Like a Rolling Stone

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This article is about the Bob Dylan song. For the Japanese film, see Like a Rolling Stone (film).

"Like a Rolling Stone"

Cover of the 1965 French single

Single by Bob Dylan

from the album Highway 61 Revisited

B-side "Gates of Eden"

Released July 20, 1965

Format 7-inch single

Recorded June 15â€“16, 1965


Genre Folk rock[2]

Length 6:13

Label Columbia

Songwriter(s) Bob Dylan

Producer(s) Tom Wilson

Bob Dylan singles chronology

"Maggie’s Farm" (1965)

"Like a Rolling Stone" (1965)

"Positively 4th Street" (1965)

Highway 61 Revisited track listing

9 tracks
"Like a Rolling Stone" is a 1965 song by the American singer-songwriter Bob Dylan. Its confrontational lyrics originated in an extended piece of verse Dylan wrote in June 1965, when he returned exhausted from a grueling tour of England. Dylan distilled this draft into four verses and a chorus. "Like a Rolling Stone" was recorded a few weeks later as part of the sessions for the forthcoming album Highway 61 Revisited.

During a difficult two-day preproduction, Dylan struggled to find the essence of the song, which was demoed without success in 3/4 time. A breakthrough was made when it was tried in a rock music format, and rookie session musician Al Kooper improvised the organ riff for which the track is known. However, Columbia Records was unhappy with both the song’s length at over six minutes and its heavy electric sound, and was hesitant to release it. It was only when a month later a copy was leaked to a new popular music club and heard by influential DJs that the song was put out as a single. Although radio stations were reluctant to play such a long track, "Like a Rolling Stone" reached No. 2 in the US Billboard charts (No. 1 in Cashbox) and became a worldwide hit.

Critics have described the track as revolutionary in its combination of different musical elements, the youthful, cynical sound of Dylan’s voice, and the directness of the question "How does it feel?" "Like a Rolling Stone" completed the transformation of Dylan’s image from folk singer to rock star, and is considered one of the most influential compositions in postwar popular music. According to review aggregator Acclaimed Music, "Like a Rolling Stone" is the statistically most acclaimed song of all time. Rolling Stone magazine listed the song at No. 1 in their "500 Greatest Songs of All Time" list. The song has been covered by numerous artists, from The Jimi Hendrix Experience and The Rolling Stones to The Wailers and Green Day. At an auction in 2014, Dylan’s handwritten lyrics to the song fetched $2 million, a world record for a popular music manuscript.

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## Writing and recording

In the spring of 1965, after returning from the tour of England documented in the film Don’t Look Back, Dylan was unhappy with the public’s expectations of him, as well as the direction his career was taking, and seriously considered quitting the music business. In a 1966 Playboy interview, he described his dissatisfaction: "Last spring, I guess I was going to quit singing. I was very drained, and the way things were going, it was a very draggy situation ... But 'Like a Rolling Stone' changed it all. I mean it was
something that I myself could dig. It's very tiring having other people tell you how much they dig you if you yourself don't dig you. 

The song grew out of an extended piece of verse. In 1966, Dylan described its genesis to journalist Jules Siegel:

It was ten pages long. It wasn’t called anything, just a rhythm thing on paper all about my steady hatred directed at some point that was honest. In the end it wasn’t hatred, it was telling someone something they didn’t know, telling them they were lucky. Revenge, that’s a better word. I had never thought of it as a song, until one day I was at the piano, and on the paper it was singing, "How does it feel?" in a slow motion pace, in the utmost of slow motion. 

During 1965, Dylan composed prose, poems, and songs by typing incessantly. Footage in Don't Look Back of Dylan in his suite at London’s Savoy Hotel captures this process. However, Dylan told two interviewers that “Like a Rolling Stone” began as a long piece of “vomit” (10 pages long according to one account, 20 according to another) that later acquired musical form. Dylan has never publicly spoken of writing any other major composition in this way. In an interview with CBC radio in Montreal, Dylan called the creation of the song a “breakthrough”, explaining that it changed his perception of where he was going in his career. He said that he found himself writing "this long piece of vomit, 20 pages long, and out of it I took 'Like a Rolling Stone' and made it as a single. And I’d never written anything like that before and it suddenly came to me that was what I should do ... After writing that I wasn’t interested in writing a novel, or a play. I just had too much, I want to write songs."

