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Have you seen I Need That Record! The Death (Or Possible Survival) Of The Independent Record Store

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A paean to the loss of a whole subculture of unique

My spider sense, dear reader, tells me that you may know what an internets is (possibly because this is being published on The Mighty Subba Cultcha website, as we writer monkeys are forced to refer to it). That being the case, there's a fair possibility that you may have participated in downloading music or buying it through an online store. While the net may have made it simpler to get your hands on your favourite chunes, there have been negative ramifications of the e-revolution too; one of which is that many record stores have gone out of husiness.

Obviously, being specialised and frequently without the kind of backing large corporate stores have at their disposal, the stores most at risk are independent record stores; logically, as even the largest cannot compete with the range of choice an online store can offer, nor keep their operating costs so low. But these changes have had other effects, as this intriguing documentary examines.

Featuring interviews with the likes of Thurston Moore, Ian MacKaye and Mike Watt, as well as a host of record-buying nerds, this makes a few interesting points For instance, you might have a wider choice on Gemm.com (for instance) than your average second hand record outlet, but will they have a hot geeky girl you'll never get the courage up to speak to (other than to ask "I'll take these please" in a broken voice)? Will you bump into your fellow geeks, perhaps often enough to form a band together which will never get anywhere but will release one limited edition 7" which the store itself will stock, selling at least four copies? Will you be able to purchase a 20 year old album with a knackered cover for fifty pee, and walk away with it in a pristine bag? Will they foster a sense of a local alternative community, or even a local scene? Not likely. So if, like me, you mourn the loss of many of these places, buy this DVD – preferably from a sales assistant who earns a quarter of your salary, never sees daylight and defines themselves by their record collection, and STILL looks down their nose at you

Starring: Thurston Moore, Ian MacKaye, Noam Chomsky, Mike Watt Released by MVD Entertainment

I need that record's site

Eddie Thomas

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This site was developed and realised by Spyre Media, HP Consulting with design by Tom

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