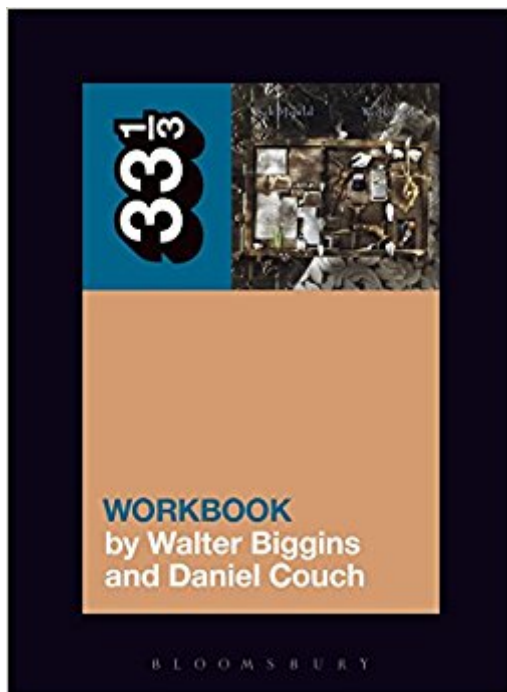## The book was found

Bob Mould's Workbook (33 1/3)

Synopsis

In 1989, Bob Mould took a left turn. Already legendary before his 30th birthday for his noise-and-nuance work in HÃƒÂ sker DÃƒÂ , Mould had recently walked away from his old band. He re-emerged with his debut solo album: Workbook. Filled with chiming acoustic guitars, multitracked vocals, pristine production, and even a cello, Workbook was both admired and questioned for Mould's perceived departure from his post-punk roots. Three decades later, the album has emerged as a key for understanding the nascent alternative rock genre and the concerns Mould would explore for the duration of his career. Fusing post-punk sound and confessional lyrics with a richer emotional and musical range, Mould's Workbook merged worlds that seemed unbridgeable at the time. Alternative rock emerged from the wreckage of the 1980s, and Workbook was a model for the genre's maturation. Workbook serves its title in two ways-as a map for musicians to follow into a new mode, and as a journal of Mould's struggle toward adulthood. It opens conversations about rock, identity, spirituality, authenticity, and the perils and promises of mainstream culture. Walter Biggins and Daniel Couch, two critics who grew up with Workbook, extend these conversations-through letters and emails to each other, and through correspondence with Mould and Workbook's musicians and producers. That crosstalk leads to, through this seminal album, a deeper understanding of Ã¢â¬Å"alternative rockÃ¢â¬Â• at the moment of its inception, just before it took over the radio.

Book Information

Series: 33 1/3

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: Bloomsbury Academic; Workbook edition (September 7, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1501321358

ISBN-13: 978-1501321351

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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Customer Reviews

Walter Biggins is an executive editor at the University of Georgia Press, USA, as well as a freelance

writer, based in Atlanta, Georgia. His work has appeared in Glide Magazine, Bookslut, RogerEbert.com, The Comics Journal, Pop Matters, and The Baseball Chronicle, among other periodicals.Daniel Couch is a professor of English literature and composition at Chemeketa Community College, USA and the editor of What, Where, How: The Practical Handbook for College Writers. His work has appeared in Tape Op Magazine, One Week // One Band, and the Quietus, among others.

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