From the extended version on paper, Dylan crafted four verses and the chorus in Woodstock, New York. In 2014, when the handwritten lyrics were put up for auction, the four-page manuscript revealed that the full refrain of the chorus does not appear until the fourth page. A rejected third line, "like a dog without a bone" gives way to "now you’re unknown". Earlier, Dylan had considered working the name Al Capone into the rhyme scheme, and he attempted to construct a rhyme scheme for "how does it feel?", penciling in "it feels real", "does it feel real", "shut up and deal", "get down and kneel" and "raw deal".

The song was written on an upright piano in the key of A flat and was changed to C on the guitar in the recording studio.

For the recording session, Dylan invited Mike Bloomfield from the Paul Butterfield Blues Band to play lead guitar. Invited to Dylan’s Woodstock home for the weekend to learn new material, Bloomfield recalled, 'The first thing I heard was 'Like a Rolling Stone'. I figured he wanted blues, string bending, because that’s what I do. He said, 'Hey, man, I don’t want any of that B.B. King stuff'. So, OK, I really fell apart. What the heck does he want? We messed around with the song. I played the way that he dug, and he said it was groovy."

The recording sessions were produced by Tom Wilson on June 15â“16, 1965, in Studio A of Columbia Records, 799 Seventh Avenue, in New York City. This would be the last song Wilson would produce for Dylan. In addition to Bloomfield, the musicians enlisted were Paul Griffin on piano, Joe Macho, Jr. on bass, Bobby Gregg on drums, and Bruce Langhorne on tambourine, all booked by Wilson. Gregg, Griffin, and Langhorne had previously worked with Dylan and Wilson on Bringing It All Back Home.

"Like a Rolling Stone" ¾ version

The ¾ "waltz" version of "Like a Rolling Stone", recorded on June 15. This take would later appear on The Bootleg Series Volumes 1â“3 (Rare & Unreleased) 1961â“1991.

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In the first session, on June 15, five takes of the song were recorded in a markedly different style (¾ waltz time, with Dylan on piano) from the eventual release. The lack of sheet music meant the song had to be played by ear. However, its essence was discovered in the course of the chaotic session. The musicians did not reach the first chorus until the fourth take, but after the following harmonica fill Dylan interrupted, saying, "My voice is gone, man. You wanna try it again?" This take was subsequently released on The Bootleg Series Volumes 1â“3 (Rare & Unreleased) 1961â“1991. The session ended shortly afterward.

When the musicians reconvened the following day, June 16, Al Kooper joined the proceedings. Kooper, at that time a 21-year-old session guitarist, was not originally
supposed to play but was present in the studio as Wilson’s guest. When Wilson stepped out, Kooper sat down with his guitar with the other musicians, hoping to take part in the recording session. By the time Wilson returned, Kooper, who had been intimidated by Bloomfield’s guitar playing, was back in the control room. After a couple of rehearsal takes, Wilson moved Griffin from Hammond organ to piano. Kooper approached Wilson and told him he had a good part for the organ. After a couple of rehearsal takes, Wilson moved Griffin from Hammond organ to piano. Kooper told him he had a good part for the organ. Wilson belittled Kooper’s organ skills but did not forbid him to play. As Kooper later put it, "He just sort of scoffed at me ... He didn’t say ‘no’ so I went out there." Wilson was surprised to see Kooper at the organ but allowed him to play on the track. When Dylan heard a playback of the song, he insisted that the organ be turned up in the mix, despite Wilson’s protestations that Kooper was "not an organ player."

There were 15 recorded takes on June 16. By now the song had evolved into its familiar form, in 4/4 time with Dylan on electric guitar. After the fourth take the master take that was released as a single was " Wilson happily commented, "That sounds good to me." Despite this, Dylan and the band recorded the song 11 more times.

