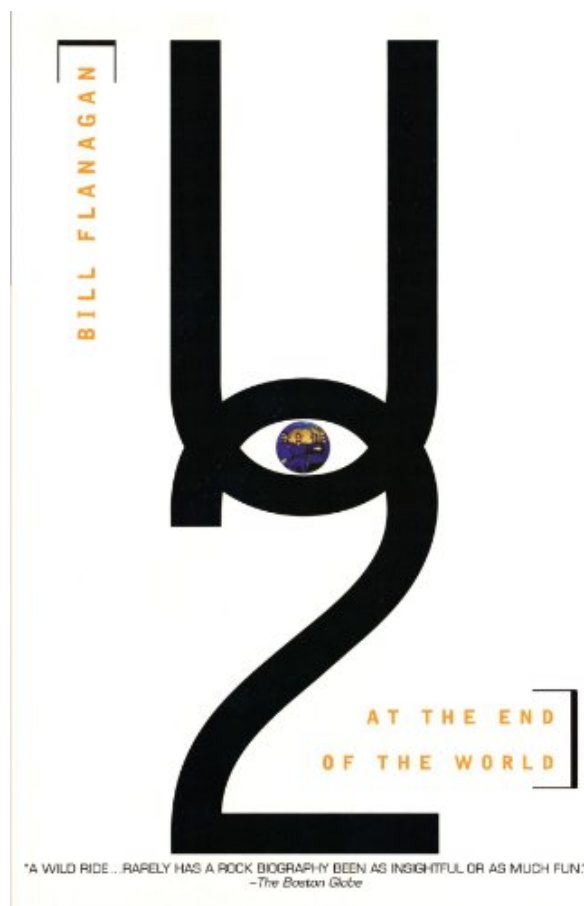
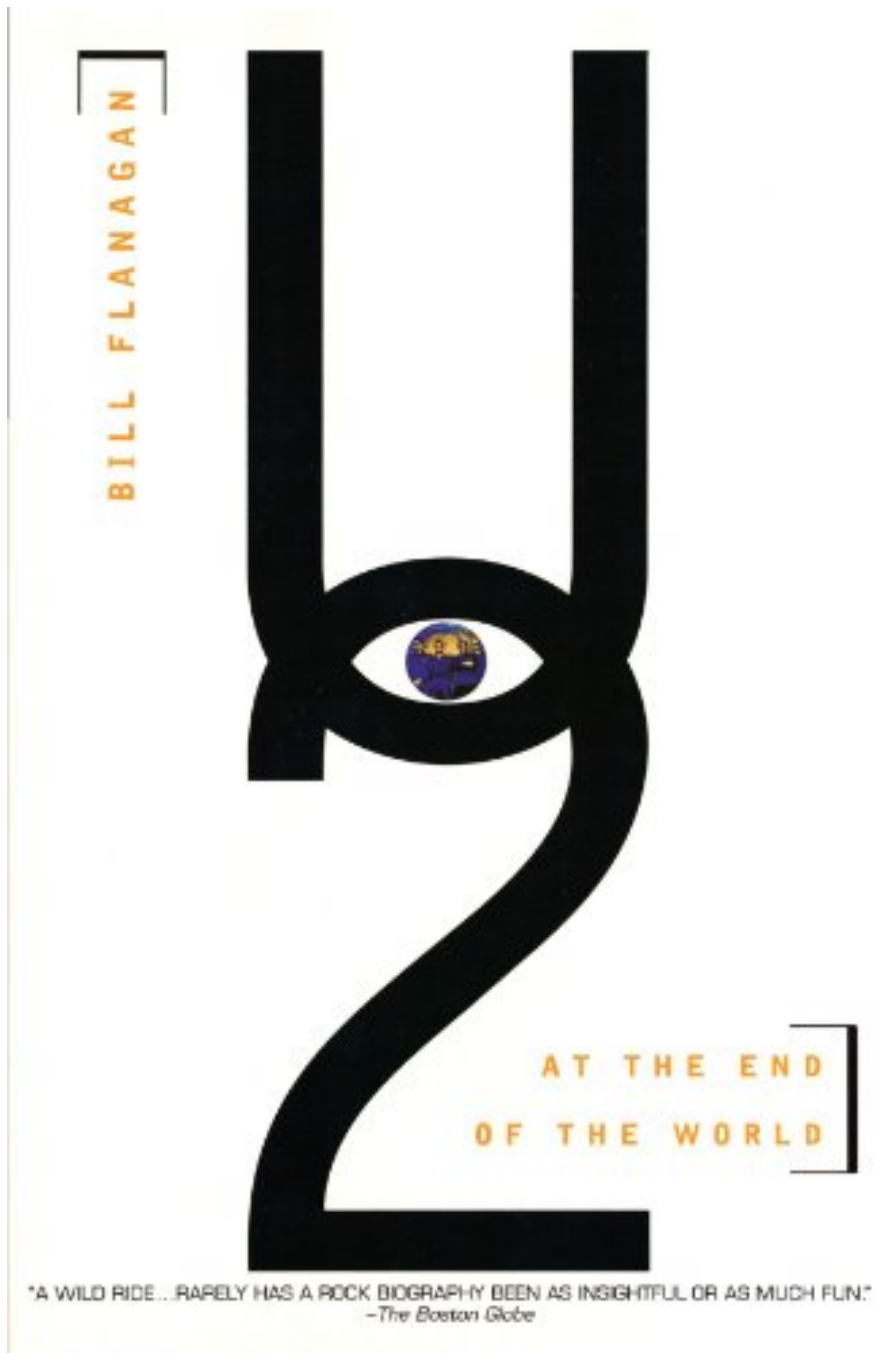


