



## Bobbie Gentry's Ode to Billie Joe (33 1/3)

By Tara Murtha

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### Bobbie Gentry's Ode to Billie Joe (33 1/3) By Tara Murtha

July, 1967: It seems the entire country stopped to listen to a husky voice steeped in the simmering secrets of the South tell a tragic tale of teenage suicide. So much for the Summer of Love. "Ode to Billie Joe" knocked the Beatles' "All You Need is Love" off the top of the charts, and Bobbie Gentry became an international star. Almost 50 years later, Gentry is as enigmatic and captivating as her signature song. Of course, fans still want to know why Billie Joe McAllister jumped off the Tallahatchie Bridge. They also wonder: Why did Bobbie Gentry, who has not performed or made a public appearance since the early 1980s, leave it all behind?

Through extensive interviews and unprecedented access to career memorabilia, Murtha explores the real-life mysteries ensnarled within the much-disputed origin of *Ode to Billie Joe*. The result is an investigative pop history that reveals, for the first time, the full breadth of Bobbie Gentry's groundbreaking career-and just may help explain her long silence.

*Foreword by musician Jill Sobule.*

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## **Bobbie Gentry's Ode to Billie Joe (33 1/3) By Tara Murtha Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #433724 in Books
- Published on: 2014-12-18
- Released on: 2014-12-18
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 6.54" h x .39" w x 4.76" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 160 pages

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

“Tara Murtha examines that song and the rest of Bobbi Gentry's career in *Ode To Billie Joe*, the latest release in the 33 1/3 series of books. It is a wonderfully compelling book and the best I've read in the series since *“Television: Marquee Moon.”* Perhaps it's her background as a reporter, but Murtha does not go down the pedantic path that many of the books in this series seem to do lately. Instead, the author presents a fascinating study of Gentry and her career-defining debut. That's right; *“Ode to Billie Joe”* was her debut recording. Wow.” *Steve J., AllMusicBooks*

“Murtha pulls free the threads of truth from a tangled knot of personal mythology and contradictions. Her book is likely to be a hit with casual listeners and pop-culture obsessives alike.” *Katie Haegele, Utne Reader*

“Philadelphia journalist Tara Murtha has dug deep into the story behind Gentry's song with the latest entry in the “33 1/3” book series devoted to various pop albums of significance... Murtha charts Gentry's challenges as a musician who in her teens was most interested in selling her songs to other singers, not recording them herself. But once she did get into the position of recording, she was up against a male-dominated record industry that offered little validation to a young woman with her own ideas about performance and production.” *Randy Lewis, L.A. Times*

#### About the Author

**Tara Murtha** is a journalist based in Philadelphia, USA.

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

##### **Jason Urso:**

This book untitled Bobbie Gentry's *Ode to Billie Joe* (33 1/3) to be one of several books which best seller in this year, this is because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit upon it. You will easily to buy this kind of book in the book store or you can order it through online. The publisher of the book sells the e-book too. It makes you quickly to read this book, as you can read this book in your Smart phone. So there is no reason to your account to past this book from your list.

##### **Betty Castaneda:**

The reason? Because this Bobbie Gentry's *Ode to Billie Joe* (33 1/3) is an unordinary book that the inside of the e-book waiting for you to snap it but latter it will surprise you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such wonderful way makes the content inside of easier to understand, entertaining method but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you

a lot of positive aspects than the other book get such as help improving your skill and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to hold up having that book? If I were you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

**Darren Custer:**

In this particular era which is the greater man or who has ability in doing something more are more valuable than other. Do you want to become one of it? It is just simple solution to have that. What you have to do is just spending your time little but quite enough to have a look at some books. One of the books in the top checklist in your reading list is Bobbie Gentry's Ode to Billie Joe (33 1/3). This book which is qualified as The Hungry Inclines can get you closer in getting precious person. By looking way up and review this guide you can get many advantages.

**Jennifer Rogers:**

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