The complete recording sessions that produced "Like a Rolling Stone", including all 20 takes and the individual "stems" that comprise the four-track master, were released in November 2015 on the 6-disc and 18-disc versions of The Bootleg Series Vol. 12: The Cutting Edge 1965–1966.

Release

According to Shaun Considine, release coordinator for Columbia Records in 1965, "Like a Rolling Stone" was first relegated to the "graveyard of canceled releases" because of concerns from the sales and marketing departments over its unprecedented six-minute length and "raucous" rock sound. In the days following the rejection, Considine took a discarded acetate of the song to the New York club Arthur’s-a newly opened disco popular with celebrities and the media-and asked a DJ to play it. Shortly afterward, on July 20, 1965, "Like a Rolling Stone" was released as a single with "Gates of Eden" as its B-side.

Despite its length, the song is Dylan’s most commercially successful release, remaining in the US charts for 12 weeks, where it reached number 2 behind The Beatles’ "Help!". The promotional copies released to disc jockeys on July 15 had the first two verses and two refrains on one side of the disk, and the remainder of the song on the other. DJs wishing to play the entire song would simply flip the vinyl over. While many radio stations were reluctant to play "Like a Rolling Stone" in its entirety, public demand eventually forced them to air it in full. This helped the single reach its number 2 peak, several weeks after its release. It was a Top 10 hit in other countries, including Canada, Ireland, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom.

Personnel

- Bob Dylan â“ vocals, electric guitar, harmonica
- Mike Bloomfield â“ electric guitar
- Bruce Langhorne â“ tambourine
- Al Kooper â“ Hammond organ
- Frank Owens â“ tack piano
- Joe Macho, Jr. â“ bass guitar
- Bobby Gregg â“ drums

Themes

Unlike conventional chart hits of the time, "Like a Rolling Stone" featured lyrics that were interpreted as expressions of resentment rather than love. Author Oliver Trager characterizes the lyrics as: "Dylan’s sneer at a woman who has fallen from grace and is reduced to fending for herself in a hostile, unfamiliar world." The song’s subject, "Miss Lonely," previously opted for easy options in life: she attended the finest schools and enjoyed high-placed friends but now that her situation has become difficult, it appears that she has no meaningful experiences to define her character. The opening lines of the song establish the character’s former condition:
Once upon a time you dressed so fine
Threw the bums a dime in your prime, didn’t you?\[46\]

And the first verse ends with lines that seemingly deride her current condition:

Now you don’t talk so loud
Now you don’t seem so proud
About having to be scrounging your next meal\[46\]

Despite the obvious vitriol, the song’s narrator also seems to show compassion for Miss Lonely, and expresses joy for her in the freedom in losing everything.\[44\] Jann Wenner commented: "Everything has been stripped away. You’re on your own, you’re free now ... You’re so helpless and now you’ve got nothing left. And you’re invisible "you’ve got no secrets" that’s so liberating. You’ve nothing to fear anymore."\[47\] The final verse ends with the lines:

When you ain’t got nothing, you got nothing to lose
You’re invisible now, you got no secrets to conceal\[46\]

The refrain seems to emphasize these themes:

How does it feel
How does it feel
To be on your own
With no direction home
Like a complete unknown
Like a rolling stone\[46\]

Dylan biographer Robert Shelton gave this interpretation: "A song that seems to hail the dropout life for those who can take it segues into compassion for those who have dropped out of bourgeois surroundings. ‘Rolling Stone’ is about the loss of innocence and the harshness of experience. Myths, props, and old beliefs fall away to reveal a very taxing reality."\[10\]

Dylan humorously commented on the song’s moral perspective at a press conference at KOED television studio on December 3, 1965. When a reporter, suggesting that the song adopted a harsh perspective on a girl, asked Dylan, "Are you hard on [people in your songs] because you want to torment them? Or to change their lives and make them know themselves?", Dylan replied while laughing, "I want to needle them."\[48][49\]

