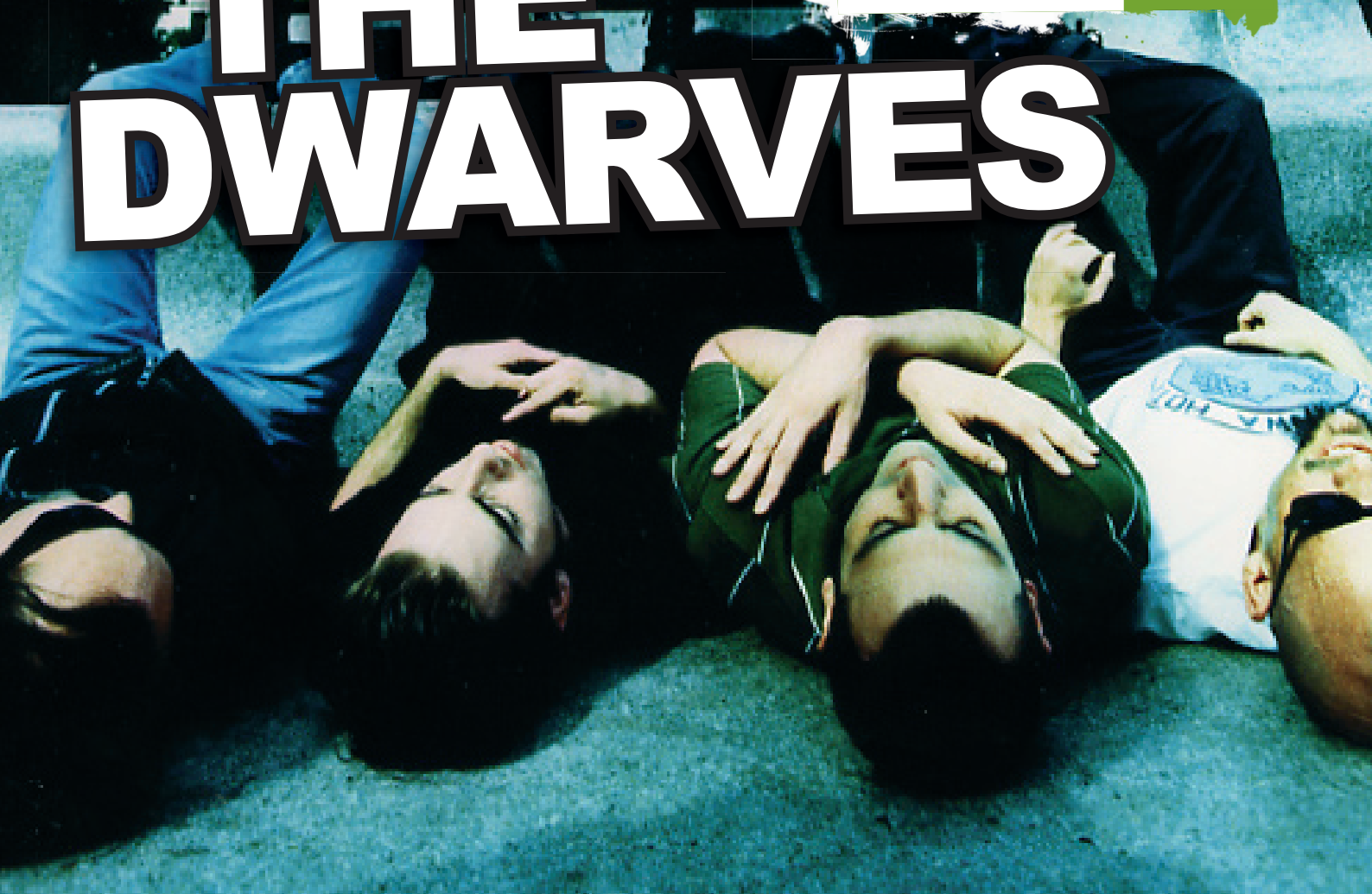


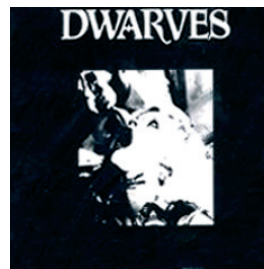
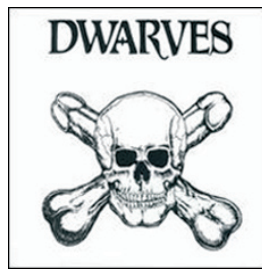
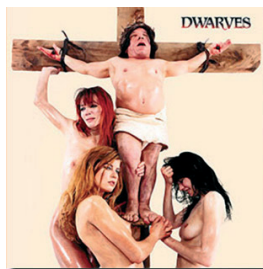
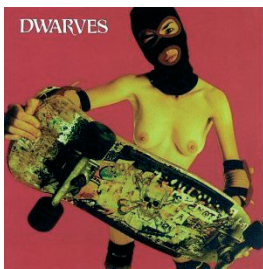
WHERE TO START WITH...

THE LOWDOWN:

IT'S QUITE possible that more has been written about the Dwarves' behaviour than has ever been said about their music. And not without good reason: their first ever UK gig, for instance, ended after just four songs when the band started a brawl with the entire audience. They were also dropped by Sub Pop for faking the death of guitarist Hewhocannotbenamed (musical differences seemed like a boring reason for his departure, though the label thought otherwise) and generally left behind more than a two decade's worth of carnage and venereal disease of the sort that would shame the Vikings. None of which would count for shit if they hadn't written some truly brilliant music. But, having evolved from an acid munching headbanger outfit through brash, raw garage punk, they have produced some of the best punk albums, along the way. It's a shame that schizophrenia is a lyrical

THE DWARVES





ESSENTIAL PURCHASE

'...ARE YOUNG AND GOOD LOOKING'

(EPITAPH, 1997)

UNQUESTIONABLY The Dwarves' finest (half) hour, this features everything that makes them one of the greatest punk bands on the planet. Tunes that evoke the Ramones and the Damned at their best, seedy and obnoxious lyrics, nudity, violence, and even a letter from their former label explaining why they were dropped. As it says on the record: "Nothing but hits bitch!"

