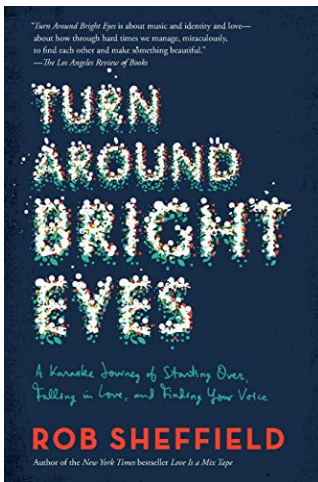


[PDF] Turn Around Bright Eyes: The Rituals Of Love And Karaoke

Rob Sheffield - pdf download free book



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Description:

An Amazon Best Book of the Month, August 2013: Full of winking humor, sly lyrical references, and a constant undercurrent of joy, Rob Sheffield's latest is the story of finding the courage to begin again... by singing off-key in front of strangers. "Sequel" seems too calculated to describe Turn Around Bright Eyes fairly, though it's certainly a continuation of Love is a Mixtape, which eloquently celebrated the life of his young wife after her sudden death. Embracing his past, he now looks to his future, falling in love again and remarrying. From his favorite NYC spot to a saloon in the Mojave Desert, we follow his personal history of finding his karaoke voice, we meet his amazing Ally/Astrogrrrl, we discover his deep knowledge of Lifetime movies, and we root for him at Rock 'n' roll Boot Camp. It's inspirationally romantic, entertainingly educational, and remarkably persuasive. When all is said and sung, Sheffield's brand of hope inevitably leaves you wondering, "Which song should I choose?" -- **Chuck Klosterman Reviews Turn Around Bright Eyes**

When Roger Ebert died, obituary writers cataloged all the wonderful details about his career as a critic, of which there were many. But the quality that came up most often was the one that mattered most: Ebert never lost his connection to the sheer glee of sitting in a dark theater and experiencing a movie that made him feel something. His intellectual relationship to criticism never eroded his emotive, visceral relationship with the art that he loved. This is an incredibly rare quality. And it's the same attribute that informs everything Rob Sheffield writes. Even if Sheffield were a robot, his writing would be worth reading, simply because he (a.) knows how sentences work and (b.) seems to effortlessly recall every interesting thing about every single song he's ever heard since kindergarten. He'd still be an excellent music writer if he thought music sucked; the fact that he loves music so sincerely makes him borderline unstoppable. *Turn Around Bright Eyes* is technically about karaoke (and ostensibly about learning how to romantically recover from the romantically unrecoverable), but it's actually about what music can give your life -- if you're willing to give your life to music.

What you realize from *Turn Around Bright Eyes* -- and from its narrative progenitor, *Love in a Mix Tape* -- is not just that Sheffield calibrates his entire existence through popular music. It's that this calibration is simultaneously reasonable, creative, and profoundly satisfying. This is not a book about how karaoke helped some depressed person escape from reality; this is a book about how karaoke continually allows a happy person to perform his own reality, in public, whenever he so desires. When Sheffield describes how it feels to cover "Ziggy Stardust" in a windowless room, he is only halfway talking about David Bowie; he is mostly talking about himself. When he defines why Neil Diamond is the cornerstone of the karaoke universe, he is defining what he values about culture; when he outlines why he added Rush to his karaoke repertoire, he's outlining the process of personal growth; when he explains the sensation of singing Bonnie Tyler's masterwork alongside his wife, he's explaining things about his marriage that would be impossible to explain otherwise. It might seem crazy, but it works every time. There is no question about life that Rob Sheffield cannot answer through the lyrics of a Top 40 song everyone else forgot to remember. He understands Rod Stewart the way Frederick Exley understood Frank Gifford. He understands made-for-TV Lifetime movies the way Joan Didion understood hippies. He understands Bon Jovi slightly more than the members of Bon Jovi. He understands why life hurts and why life feels good.

There's a fleeting paragraph in *Turn Around Bright Eyes* where Sheffield casually mentions that he once went to a therapist who happened to see the Beatles at Shea Stadium. Rob ends up paying her \$80 to listen to her talk about a 30-minute concert for 45 minutes. At the end of the session, the therapist wonders if this one-sided conversation was "really necessary," which makes me suspect she didn't understand the man she was talking to. By the time you finish this book, you will understand Rob Sheffield better than she did. "I'm a combination of two horrific personality types," he writes in my favorite chapter. "An encyclopedia-minded data-storage-facility rock geek and a crippling polite firstborn Irish son." Somehow, Rob seems to assume these are bad qualities, which makes me wonder if he's a little confused himself. Those are the best qualities any rock writer can possess. I can't think of a more likable, more stable, or more self-assured narrator than this particular person. Every sentence makes sense, including the ones that completely surprised me.

You know, I must be honest: karaoke scares me. It's my greatest phobia. I could speak in front of 20,000 people, but I couldn't sing in front of two. I'm a little ashamed of this fact, and there's nothing I can do about it. But reading this book makes me feel like that fear doesn't exist. It makes me feel like I just drunkenly sang "Whole Lotta Love" and totally killed it. I'm not even sure what that means.

What does it mean when a book makes you feel like you can sing?

--This text refers to the edition.