Commentators attempted to tie the characters in the song to specific people in Dylan’s personal life in 1965. In his book POPism: The Warhol ‘60s, Andy Warhol recalled that some people in his circle believed that "Like a Rolling Stone" contained hostile references to him; he was told, "Listen to ‘Like a Rolling Stone’â"I think you’re the diplomat on the chrome horse, man."\[50\] The reason behind Dylan’s alleged hostility to Warhol was supposedly Warhol’s treatment of actress and model Edie Sedgwick. It has been suggested that Sedgwick is the basis of the Miss Lonely character.\[51\] Sedgwick was briefly involved with Dylan in late 1965 and early 1966, around which time there was some discussion of the two making a movie together.\[52\] According to Warhol’s collaborator Paul Morrissey, Sedgwick may have been in love with Dylan, and was shocked when she found out that Dylan had secretly married Sara Lownds in November 1965.\[52\] However, in The Bob Dylan Encyclopedia, Michael Gray argues that Sedgwick had no connection with "Like a Rolling Stone", but states "there’s no doubt that the ghost of Edie Sedgwick hangs around Blonde on Blonde".\[53\]

Greil Marcus alluded to a suggestion by art historian Thomas E. Crow that Dylan had written the song as a comment on Warhol’s scene:

I heard a lecture by Thomas Crow ... about "Like a Rolling Stone" being about Edie Sedgwick within Andy Warhol’s circle, as something that Dylan saw from the outside, not being personally involved with either of them, but as something he saw and was scared by and saw disaster looming and wrote a song as a warning, and it was compelling.\[54\]

Joan Baez, Marianne Faithfull and Bob Neuwirth have also been suggested as possible targets of Dylan’s scorn.\[34][55][56\] Dylan’s biographer Howard Sounes warned...
against reducing the song to the biography of one person, and suggested "it is more likely that the song was aimed generally at those [Dylan] perceived as being 'phony' ". Sounes adds, "There is some irony in the fact that one of the most famous songs of the folk-rock era â""an era associated primarily with ideals of peace and harmonyâ""is one of vengeance."[57]

Mike Marqusee has written at length on the conflicts in Dylan's life during this time, with its deepening alienation from his old folk-revival audience and clear-cut leftist causes. He suggests that the song is probably self-referential: "The song only attains full poignancy when one realises it is sung, at least in part, to the singer himself: he's the one 'with no direction home.'"[58] Dylan himself has noted that, after his motorcycle accident in 1966, he realized that "when I used words like 'he' and 'it' and 'they,' and talking about other people, I was really talking about nobody but me."[55]

Music video

In November 2013, 48 years after the release of the song, Dylan's website released an official music video for "Like a Rolling Stone."[59] Created by digital agency Interlude, the video is interactive, allowing viewers to use their keyboards to flip through 16 channels that imitate TV formats, including game shows, shopping networks and reality series. People on each channel appear to lip-sync the song's lyrics. Video director Vania Heymann stated, "I'm using the medium of television to look back right at us â"" you're flipping yourself to death with switching channels [in real life]."[60] The video contains an hour and 15 minutes worth of content in all[61] and features appearances from comedian Marc Maron, rapper Danny Brown, The Price Is Right host Drew Carey, SportsCenter anchor Steve Levy, Jonathan and Drew Scott of Property Brothers, and Pawn Stars cast members Rick Harrison and Austin "Chumlee" Russell.[62] The video was released to publicize the release of a 35 album box set, Bob Dylan: The Complete Album Collection Vol. One, containing Dylan's 35 official studio albums and 11 live albums.[59] The Guinness Book of World Records recorded it as the longest wait for an official music video.

Live performances

Dylan performed the song live for the first time within days of its release, when he appeared at the Newport Folk Festival on July 25, 1965 in Newport, Rhode Island.[63] Many of the audience's folk enthusiasts objected to Dylan's use of electric guitars, looking down on rock 'n roll, as Bloomfield put it, as popular amongst 'greasers, heads, dancers, people who got drunk and boogied.'[33] According to Dylan's friend, music critic Paul Nelson, "The audience [was] booing and yelling 'Get rid of the electric guitar!'", while Dylan and his backing musicians gave an uncertain rendition of their new single.[33]