# U2: AT THE END OF THE WORLD BY BILL FLANAGAN



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From Publishers Weekly

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From Booklist

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"Rarely has a rock biography been as insightful or as much fun. It reads like a James Joyce-meets-Hunter Thompson novel. It's the literary equivalent of the Zoo TV tour--a brash, ambitious marathon with a momentum all its own."--Boston Globe

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The most intimate and appreciative biography of the mega rock band U2 to date--by the author to whom the band gave complete access.

When U2 took the stage for their three-year Zoo TV world tour in 1991, Bill Flanagan was there--in the bus, on the plane, in the recording studio and well after hours with the biggest rock band in the world. A tour that began to support the hugely successful Achtung Baby record and ended with a second, even more successful record, Zooropa, took U2 to the far reaches of the world, playing to over a hundred sold-out arenas in over forty cities.

U2 At The End Of The World takes you on the world tour and drops you off at the cultural intersection where rock stars meet politicians; where writers, directors, and models all wind up backstage with U2. You're there when the band meets Bill Clinton in a Chicago hotel room; when Salman Rushdie comes out of hiding to join the band onstage at Wembley Arena in London; when Frank Sinatra and Bono record their famous duet, "I've Got You Under My Skin." And finally, when the band performs their last Zoo TV concert in Tokyo in 1993 and nearly collapses from physical and mental exhaustion, you are there with them waiting for the end of the world. Augmented with sleek photos by renowned photographer Anton Corbijn, U2 At The End Of The World is the most definitive book on the band to date.

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- 544 pages

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#### Most helpful customer reviews

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful.

Even Better Than the Real Thing...

By S. C.

Few books are cool enough to make me want to change careers. This book made me want to drop out of graduate school and become a U2 roadie. Seriously.

Fresh from the "Elevation" Tour, I dove into this book to find out more about the fab four from Dublin. What a treat! This book was absolutely wonderful! Flanagan had un-restricted access to the band during the recording of "Achtung, Baby!" and the entire Zoo TV tour and his closeness with the band shows. While other U2 books focus primarily on the childhoods of the members or early years of the band (see Unforgettable Fire) or are barely more than a collection of sound-bytes from other interviews(see The Road to Pop) this book captures U2 in the middle of their Zoo-glory!

After reading this book, I found myself listening to my old U2 CD's (and going out and buying CD's that I didn't already have!) with a whole new appreciation for the music. Now I listen for the bass contribution, the unique guitar parts, etc.. Knowing the stories behind the songs brings the music to a whole new level. (For those readers/listeners who don't already love "Achtung, Baby!", this book will have you listening to it on a daily basis!)

Flanagan has a remarkable,candid, easy-going writing style that makes this book impossible to put down. While it is a long book, I didn't want it to end! If the author is reading this, PLEASE, for the sake of U2 fans everywhere, write a follow-up! Other U2 books pale by comparison.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful.

The best up-close look at a private band

By U2 Fan

If you are a true U2 fan this is the book for you! It is impossible to put it down, so much detail into their daily lives and ideas is so amazing. I have always respected U2's privacy and control over their lives, but like all fans, I have yearned to know them better, this book takes you in up close better than all the rest. Read this book first and see if you want to bother buying any others, I wish I had bought it first!

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful.

What a Journey!

By Diwa

I stalled reading the last few pages before today because I did not want the adventure and emotion-filled experience of this fascinating book to come to an end. But after reading the last page and closing the book, I had a grateful smile on my face; because then, I could start from the beginning, whenever I want the journey with U2 and the author, Bill Flanagan, to begin all over again.

I REALLY enjoyed this book and I HIGHLY recommend it! A fellow U2 fan mentioned it to me -- being a wide-eyed and newly infatuated enthusiast. Now, I have been progressively addicted in finding out more about them.

This book is a very good and comprehensive start for me. Flanagan's writing style is accessible, funny, entertaining, eloquent, moving, sincere and heartfelt, as he takes the reader up close and personal with the members of U2 (Bono, Edge, Larry, Adam), their affiliates, and the band's many many interesting encounters. Flanagan daringly took me in a journey with them at the end of the world, and I feel myself emerging with an amazing sense of wonder, awe, energy, humility, and profound appreciation.

The book has given me a broad context of understanding U2; artistically, professionally, philosophically, and most of all, as human beings.

The book was published 10 years ago, peppered with reflections of U2's prior first decade. Ten years after the book's publication, as U2 perform in the midst of their 2005 "Vertigo" tour, they both embody and outlive the legacy of the book's spirit.

Find out and enjoy the ride!

See all 80 customer reviews...

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