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Last Shop Standing: The Rise, Fall and Rebirth of the Independent Record Shop

By [Troy Michael](#)
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Last Shop Standing
The Rise, Fall and Rebirth of the Independent Record Shop
(King Midas)

There have been several documentaries about the rise and fall of the record store, especially since the launch of Record Store Day. Most of those films focused on the music industry and stores here in the States, but “Last Shop Standing: The Rise, Fall and Rebirth of the Independent Record Shop” takes a different turn and examines the life of the independent record store owner in England.

What makes this film even better is it shows the opening of new record stores and how they are succeeding. Moreover, the icing on the cake is the look into long-time record store owners who have been around long enough to see the first Elvis 45, The Beatles break out with their first single and the advent of the punk scene.

These are not your typical independent record store owners. They are men (and women) in their 60’s (or older) and they are hilarious, they are stubborn and they have the kind of stories you dream of hearing. They have seen it all, heard it all, and most likely done it all in their tenure as some of the “go to” shops in England.

“Last Shop Standing” the unofficial DVD release for Record Store Day 2013, is based on the book by the same name with the compilation of interviews better seen than read. Musicians Billy Bragg, Paul Weller and Johnny Marr are in the mix of interviews, but it is the 27 record store owners which provide the best stories.


Not only is “Last Shop Standing: The Rise, Fall and Rebirth of the Independent Record Store” educational and a fun watch, but it also gives you hope that the Mom and Pop-style music stores are on the rebound.

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