Highway 61 Revisited was issued at the end of August 1965. When Dylan went on tour that fall he asked the future members of The Band to accompany him in performing the electric half of the concerts. "Like a Rolling Stone" took the closing slot on his setlist and held it, with rare exceptions, through the end of his 1966 "world tour." On May 17, 1966, during the last leg of the tour, Dylan and his band performed at Free Trade Hall in Manchester, England. Just before they started to play the track, an audience member yelled "Judas!", apparently referring to Dylan's supposed "betrayal" of folk music. Dylan responded, "I don't believe you. You're a liar!" With that, he turned to the band, ordering them to "play it fucking loud".[63][a]

Since then, "Like a Rolling Stone" has remained a staple in Dylan's concerts, often with revised arrangements.[64] It was included in his 1969 Isle of Wight show and in both his reunion tour with The Band in 1974 and the Rolling Thunder Revue tour in 1975â""76. The song continued to be featured in other tours throughout the 1970s and 1980s.[64]


The July 1965 Newport performance of the song is included in Murray Lerner's film The
Besides appearing on *Highway 61 Revisited*, the song's standard release can be found on the compilations *Bob Dylan's Greatest Hits, Biograph, The Best of Bob Dylan* (1997), *The Essential Bob Dylan, The Best of Bob Dylan* (2005), and *Dylan*. The mono version appears on *The Original Mono Recordings*. In addition, the early, incomplete studio recording in 3/4 time appears on *The Bootleg Series Vol. 2*.[19][66]

**Legacy**

The song's sound has been described as revolutionary in its combination of electric guitar licks, organ chords, and Dylan's voice, at once young and jeeringly cynical.[67] Critic Michael Gray described the track as "a chaotic amalgam of blues, impressionism, allegory, and an intense directness in the central chorus: 'How does it feel'".[67] The song had an enormous impact on popular culture and rock music. Its success made Dylan a pop icon, as Paul Williams notes:

> Dylan had been famous, had been the center of attention, for a long time. But now the ante was being upped again. He'd become a pop star as well as a folk star ... and was, even more than the Beatles, a public symbol of the vast cultural, political, generational changes taking place in the United States and Europe. He was perceived as, and in many ways functioned as, a leader.[68]

Paul Rothchild, producer of *The Doors* first five albums, recalled the elation that an American musician had made a record that successfully challenged the primacy of the British Invasion groups. He said, "What I realized when I was sitting there is that one of USA"one of the so-called Village hipsters" was making music that could compete with THEMä the Beatles, and the Stones, and the Dave Clark Fiveä without sacrificing any of the integrity of folk music or the power of rock’n’roll."[69]

The song had a huge impact on Bruce Springsteen, who was 15 years old when he first heard it. Springsteen described the moment during his speech inducting Dylan into the *Rock and Roll Hall of Fame* in 1988 and also assessed the long-term significance of "Like a Rolling Stone":

> The first time I heard Bob Dylan, I was in the car with my mother listening to WMCA, and on came that snare shot that sounded like somebody'd kicked open the door to your mind ... The way that Elvis freed your body, Dylan freed your mind, and showed us that because the music was physical did not mean it was anti-intellect. He had the vision and talent to make a pop song so that it contained the whole world. He invented a new way a pop singer could sound, broke through the limitations of what a recording could achieve, and he changed the face of rock’n’roll for ever and ever".[70][71]

Dylan's contemporaries in 1965 were both startled and challenged by the single. Paul McCartney remembered going around to John Lennon's house in Weybridge to hear the song. According to McCartney, "It seemed to go on and on forever. It was just beautiful ... He showed all of us that it was possible to go a little further."[72] Frank Zappa had a more extreme reaction: "When I heard 'Like a Rolling Stone', I wanted to quit the music business, because I felt: 'If this wins and it does what it's supposed to do, I don’t need to do anything else ...' But it didn’t do anything. It sold but nobody responded to it in the way that they should have."[72] Nearly forty years later, in 2003, Elvis Costello commented on the innovative quality of the single. "What a shocking thing to live in a world where there was Manfred Mann and the Supremes and Engelbert Humperdinck and here comes 'Like a Rolling Stone'".[73]

