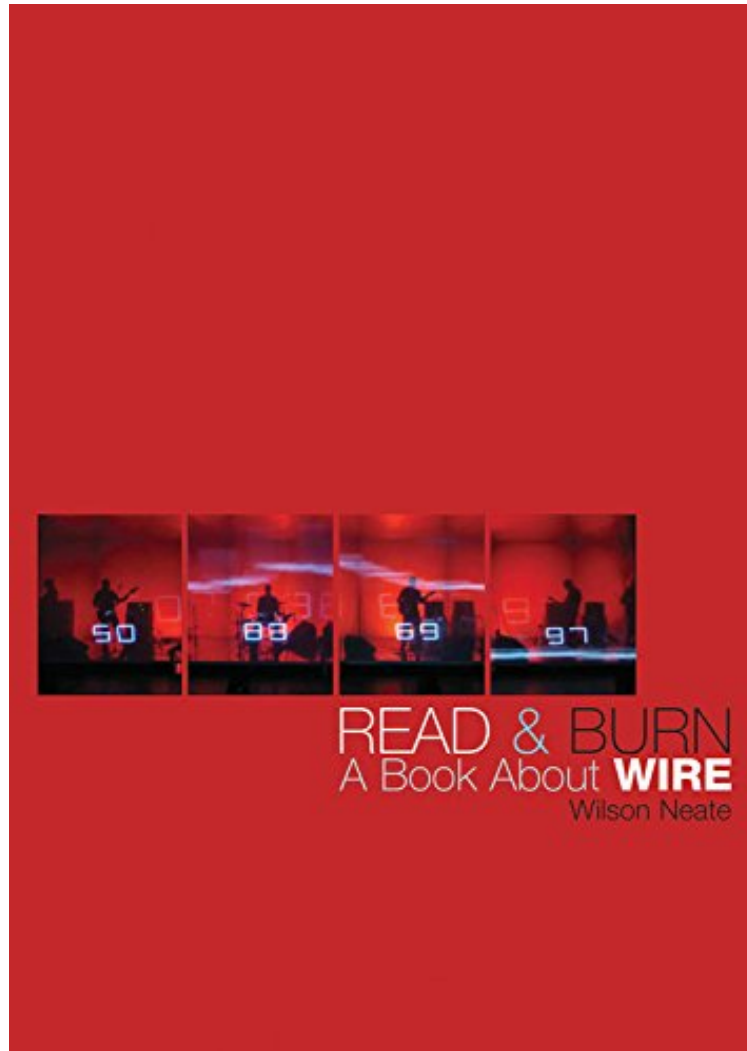


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Read Burn: A book about Wire

Wilson Neate

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Wilson Neate : Read Burn: A book about Wire before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Read Burn: A book about Wire:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This is a fantastic book for anyone who is really into wireBy julian librontThis is a fantastic book for anyone who is really into wire. it skips all the "mumbo jumbo" and delves straight into the point of the book. telling the story of wire.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy alexander laurenceDefinitely the best complete book about WIRE and all the members.1 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A Bit of A CheatBy ZornkThis book is a fairly expensive promotional item. The first 300 pages or so are replete with interesting anecdotes about the band's history loaded with great interviews from band members discussing all their problems with managers as well as with themselves, chief among whom is Bruce Gilbert,

who seems to be singled out for leaving in a huff. In the last 50 or so pages, the author and band members were drooling over themselves about their new material and bandmate. It felt to me like a long lead up to promoting their new album which is fair at best with no really novel things going on. A word used constantly in this book is perverse. And they did it again without Gilbert.

Read Burn is the first serious, in-depth appraisal of Wire, one of the most influential British bands to emerge during the punk era. If Wire were briefly a punk band, however, it was largely by historical accident. Despite the fact that they had complicated and transformed that category almost before they'd begun, they seem never to have quite escaped the label. Be it punk, post-punk, or art-punk, critics have clung onto the p-word in an attempt to capture the essence of Wire's innovative uniqueness. But their story -- which honours punk's original yet quickly forgotten commitment to the new -- is one of constant remaking and remodelling, one that stubbornly resists reduction to a single identity. As a result, the group's projects have always balanced uneasily between artistic endeavour and the need for commercial sustainability, played out against the backdrop of the musicians' perennially complex creative relationships. Tracing Wire's diverse output from 1977 up until the present, Read Burn seeks to do justice to their highly influential and restlessly inventive body of work by developing a sustained critical account of their shifting approaches. It combines analysis and interpretation with perspective drawn from exclusive interviews with past and present members of the band.

"A meaty treatise by the guy who already wrote a 150 page monograph on Pink Flag for the 33 series.... Wilson Neate's book is incisive, insightful and full of fascinating information." --Simon Reynolds, Blissblog (author of Rip It Up and Start Again and Retromania).