From Part love story, part ode to music by a lifelong fan, this follow-up to the best-selling memoir *Love Is a Mix Tape* (2007) celebrates the weird world of karaoke. A young widower and writer for *Rolling Stone*, Sheffield finds in karaoke a way to climb out of his grief and even look to a new future. Like a hazy night where only the best songs stand out, Sheffield's ballad to karaoke hits the highlights of both the development of a cultural phenomenon and his own journey to living life again. It's a fun ramble, filled with ruminations on rock stars and stardom, along with his interactions with celebrities, and it's crammed with references that pop-music geeks will love. Sheffield doesn't just know about songs, he feels them and what they do to him, and his fervent writing—part disciple, part critic—makes you feel the music, too. His insights into music's importance for life and love are refreshing rather than cheesy. Overall, his deep wonderment at finding love again comes across as clearly as singing "Forever's gonna start tonight." --Bridget Thoreson --This text refers to the edition.

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Read Turn Around Bright Eyes by Rob Sheffield with a free trial. Read unlimited* books and audiobooks on the web, iPad, iPhone and Android. Turn around. Somehow, that night in a karaoke bar turned into many nights, in many karaoke bars. Karaoke became a way out, a way to escape the past, a way to be someone else if only for the span of a three-minute song. Discovering the sublime ridiculousness of karaoke, despite the fact that he couldn't carry a tune, he began to find his voice. Turn around. And then the unexpected happened. Turn around, every now and then i get a little bit lonely and you're never coming round Turn around, every now and then i get a little bit tired of listening to the sound of my tears Turn around, every now and then i get a little bit nervous that the best of all the years have gone by Turn around, every now and then i get a little bit terrified and then i see the look in your eyes Turn around bright eyes, every now and then i fall apart Turn around bright eyes, every now and then i fall apart And i need you now tonight And i need you more than ever And if you'll only hold me tight We'll be holding on forever And we'll only be making it right Cause we'll never be wrong together We can take it to the end of the line Your love is like a shadow on me all of the time I don't know what to do and i'm always in the dark We're living in a powder keg and giving off sparks I really need you tonight Forever's gonna start tonight Forever's gonna start tonight Once upon a time i was falling in love But now i'm only falling apart There's nothing i can do A total eclipse of the heart Once upon a time there was light in my life But now there's only love in the dark Nothing i can say A total eclipse of the heart Instrumental Turn around bright eyes Turn around bright eyes Turn around, every now and then i know You'll never be the boy you always wanted to be Turn around, every now and then i know You'll always be the only boy who wanted me the way that i am Turn around, every now and then i know There's no one in the universe as magical and wonderful as you Turn around, every now and then i know There's nothing any better and there's nothing i just wouldn't do Turn around bright eyes, every now and then i fall apart Turn around bright eyes, every now and then i fall apart And i need you now tonight And i need you more than ever And if you'll only hold me tight We'll be holding on forever And we'll only be making it right Cause we'll never be wrong together We can take it to the end of the line Your love is like a shadow on me all of the time I don't know what to do and i'm always in the dark We're living in a powder keg and giving off sparks I really need you tonight Forever's gonna start tonight Forever's gonna start tonight Once upon a time i was falling in love But now i'm only falling apart There's nothing i can do A total eclipse of the heart Once upon a time there was light in my life But now there's only love in the dark Nothing i can say A total eclipse of the heart Bright Eyes Turn Around Bright Eyes is an emotional journey of hilarity and heartbreak with a karaoke soundtrack. It's a story about finding the courage to move on, clearing your throat, and letting it rip. It's a story about navigating your way through adult romance. In Turn Around Bright Eyes he writes about what, and who, he loves without sentimentality. The world is a better place with Rob Sheffield., Why in God's name would anyone immerse themselves in the world of karaoke? Well, here's your answer and it's a surprising trip out of some real darkness, set to a soundtrack of cheesy ballads, yelping rockers, and mangled standards. Turn Around Bright Eyes is an absolute treat., Why in God's name would anyone immerse themselves in the world of karaoke? Turn Around Bright Eyes is technically about karaoke (and ostensibly about learning how to romantically recover from the romantically unrecoverable), but it's actually about what music can give your life -- if you're willing to give your life to music. What you realize from Turn Around Bright Eyes and from its narrative progenitor, Love in a Mix Tape is not just that Sheffield calibrates his entire existence through popular music. I love Rob Sheffield. His writing on his love of music, even the really bad stuff, is nothing short of poetic. In him I feel that I've found a kindred spirit. I have read and re-read Love Is a Mix Tape: Life and Loss, One Song at a Time so many times that I had to purchase a second copy. Turn Around Bright Eyes book. Read 458 reviews from the world's largest community for readers. An emotional journey of hilarity and heartbreak with a kar... As a writer for Rolling Stone, he naturally t An emotional journey of hilarity and heartbreak with a karaoke soundtrack, in the spirit of Rob Sheffield's bestselling Love Is a Mix Tape. Turn Around Bright Eyes picks up Sheffield's story right after Love Is a Mix Tape. He is a young widower devastated by grief, trying to build a new life in a new town after his wife's death. As a writer for Rolling Stone, he naturally takes solace in music. But that's when he discovers the sublime ridiculousness of karaoke, and despite the fact that he can't carry a tune, he begins to f