Although CBS tried to make the record more "radio friendly" by cutting it in half and spreading it over both sides of the vinyl, both Dylan and fans demanded that the full duration of the recording should be placed on one side and that radio stations play the song in its entirety.[74] The success of "Like a Rolling Stone" was influential in changing the music business convention regarding the length of singles, whereby they were restricted to durations of less than three minutes. In the words of *Rolling Stone* magazine, "No other pop song has so thoroughly challenged and transformed the commercial laws and artistic conventions of its time, for all time."[75]
In 1966, Dylan told Ralph Gleason: "'Rolling Stone's the best song I wrote."[77] In 2004, speaking to Robert Hilburn, Dylan still felt that the song had a special place in his work: "It's like a ghost is writing a song like that, it gives you the song and it goes away. You don’t know what it means. Except that the ghost picked me to write the song."[78]

More than 50 years since its release, "Like a Rolling Stone" remains highly regarded, as measured by polls of reviewers and fellow songwriters. A 2002 ranking by Uncut and a 2005 poll in Mojo both rated it as Dylan’s number one song.[79][80] As for his personal views on such polls, Dylan told Ed Bradley in a 2004 interview on 60 Minutes that he never pays attention to them, because they change frequently.[81] Dylan’s point was illustrated in the "100 Greatest Songs of All Time poll" by Mojo in 2000, which included two Dylan singles, but not "Like a Rolling Stone". Five years later, the magazine named it his number one song.[80][82] Rolling Stone picked "Like a Rolling Stone" as the number two single of the past 25 years in 1989,[83] and then in 2004 placed the song at number one on its list of "The 500 Greatest Songs of All Time".[84] In 2010, Rolling Stone again placed "Like a Rolling Stone" at the top of their list of "500 Greatest Songs Of All Time".[4] In 2006, Pitchfork Media placed it at number 4 on their list of "The 200 Greatest Songs of the 1960s".[85]

On June 24, 2014, Sotheby’s sold Dylan’s original hand-written lyrics of "Like a Rolling Stone" at a New York auction devoted to rock memorabilia.[111][76]. The lyrics were sold for $2 million, a record price for a popular music manuscript.[76][86][87]

### Accolades

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### Cover versions

Jimi Hendrix's cover of "Like a Rolling Stone" at the Monterey Pop Festival.


Guitarist Jimi Hendrix, performing with The Jimi Hendrix Experience, recorded a live version at the Monterey Pop Festival.[116] Hendrix was an avid fan of Bob Dylan, and especially liked "Like a Rolling Stone". "It made me feel that I wasn’t the only one who’d ever felt so low ..." Hendrix said.[117] Hendrix skipped the third verse. Hendrix played the electric guitar, and music critic Greil Marcus described the atmosphere of the Hendrix recording thus:

Huge chords ride over the beginning of each verse like rain clouds; the
tune is taken very slowly, with Hendrix’s thick, street-talk drawl sounding nothing at all like Dylan’s Midwestern dust storm.”

The song has also been covered in various languages. Hugues Aufray covered the song in French as “Comme des pierres qui roulent” (“Like Rolling Stones”) (Aufray Trans Dylan, 1995), Austrian Wolfgang Ambros included an Austrian-German dialect version "Allan Wia a Stan" on his 1978 LP Wie Im Schlaf which reached position 8 in the Austrian charts for 8 weeks. German band BAP created a dialect of Cologne version "Wie 'ne Stein" on its LP Vun drinne noh drusse and Lars Winnerbäck did a performance of the song in Swedish titled "Som en hemlös själ", literally "Like a Homeless Soul". Articolo 31 recorded an Italian version titled "Come una Pietra Scalciata" (literally, "Like a Kicked-off Stone") for their 1998 album Nessuno. Articolo 31’s version is a hip-hop song which contains overdubs of a confused girl’s voice, rapped parts and DJing. This version contains only three verses and is four and a half minutes long.

Chart performance

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Notes

1. ^ Mickey Jones “the drummer for that part of the tour” maintains that it was not Dylan who said to "play it fucking loud", but most likely a member of their British road crew. Jones argues that in footage of the performance, the movement of Dylan’s lips does not match the utterance, and that the words were spoken in a British accent (see Jones, Mickey in Down in the Flood).

