dylan fans with a unique, hip, stunning exposition spanning the music legend's storied career. Few figures in American music have compiled a body of work as impressive as that created by Dylan. Winner of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Nobel Prize in Literature, eleven Grammys, and an Oscar, Dylan is one of the most honored musicians of our time. He has arguably done more to shape American music culture than any singer/songwriter. Beginning with his early acoustic folk releases, Dylan showed an early penchant for doing whatever he wanted with his music by electrifying his sound at the Newport Folk Festival in 1965, playing a leading role in the late 1960s protest culture, and playing with the Band. His long career far from over, he moved into his "Christian" period, his struggle for artistic identity in the 1980s, his return to critical success in 1997, and his release of an album of songs Frank Sinatra sang in 2015. The son of an appliance salesman from Hibbing, Minnesota, always accommodated his own muse, critics be damned. Commentators include Questlove of *The Roots* and *The Tonight Show* with Jimmy Fallon, Rodney Crowell, Jason Isbell, Suzanne Vega, Ric Ocasek of *The Cars*, Wesley Stace (aka John Wesley Harding), longtime Dylan pal Eric Andersen and Minnesota musicians Tony Glover and Kevin Odegard, both of whom have been in the studio with Dylan. Other well-known voices in *Dylan: Disc by Disc* include Robert Christgau, Anthony DeCurtis, Alan Light, Joe Levy, Holly George-Warren, Joel Selvin, Jim Fusilli, Geoffrey Himes, Charles R. Cross, and David Browne. *Dylan: Disc by Disc* is beautifully illustrated with LP art and period photography, as well as performance and candid backstage images. The book contains liner notes-like details about the recordings and session musicians, and provides context and perspective on Dylan's life, concerts, and career. *Dylan: Disc by Disc* presents Dylan fans and all lovers of music with a compelling, handsome, one-of-a-kind retrospective of the life and music of an American legend.

"Bream always seems to find the right questions to keep the conversations engaging and, most importantly, inspire debate." - The Brooklyn Rail