

## The 50 Best Albums of 2020

From Taylor's folk surprise to Bob Dylan's best album in 20 years to cathartic country, indie-rock and pop releases, these great albums helped us power through a lonely year.

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### Lucinda Williams, 'Good Souls Better Angels'

One of America's greatest living songwriters, [Lucinda Williams](#) dissects political, societal, and personal dysfunction on this focused, [rock-forward record](#). Setting aside the blues detours of past efforts, she turns up the amps and gets down to business, eviscerating a now-loser president on "Man Without a Soul," taking 2020 to task in "Bad News Blues," and threatening a perennial "thorn in my side" in the ferocious "Bone of Contention." The performances are all vibrant and intense — a cover of Greg Garing's "[Down Past the Bottom](#)" is simply terrifying — putting Williams' famously breathy

voice right in your ear. She reunited with co-producer Ray Kennedy for the first time since the 1998 watershed *Car Wheels on a Gravel Road*. It was worth the wait. —J.H.