

# Blaze Be Kelly: The Story of a Legendary Black Country Band

Blaze Be Kelly were a legendary Black Country band who enjoyed a brief but brilliant career in the early 1980s. Their unique blend of punk, rock, and folk music, combined with their charismatic frontman Rob Birch, made them one of the most exciting and influential bands of their era. This article tells the story of Blaze Be Kelly, from their humble beginnings in the Black Country to their tragic end.



## Blaze by BE Kelly

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

- Language : English
- File size : 4946 KB
- Text-to-Speech : Enabled
- Screen Reader : Supported
- Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
- Word Wise : Enabled
- Print length : 118 pages
- Lending : Enabled



## Early Days

Blaze Be Kelly were formed in 1980 in the Black Country town of Dudley. The band's original lineup consisted of Rob Birch on vocals, Mick Derrick on guitar, Dick Jobson on bass, and Dave Milson on drums. The band's name was taken from a local legend about a highwayman who robbed the rich to give to the poor.

Blaze Be Kelly quickly developed a reputation for their energetic live shows and their unique blend of punk, rock, and folk music. The band's songs were often politically charged and dealt with themes of social injustice and working-class life. Birch's charismatic stage presence and powerful vocals made him a natural frontman, and the band quickly gained a loyal following.

## **Success**

In 1981, Blaze Be Kelly released their debut album, *The Robber's Tale*. The album was a critical and commercial success, and the band quickly became one of the most popular live acts in the country. The band's follow-up album, *The Wayward Wind*, was released in 1982 and was another critical and commercial success. Blaze Be Kelly were now one of the biggest bands in the UK, and they were headlining major festivals and selling out arenas.

Blaze Be Kelly's success was due in no small part to the songwriting talents of Rob Birch. Birch was a gifted songwriter who wrote songs that were both catchy and meaningful. His songs often dealt with themes of social injustice and working-class life, and they resonated with people from all walks of life.

## **Tragedy**

In 1983, Blaze Be Kelly were at the height of their success. They were headlining major festivals and selling out arenas. However, tragedy struck in 1984 when Rob Birch was killed in a car accident. Birch's death was a devastating blow to the band, and they disbanded shortly after.

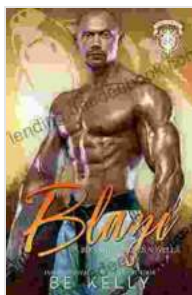
Blaze Be Kelly were a unique and influential band who left a lasting legacy on British music. Their blend of punk, rock, and folk music was

groundbreaking, and their songs are still relevant today. Rob Birch was a gifted songwriter and a charismatic frontman, and his death was a tragic loss to the music world.

## Legacy

Blaze Be Kelly's legacy lives on today. Their music continues to be played on radio stations around the world, and their songs are still covered by other artists. The band's influence can be heard in the music of many contemporary artists, and their story is still told by fans around the world.

Blaze Be Kelly were a truly unique and special band. Their music was groundbreaking, their lyrics were meaningful, and their live shows were legendary. Rob Birch was a gifted songwriter and a charismatic frontman, and his death was a tragic loss to the music world. Blaze Be Kelly's legacy will live on for many years to come.

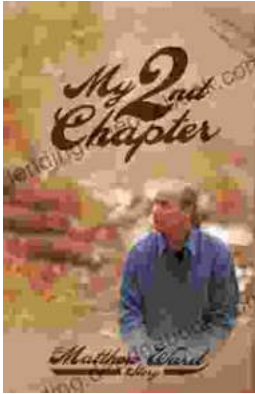


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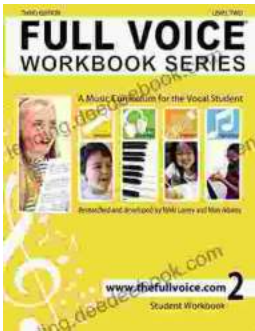
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