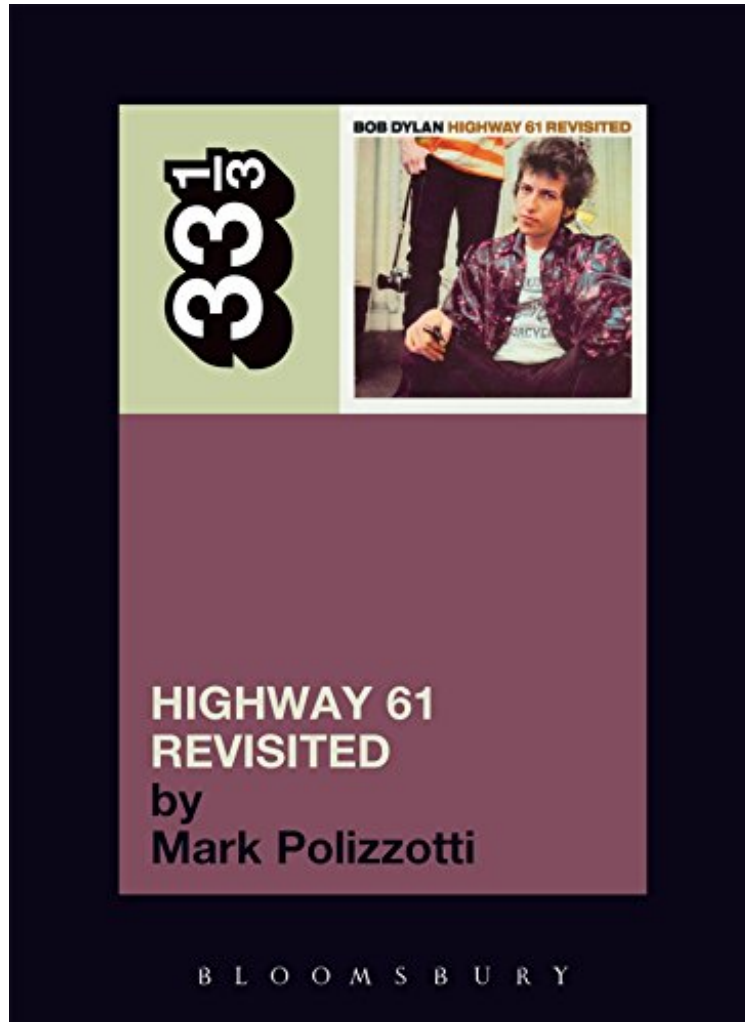


(Download pdf) Bob Dylan's Highway 61 Revisited (33 1/3)

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Mark Polizzotti

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Mark Polizzotti : Bob Dylan's Highway 61 Revisited (33 1/3) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bob Dylan's Highway 61 Revisited (33 1/3):

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Classic DylanBy Patrick Mc CoyI just finished up another 33 1/3 book on Bob Dylan's seminal Highway 61 Revisited by Mark Polizzotti. It is another exhaustively research look at how this great record came together. I think it has three of his greatest songs: " Like A Rolling Stone" (recently voted as the greatest rock song of all time), the underrated "Tom Thumb Blues," and dark "Desolation Row." I need to go back and watch the film Don't Look Back since it was made during this period and has many of the players mentioned in this book. I saw it at the urging of a roommate back in college but I wasn't as invest in Dylan or this record as I am now so it should be a revelation this time around. Another observation I have made is that I am drawn to the surly

nature of Dylan's song writing where it seems as though he is trying to get back at all those hypocrites, back stabbers, and people who have tried to drag him down, from "Like A Rolling Stone": Once upon a time you dressed so fine' / You threw the bums a dime in your prime, didn't you?' / People'd call, say, "Beware doll, you're bound to fall" / 'You thought they were all kiddin' you' / You used to laugh about / 'Everybody that was hangin' out' / Now you don't talk so loud / 'Now you don't seem so proud / 'About having to be scrounging for your next meal. Another stray observation, Dylan like Patti Smith was heavily influenced by Arthur Rimbaud-"the rock poet." 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. the author know his stuff and is quite a good writer. By thomgonzales As mentioned, the author know his stuff and is quite a good writer. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Margaret Gerbergift

Highway 61 Revisited resonates because of its enduring emotional appeal. Few songwriters before Dylan or since have combined so effectively the intensely personal with the spectacularly universal. In "Like a Rolling Stone," his gleeful excoriation of Miss Lonely (Edie Sedgwick? Joan Baez? a composite "type"?) fuses with the evocation of a hip new zeitgeist to produce a veritable anthem. In "Ballad of a Thin Man," the younger generation's confusion is thrown back in the Establishment's face, even as Dylan vents his disgust with the critics who labored to catalogue him. And in "Desolation Row," he reaches the zenith of his own brand of surrealist paranoia, that here attains the atmospheric intensity of a full-fledged nightmare. Between its many flourishes of gallows humor, this is one of the most immaculately frightful songs ever recorded, with its relentless imagery of communal executions, its parade of fallen giants and triumphant local losers, its epic length and even the mournful sweetness of Bloomfield's flamenco-inspired fills. In this book, Mark Polizzotti examines just what makes the songs on Highway 61 Revisited so affecting, how they work together as a suite, and how lyrics, melody, and arrangements combine to create an unusually potent mix. He blends musical and literary analysis of the songs themselves, biography (where appropriate) and recording information (where helpful). And he focuses on Dylan's mythic presence in the mid-60s, when he emerged from his proletarian incarnation to become the American Rimbaud. The comparison has been made by others, including Dylan, and it illuminates much about his mid-sixties career, for in many respects Highway 61 is rock 'n' roll's answer to A Season in Hell.

"I've been listening to Highway 61 Revisited for 41 years now, but Mark Polizzotti's 33 1/3 book sent me back to hear all the things I've missed. His thoughtful and knowledgeable appraisal both summarizes scholarship on the album and adds new ideas and details, contributing to a deeper sense of how this landmark Dylan album came to be." Ira Robbins, editor, www.Trouserpress.com