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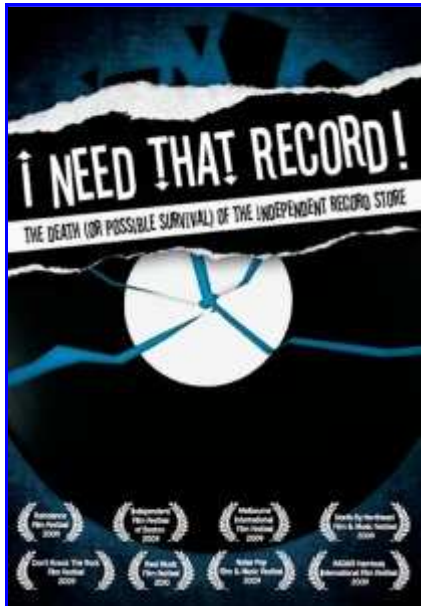
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I Need That Record

Posted on August 22, 2010 by [eddyisfuckindead](#)

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When I was a young teen I started getting into music seriously, I'd save up my pocket money to buy the albums by the bands I loved. I remember travelling on the train to visit Stand Out Records, the only independent record store that was near me. I used to love flicking through all the different albums on the shelves, buying releases based on cool album covers, and chatting to the people who worked there. Sadly it closed down a while back, just as many independent stores have the last few years. I Need That Record is a film that explores just why there are record stores closing down every day, and also touches upon other subjects involving the record industry such as payola for radio plays.

This film is very focused on America, but that isn't to say it's not relevant to other countries also. Almost every point made in the feature can be true in the UK as well, you just have to switch "Wal-Mart" for "Tesco". Anyone who loves music, and loves shopping for records, will feel a connection to this movie. Ok, so some of the people they interview veer into High Fidelity territory at times, but that's the joy of these record stores, people who are truly dedicated to music. Anyone who is a record nerd has to appreciate that slightly pretentious "we're better than mainstream music fans" feel to the content; you've got to be a little like that to want to collect records in the first place.

A lot of what is on show here won't be particularly new or revelatory to those who have knowledge of the subject already. A lot of very familiar ground is tread, such as the record companies' crusade against Napster. This could be the main downfall of the film, it'll only truly excite those who already know the story being told. It's still very much worth a watch, but it's a shame a wider audience probably won't be exposed to it.

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- [Records](#) (3)
- [Review](#) (7)

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