

U2's Sunday Bloody Sunday [B1]

Il quartetto di Dublino dà un chiaro esempio di consapevolezza sociale. In questo grande successo, i musicisti fanno riferimento a un violento episodio accaduto durante il conflitto che devastò l'Irlanda del Nord per decenni.



U2's most [overtly](#) political song was influenced by the [events](#) that took place in Derry, Northern Ireland on Sunday 30th January 1972. British soldiers opened fire on unarmed civil rights protesters, killing fourteen. The members of the Dublin-based band grew up during "the Troubles", a Northern Ireland-based sectarian conflict which [lasted](#) from the late 1960s to 1998. The conflict was mainly between Protestant unionists, who wanted Northern Ireland [to remain](#) part of the UK, and Catholic nationalists (republicans), who wanted unification with Ireland, but there were many civilian victims. The song is a [plea](#) for peace. An early [draft](#) of the song [spoke out](#) more explicitly against idealising the republican cause, which had a lot of support in the United States, but the lyrics were [toned down](#). U2 [stressed](#) that the song was a condemnation of [events](#), not a glorification of a cause, with Bono also introducing it at concerts as "not a rebel ([i.e.](#) republican) song" either. Recently, while promoting his memoir, Bono described it as "not just a song; a map, [a way forward](#) in the world."

Lyricaly, the song is entirely in the present simple, giving immediacy to the message. It begins with shock and [disbelief](#) at the news from Derry, which is impossible to ignore. The singer [wonders](#) when the conflict will end, expressing hope for a peaceful resolution. This is the “victory Jesus won” on the first [Easter Sunday](#). The song was a huge hit for U2 in 1983, helping them [to break into](#) the US market and become one of the most successful bands in the world. I can't believe the news today Oh, I can't close my eyes and make it go away How long, how long must we sing this song? How long? How long? 'Cause tonight We can be as one Tonight Broken bottles under children's feet Bodies [strewn](#) across the dead-end street But I won't [heed](#) the battle call It puts my back up, puts my back up against the wall [CHORUS] Sunday, Bloody Sunday Sunday, Bloody Sunday Sunday, Bloody Sunday Sunday, Bloody Sunday Alright, let's go And the battle's just begun There's many lost, but tell me who has won? The [trenches dig within](#) our hearts And mothers, children, brothers, sisters torn apart Sunday, Bloody Sunday Sunday, Bloody Sunday How long, how long must we sing this song? How long? How long? 'Cause tonight we can be as one, tonight Tonight, tonight (Sunday, Bloody Sunday) Tonight, tonight (Sunday, Bloody Sunday) Alright, let's go Wipe the tears from your eyes Wipe your tears away I'll wipe your tears away I'll wipe your tears away (Sunday, Bloody Sunday) I'll wipe your [bloodshot](#) eyes (Sunday, Bloody Sunday) [CHORUS] And it's true we are immune When fact is fiction and TV reality And today the millions cry (Sunday, Bloody Sunday) We eat and drink while tomorrow they die (Sunday, Bloody Sunday) The real battle has begun (Sunday, Bloody Sunday) [To claim the victory](#) Jesus won (Sunday, Bloody Sunday) On Sunday, Bloody Sunday, yeah Sunday, Bloody Sunday

Glossary

- **within** = dentro
- **overtly** = apertamente
- **plea** = supplica
- **stressed** = enfatizzare
- **i.e.** = i.e.:ovvero(idest)
- **Easter Sunday** = Domenica di Pasqua
- **lasted** = durare
- **spoke out** = esprimersi
- **disbelief** = incredulità
- **trenches** = trincee
- **toned down** = moderare
- **to break into** = farsi breccia
- **dig** = scavo
- **bloodshot** = iniettati di sangue
- **strewn** = spargere
- **heed** = ascoltare
- **To claim the victory** = cantare vittoria
- **events** = eventi
- **to remain** = rimanere
- **draft** = brutta copia, bozza
- **a way forward** = un modo di agire
- **wonders** = domandarsi