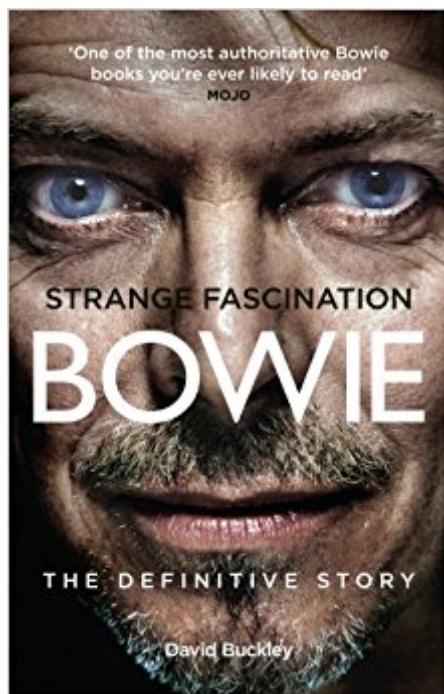


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Strange Fascination: David Bowie: The Definitive Story



Synopsis

The Sunday Times bestseller. David Bowie was arguably the most influential artist of his time, reinventing himself again and again, transforming music, style and art for over five decades. David Buckley's unique approach to unravelling the Bowie enigma, via interviews with many of the singer's closest associates, biography and academic analysis, makes this unrivalled biography a classic for Bowie fans old and new. This revised edition of Strange Fascination captures exclusive details about the tours, the making of the albums, the arguments, the split-ups, the music and, most importantly, the man himself. Also including exclusive photographic material, Strange Fascination is the most complete account of David Bowie and his impact on pop culture ever written.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

One of the most authoritative Bowie books you're ever likely to read -- Mojo

David Buckley wrote a doctoral thesis on David Bowie and also wrote a CD-sized introductory guide to Bowie's back catalogue, The Complete Guide to the Music of David Bowie which was repackaged at Bowie's request as part of the media pack accompanying the star's 1995 album *Earthling*.

I have to say I'm incredibly disappointed in this book. So disappointed in fact, that I didn't even read the last quarter of it. Someone asked me what I thought of it when I was about half way through and my immediate response was, "it's nothing but a bad 600 page music review", and I stick by that

initial, off-the-cuff remark. There is little here that pertains to Bowie's artistic influences and motivation, but there is plenty of criticism of his musical and business choices and I found the whole thing to be heavy handed, a bit preachy, and largely boring. The factual information presented seems to be accurate enough, but I found myself skipping over large swaths of the song-by-song criticism for each album which I found to be somewhat pointless and redundant. There are plenty of better and more thoughtful reviews of Bowie's work than you'll find here. In the end this book is much more about the author's opinion of Bowie than it is about Bowie himself and frankly that's not at all what I look for in a biography.

The ISBN 10 matches with the 2005 UK edition of this book, NOT the 2010 International edition. If you must have the 2010 edition keep looking because this is NOT it. Otherwise, this is the most thorough biography of "Bowie, the musician" that you can find. While I don't agree with everything in it, as they are in some part a matter of opinion, it is very well written and celebrates Bowie's work in a way that most of the other bios about him don't.

The cover photo was worth the price of the book! This book was a marvelous excursion into the life and times of my favorite artist. I deeply appreciated that it was about his music and how he made it and how he made decisions about his music, and not about his sex life or his lawsuits or all that other irrelevant junk. I was a bit disappointed that more than some of the material was lifted from interviews that we all have access to already on YouTube. But I came away with a much greater sense of who influenced Bowie and how he integrated those influences into his own expression, which is what I find truly fascinating. The only improvement would be a digital version with live links to every BBC appearance, interview, and recording. I found myself stopping mid-paragraph on almost every page to go to YouTube for a listen or look. I adore the way Buckley talks about music (even though Bowie said that writing about music was like dancing about architecture) and he turned me on to a great many pieces of music and nuances within the music that I had missed over the years. Whole albums' worth of Bowie that I hadn't really paid attention to before are now swelling my ipad storage, thanks to his insightful descriptions. This book was so thorough that I feel no need to ever read another bio of the man who changed the world, for me.

I am a big fan of Bowie and this has to be one of the best books on this subject. It is a great look into one of histories greatest musical talents and innovators the way the author makes you feel like you are there at those certain events in time. Would recommend to any die hard David Bowie fan

Fantastic. David Buckley is an excellent writer; he was there. Not yet finished, but I've enjoyed every page. We can't bring Bowie back. Still, we can relive the story.

I lost track of Bowie for the last 2 decades and by reading this book I was able to rediscover several nuggets. Plus it is always fun to rediscover the past and I felt this book did a consistent job of telling the bigger story. I just wish I could have read about the last 10 years of his life but I'm sure I'll find something.

Great book, thoroughly enjoyed it. Missing the fifth star because I think the multiple editions may have resulted in some redundancy in information (same story told multiple times with different wording) and mis-ordering of some details (references to details not yet revealed).

an intelligent and passionate book, mixing a deep understanding of the man and his music with insights about fandom. a good way to keep bowie alive for his fans.

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