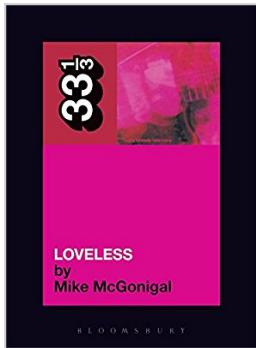


## My Bloody Valentine's Loveless (33 1/3)



By Mike McGonigal

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*Loveless* remains an enigma, 15 years after its release - an album so influential and groundbreaking that its chief creator, Kevin Shields, has been unable or unwilling to release an official follow-up. In his book, Mike McGonigal talks to all the members of My Bloody Valentine, in an almost certainly futile attempt to get at the essence of this extraordinary record.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

'Want to impress your chums with your vast knowledge of contemporary classic albums such as Sonic Youth's Daydream Nation or the Stone Roses' seminal debut but don't have time to actually listen to them? No problem. Just pick up the relevant copy of the 33 1/3 series and hey presto, overnight musical genius' (*Stuff*)

"Mike McGonigal's take on one of the biggest music geek albums ever is a brief and entertaining read that pulls the curtains back on this widely influential shoegaze classic. In-depth information on recording sessions and interviews conducted for the book with band leader Kevin Shields and his ex bandmate/lover Bilinda Butcher shine a blinding light on the album and why there was never a followup." - *Under the Radar*, Fall 2006<?xml:namespace prefix = o ns = "urn:schemas-microsoft-com:office:office" />  
(Nick Hyman)

""Loveless" by My Bloody Valentine is one of the best albums on Earth. The 33 1/3 Series...has done a brilliant thing by having McGonigal writing a wonderful book about the album.'

~ Todd E. Jones, *The Tripwire*

"Mike McGonigal's take on one of the biggest music geek albums ever is a brief and entertaining read that pulls the curtains back on this widely influential shoegaze classic. In-depth information on recording sessions and interviews conducted for the book with band leader Kevin Shields and his ex bandmate/lover Bilinda Butcher shine a blinding light on the album and why there was never a followup." - *Under the Radar*, Fall 2006<?xml:namespace prefix = o ns = "urn:schemas-microsoft-com:office:office" />  
(Sanford Lakoff)

#### About the Author

Mike McGonigal has written about music and art since 1984, when he started the fanzine *Chemical Imbalance*. An occasional curator, sculptor and DJ, Mike edits the arts journal *YETI* and resides in Portland, Oregon. He really needs to get out more.

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Everything about this album feels so oblique, so gauzy and hazy and inscrutable, that I never realized the album's title was actually straightforward, almost literal. Then I spoke with Kevin and Bilinda for this book, and it seemed apparent that the title referred directly to the disintegration of their relationship, which was happening right then and there, in the studio. It was happening even more slowly than the recording process itself, but it was happening. Asking Kevin about the title, he sighs and pauses for a while before getting more oblique than usual. "The word 'love' is very powerful even when you put anything after it. It's difficult to explain, but it's to do with effect and feel and to have some tangible meaning, with the meaning being less important than the overall effect." It's clear that it still is hard to talk about, and I don't blame him.

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