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Kut U Up

Kut U Up: Worse Than Wolves [EP]Worse Than Wolves [EP] (2013)

MVDAudio

Reviewer Rating:

3.5

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*Published on July 9th 2013*Kut U Up were contemporaries with Green Day and Blink-182, even appearing in a movie with them. Now just a few years shy of their 20th anniversary, the band, which only ever released one album on Suburban Home, have released a new EP. Because this seems to be a low stakes gambit, the *Worse Than Wolves*.



Kut U Up were contemporaries with Green Day and Blink-182, even appearing in a movie with them. Now just a few years shy of their 20th anniversary, the band, which only ever released one album on Suburban Home, have released a new EP. Because this seems to be a low stakes gambit, the *Worse Than Wolves* EP seems like it's just a bunch of guys having fun playing in a band and it's that much better for it.

While Kut U Up may have some pop-punk origins, they've progressed far more than their previous bedfellows. *Wolves* still has some pop-punk riffage and energy, namely on closing track "Trap's Set" which could even draw a little from skate-punk, but the band seem more interested in exploring self-reflective indie rock.

EP opener "Trust" finds the band drifting along in an astral haze before breaking into a bouncy bass rhythm that suggests Live and perhaps even a little Kepi Ghoulie. While Kut U Up do explore some more abstract territory, *Worse Than Wolves* is most invigorating when when the band snap together with more driving tempos and shout outs.

Interestingly, the band explore some pretty dark lyrical territory. The title track opens with "*We are worse than wolves / hunted down like animals / three days awake taken way too far.*" But despite the dour message, the band drive the music with a pulsating guitar and marching drums, which makes the song both dark, but exciting.

It's unlikely that Kut U Up will ever reach the financial heights of the aforementioned bands. But, it is interesting to see where former pop-punkers will go when not "hampered" by fame, but drawn by indie exposition.

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