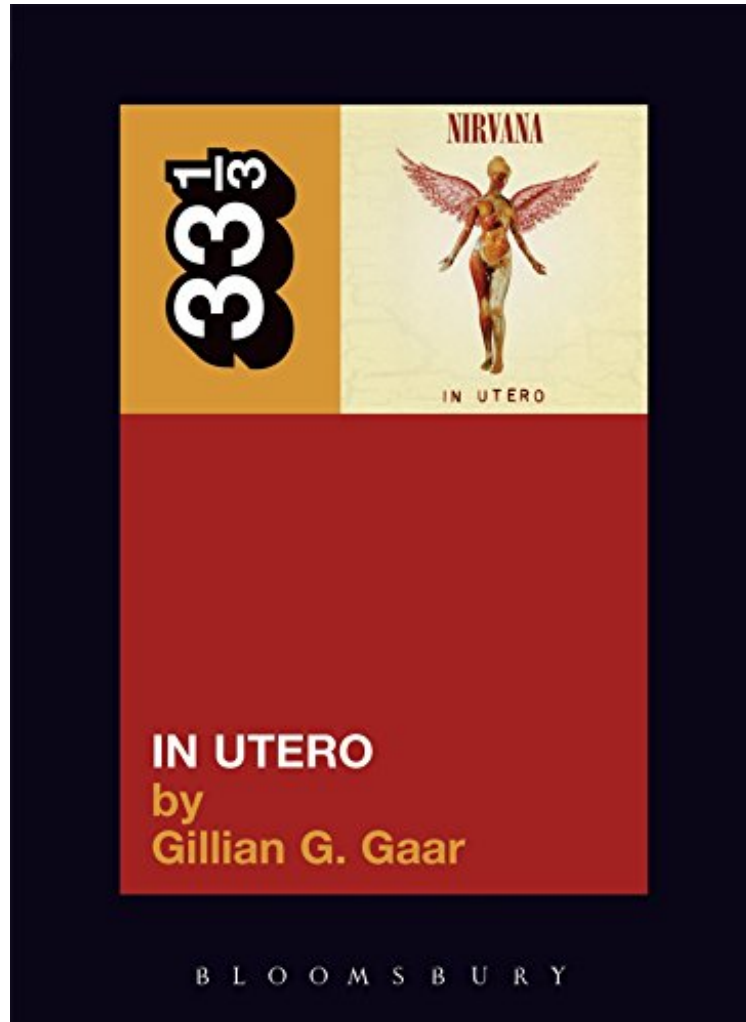


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## Nirvana's in Utero (33 1/3)

Gillian G. Gaar

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**Gillian G. Gaar : Nirvana's in Utero (33 1/3)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Nirvana's in Utero (33 1/3):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. It's OkayBy HuntleyMCThis book was alright. I felt like it was a little disjointed in how it covered the album. I was hoping it would be a chapter covering each song on the album but it was not written that way at all. Gaar discusses the creation of some of the songs and than the recording of the songs. She interviews the producers, record executives, members of Nirvana and gathers quotes by Kurt Cobain from interviews done at the time. There is a chapter that covers the creation of the art work that is interesting.Over all I don't really think I got a better understanding of the Nirvana or their recording process from this book.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. One of the best books in this seriesBy Rich L.A great read. The author avoids over-analysis of Kurt's lyrics, which has become so prevalent in the wake of his death. Instead, she focuses on the details of

the songs—namely, when they were written (or a best approximation) and first recorded, the multiple recording sessions where these songs were first recorded before the "In Utero" recordings, and to-the-point analysis of the "In Utero" sessions. I've read a lot about the recording of this album but was very impressed with her practical day-to-day recounting of the sessions. The book is as bare-bones as the album itself, and makes for a great read. If you're looking for an impassioned interpretation of Kurt's songs, look elsewhere, but if you want a nuts-and-bolts dissection of this album, pick this book up. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Organized collection of Information. By J. LittleGreat Read, there are lots of tidbits that have come out over the years organized for you to make sense out of. There are several previously points that are clarified as the author did a thorough job researching the ambiguous nuggets of information and rumors floating about. She interviewed those in the know close to the band, members of the band, as well as renowned experts in the field of live recordings and concerts. Is everything in this book a revelation? No, but with Nirvana existence 12 years in the past and with all session and demo information that we've learned about over the years, the constant expectation of something groundbreaking and new is probably going to leave you disappointed more often than not. There is some new info, yes. Did I buy it for that? No, not at all. Personally, I like hearing information that we've known presented in a nice, organized, and well written fashion as much as (if not more than) new information. The new stuff is just icing on the cake. Great job on the book, Gillian. I hope that you continue to share Nirvana with us in all the various ways you have already.

Though Nevermind was Nirvana's most commercially successful album, and the record that broke them and the grunge phenomenon internationally, In Utero has increasingly become regarded as the band's best album, both by the critics and the band members themselves. Instead of sticking to the "grunge pop" formula that made Nevermind so palatable to the mainstream, Nirvana chose instead to challenge their audience, producing an album that the band's creative force, Kurt Cobain, said truly matched his vision of what he had always wanted his band to sound like. Here, the full story behind the creation of In Utero is told for the first time.

About the Author Gillian G. Gaar is the author of *She's a Rebel: The History of Women in Rock'n'Roll* and *Green Day: Rebels With a Cause*. She served as project consultant on the Nirvana box set *With the Lights Out*. She lives in Seattle. Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. The record was replete with references to babies, childbirth, and reproduction (the album's very title means "in the womb"); witch hunts, the loss of privacy, illness and disease, and ambivalence about fame. The songs expressed a heartfelt anguish that would later cause some to interpret the entire album as a cry for help, but even at the time of its release In Utero could easily be read as an album focused on physical and spiritual sickness. Rather than being overwhelmed by circumstances, however, Cobain's songs on In Utero show him for the most part still able and willing to fight back. As such, among Nirvana's recorded efforts, it stands as Cobain's most personal work.