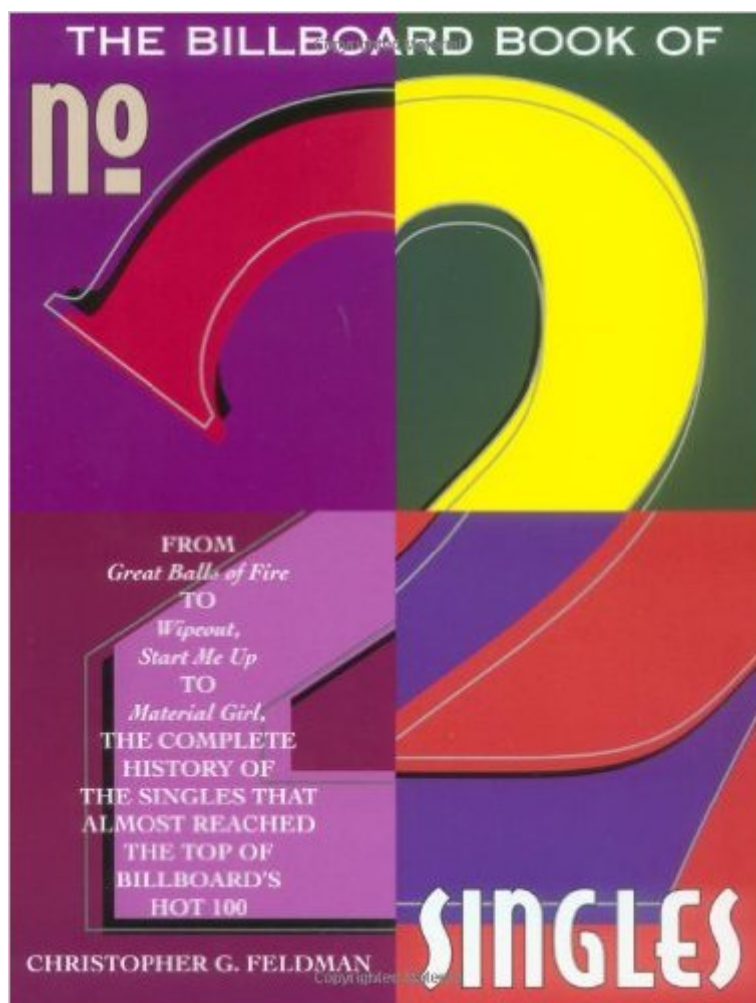


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The Billboard Book Of Number Two Singles



Synopsis

This newest addition to a long list of quality chart books chronicles the history of those singles that almost, but never quite, reached the top of the Billboard charts. Citing every hit that placed number two since 1955, the book details each artist's or single's individual history. Fans will remember such classics as "Blueberry Hill" (Fats Domino), "Dancing in the Street" (Martha Reeves and the Vandellas), "Burning Love" (Elvis Presley), and "Y.M.C.A." (Village People), and more recent biggies "Material Girl" (Madonna), "My Lovin'" (En Vogue), and "It's So Hard to Say Goodbye to Yesterday" (Boyz II Men).

Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

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Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (15 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #552,608 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #55 inÂ Books > Reference >

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Customer Reviews

Even though there may be some repetition, The "Billboard Book One-hit Wonders" set is the companion to the "Billboard Book of #2 Hits": avid followers of the Billboard charts and the trivia over the years are not the only ones for whom these set are appropriate; fans of a given artist whose only hits were also number-two singles find added biographical and circumstantial material about the artists and the novelty singles that prompted them to attempt to follow an artist, who because of their ephemeral presence on the charts, had all but disappeared. For instance, Jane Child falls under both categories: "Don't Wanna Fall in Love", her only U.S. Top 40 hit, reached number 2. Had the song reached #1, maybe the course of the gifted singer's career would have run more smoothly. The astounding level of airplay the song received may stun the casual observer who would have probably continued to think the song was a number one Billboard Top 40 Single; it

did, however, peak at #1 on the US Radio and Records Chart. It is also interesting to note that the "Billboard Book of #2s" tracks the songs by the most familiar artists such as Madonna, whose "Frozen" was kept out of the #1 spot by lesser-known KC and Jo-Jo's "All My Life". Both the casual chart observer-or someone who had a distaste for Madonna- and more confessed-guru would probably thrive on such esoteric trivia that also, in case you are wondering, details the number of weeks Madonna tried to achieve summit-status holding on at #2. Foreigner's "Waiting for A Girl Like You" was second-bested for 10 weeks by two different singles, a phenomenon that must frustrate the artist.

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