References

Footnotes

1. ^ a b Considine, Shaun, "The Hit We Almost Missed", The New York Times, December 3, 2004
7. ^ Siegel, Jules. "Well, What Have We Here?", Saturday Evening Post, July 30, 1966, reprinted in McGregor 1972, p. 159
10. ^ Shelby 1986, p. 279
17. Irwin 2008, pp. 62–“88
24. Marcus & 2005 (1), pp. 110a–“111
25. Irwin 2008, p. 72
27. Heylin 2009, p. 243
31. Kroesgaard 1991, p. 44
33. Marcus & 2005 (3)
34. Gill 1998, pp. 82–“83
37. Marcus & 2005 (1), p. 3
38. Irwin 2008, p. 78
39. Irwin 2008, pp. 79a–“80
44. Polizzotti 2006, p. 33
45. Trager 2004, pp. 378a–“379
47. Polizzotti 2006, p. 35
48. Cott 2006, p. 64
50. Warhol 1980, p. 108
52. Stein 1992, pp. 283a–“285
53. Gray 2006, pp. 603a–“604
55. Heylin 2009, p. 241
56. Williamson 2006, pp. 226a–“227
57. Soumes 2001, pp. 178a–“179
58. Marqusee 2003, p. 157
Bibliography


### External links

- [Lyrics](#) at Bob Dylan’s official website
- [Like a Rolling Stone music video](#) at Bob Dylan website
- [Vocal performance and speech intonation: Bob Dylan’s “Like a Rolling Stone”](#) by Michael Daley, York University, Toronto
- [November 6, 2015 NPR Music “The Day Dylan Got It Right” about recording “Like a Rolling Stone.”](#)
Live albums
- Hard Rain
- Bob Dylan at Budokan
- Real Live
- Dylan & the Dead
- The 30th Anniversary Concert Celebration
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- Live 1961â”2000: Thirty-Nine Years of Great Concert Performances
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- The Best of Bob Dylan, Vol. 2
- The Essential Bob Dylan
- Bob Dylan: The Collection
- The Best of Bob Dylan (2005)
- Blues
- Dylan
- The Original Mono Recordings
- The 50th Anniversary Collection
- Bob Dylan: The Complete Album Collection Vol. One
- The 50th Anniversary Collection 1963
- The 50th Anniversary Collection 1964
- The Bootleg Series
- The Bootleg Series Volumes 1â”3 (Rare & Unreleased) 1961â”1991
- Volume 4: The Royal Albert Hall concert
- Vol. 5: Bob Dylan Live 1975, The Rolling Thunder Revue
- Vol. 6: Bob Dylan Live 1964, Concert at Philharmonic Hall
- Vol. 7: No Direction Home: The Soundtrack
- Vol. 8: Tell Tale Signs: Rare and Unreleased 1989â”2006
- Vol. 9: The Witmark Demos: 1962â”1964
- Vol. 11: The Basement Tapes Complete
- Vol. 12: The Cutting Edge 1965â”1966
- Vol. 14: More Blood, More Tracks
- Bootlegs
- Great White Wonder
- List of Basement Tapes songs (1967,1975)
- Concert tours
- England Tour (1965)
- World Tour (1966)
- Tour with The Band (1974)
- Rolling Thunder Revue (1975â”1976)
- World Tour (1978)
- Gospel Tour (1979â”1980)
- World Tour (1981)
- European Tour (1984)
- True Confessions Tour (1986)
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- Temples in Flames Tour (1987)
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| ☆ Book                     |
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<tr>
<th>Bob Dylan singles discography</th>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Mixed-Up Confusion&quot; / &quot;Corrina, Corrina&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;The Times They Are a-Changin'&quot; / &quot;Honey, Just Allow Me One More&quot;</td>
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Chance
- "Maggie's Farm" / "On the Road Again"
- "Subterranean Homesick Blues" / "She Belongs to Me"
- "Like a Rolling Stone" / "Gates of Eden"
- "Positively 4th Street" / "From a Buick 6"
- "Can You Please Crawl Out Your Window?" / "Highway 61 Revisited"
- "One of Us Must Know (Sooner or Later)" / "Queen Jane Approximately"
- "Rainy Day Women #12 & 35" / "Pledging My Time"
- "I Want You" / "Just Like Tom Thumb's Blues" (live with The Hawks)
- "Just Like a Woman" / "Obviously 5 Believers"
- "Leopard-Skin Pill-Box Hat" / "Most Likely You Go Your Way And I'll Go Mine"
- "If You Gotta Go, Go Now" / "To Ramona" (only in Europe)
- "Drifter's Escape" / "John Wesley Harding"
- "All Along the Watchtower" / "I'll Be Your Baby Tonight"
- "I Threw It All Away" / "Drifter's Escape"
- "Lay Lady Lay" / "Peggy Day"
- "Tonight I'll Be Staying Here with You" / "Country Pie"
- "If Not for You" / "New Morning"
- "Wigwam" / "Copper Kettle"
- "Watching the River Flow" / "Spanish is the Loving Tongue"
- "George Jackson" (band version) / "George Jackson" (acoustic version)
- "Knockin' on Heaven's Door" / "Turkey Chase" (instrumental from Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid)
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<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>&quot;Slow Train&quot; (live with The Grateful Dead)</td>
<td>&quot;Political World&quot; / &quot;Ring Them Bells&quot; (only in the UK and Australia)</td>
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<td>&quot;Most of the Time&quot; / &quot;Most of the Time (edit piece)&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;Unbelievable&quot; / &quot;10,000 Men&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Series of Dreams&quot; / &quot;Seven Curses&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;Blind Willie McTell&quot; / &quot;It Takes a Lot to Laugh. It Takes a Train to Cry&quot; (from <em>The Bootleg Series Volumes 1-3</em>)</td>
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<td>&quot;Step It Up and Go&quot; â” (no b-side)</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>&quot;My Back Pages&quot; (with Roger McGuinn, Tom Petty, Neil Young, Eric Clapton, George Harrison) â” (no b-side)</td>
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<td>&quot;Dignity&quot; (live on <em>MTV Unplugged</em>) / &quot;A Hard Rain’s a-Gonna Fall&quot; (live version)</td>
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<td>&quot;Knockin’ on Heaven’s Door&quot; / &quot;John Brown&quot; (both live on <em>MTV Unplugged</em>)</td>
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<td>&quot;Not Dark Yet&quot; / &quot;Tombstone Blues&quot; (live) / &quot;Ballad of a Thin Man&quot; (live) / &quot;Boots of Spanish Leather&quot; (live)</td>
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<td>&quot;Love Sick&quot; / &quot;Tombstone Blues&quot; (live)</td>
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<td>&quot;Someday Baby&quot; / &quot;Someday Baby&quot; (edit piece)</td>
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<td>&quot;Rollin’ and Tumblin’&quot; / &quot;Not Dark Yet&quot; / &quot;High Water (for Charley Patton)&quot;</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>&quot;Most Likely You Go Your Way (And I’ll Go Mine)&quot; (Mark Ronson remix version) / &quot;Most Likely You Go Your Way (And I’ll Go Mine)&quot; (album version)</td>
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<td>&quot;Beyond Here Lies Nothin’&quot; / &quot;Down Along the Cove&quot; (live)</td>
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<td>&quot;Must Be Santa&quot; / &quot;’Twas the Night Before Christmas&quot;</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>&quot;The Times They Are a-Changin’&quot; (demo version) / &quot;Like a Rolling Stone&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Duquesne Whistle&quot;</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>&quot;Wigwam&quot; (demo version) / &quot;Thirsty Boots&quot;</td>
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"Like a Rolling Stone" as written by and Bob Dylan. Read More Edit Wiki.Â How does it feel, how does it feel? To be without a home Like a complete unknown, like a rolling stone. Ahh you’ve gone to the finest schools, alright Miss Lonely But you know you only used to get juiced in it. Nobody’s ever taught you how to live out on the street And now you’re gonna have to get used to it You say you never compromise With the mystery tramp, but now you realize He’s not selling any. alibis As you stare into the vacuum of his eyes And say do you want to make a deal? How does it feel, how does it feel? To be on your own, with no direction home A complete unk