FOLLOW-UP PURCHASE

'...MUST DIE'

(SYMPATHY FOR THE RECORD INDUSTRY, 2004)

A WILDLY eclectic record featuring everything from hardcore punk to pop and hip-hop with such guests as Dexter Holland, Josh Freese and DJ Marz. 'The Dwarves Must Die' shows the true musical genius of the band. If it weren't for the fact that they insisted on getting naked girls to crucify a dwarf on the sleeve then tracks like 'Salt Lake City' might even see them get some airplay... on the day that Satan skates to work.

ALSO RECOMMENDED

'SUGAR FIX'

(SUB POP, 1993)

THEIR LAST record for Sub Pop after which they were elbowed for faking the death of guitarist Hewhocannot-benamed in an, "anonymous bar fight in Philadelphia". After many touching obituaries and messages of condolence, the band laughed their asses off, cheekily calling the last track 'I Wish That I Was Dead' with a post-script to the label, "thanks to Sub Pop for drugs and money". Another great record overshadowed by controversy.

WILD CARD

'FREE COCAINE'

(RECESS, 1999)

DURING THEIR transitional period between being a psychedelic garage band and the band they are today, the Dwarves showed every indication that they were going to be thoroughly unpleasant. This compilation of early singles, including such masterpieces as 'I Wanna Kill Your Boyfriend' and 'It's Your Party (Die If You Want To)', is a clear sign that things were going to get out of hand. Loud, raw, and infectious.

AVOID

'LICK IT'

(RECESS, 1998)

WITH 34 tracks compiled from all the bands early singles, this is a very different band from the Dwarves we know today. Obviously guzzling down acid and having a pretty bad trip, they managed to sound like a psychedelic Cramps crossed with something you'd see in a '60s freak out movie. Which, admittedly, is pretty good stuff, just not what you'd want to check out if you've recently discovered them.

BURN THESE!

THE ULTIMATE THE DWARVES MIX CD...

'LET'S FUCK'

DOES THIS really need explaining? Murderdolls' song of the same name bears some remarkable (and they claim accidental) similarities, but this is way more fun and er, infectious. **FIND IT:** 'Blood, Guts And Pussy', 1990.

'FUCK YOU UP AND GET HIGH'

AGAIN IT doesn't take Stephen Hawking to work out what this one's about. Vocals, in the style of a complete mental, are provided by Nick Oliveri in full rant mode. **FIND IT:** 'Blood, Guts And Pussy', 1990.

'BACK SEAT OF MY CAR'

ONE CAN only imagine the horrors that await in the back seat of any vehicle owned by the Dwarves. Let's just say that traffic violations are not your main concern. **FIND IT:** 'Blood Guts And Pussy', 1990.

'GASH WAGON'

THANKFULLY THE lyrics are pretty indecipherable, but the title and a chorus of 'sex, drugs, rock 'n' roll and what sounds like someone shouting 'suck my dick' give you an all too vivid idea of where the Gash Wagon is heading. **FIND IT:** 'Blood Guts And Pussy', 1990.

'ANYBODY BUT ME'

WHEN THE Dwarves played their first UK show (all four songs of it) they opened with this and started a bar brawl like something out of a spaghetti western. Nuff said. **FIND IT:** 'Thank Heaven For Little Girls', 1992.

'FUCK 'EM ALL'

ANOTHER SUBTLE ditty about making the beast with two backs. 'It seems like balling bitches is all I ever do, you'd better watch your

ass I'll fuck that too'. More tea, vicar?

FIND IT: 'Thank Heaven For Little Girls', 1992.

'ANYBODY OUT THERE'

LYRICALLY LIMITED to a couple of lines, Blag doesn't really have time to disgrace himself so we're left with a raucous punk blast that's as simple as it is effective. **FIND IT:** 'Sugar Fix', 1993.

'SATURDAY NIGHT'

ON THE face of it a simple ode to the best night of the week, but of course, the Dwarves use it as an excuse to wreck the place, violate young ladies and 'know that deep down low, you're loving it'. **FIND IT:** 'Sugar Fix', 1993.

'REPUTATION'

'I'VE GOT a bad reputation and you don't even know me! threatens Blag with his usual glee before apparently protesting his innocence. Butter wouldn't melt... **FIND IT:** 'Sugar Fix', 1993.

'YOU GOTTA BURN'

OOZING SLOW and sleazy sex appeal, this is the ultimate stripper's tune. Forget Mötley Crüe's 'Girls, Girls, Girls', if you'd like a young lady to disrobe then slap this sucker on. **FIND IT:** 'The Dwarves Are Young And Good Looking', 1997.

'EVERYBODY'S GIRL'

THE SONG'S essentially about chasing other people's girlfriends but for once it's done in a relatively tasteful (and radio friendly) way that comes across more as an homage to womankind than their usual unsubtle dick waving. **FIND IT:** 'The Dwarves Are Young And Good Looking', 1997.

'PIMP'

'DON'T WANNA be your pastor!

I wanna be your master! I'm just a fucking bastard!'. A simple Ramones-esque blast about pimping one's hoe. Delightful. **FIND IT:** 'The Dwarves Are Young And Good Looking', 1997.

'FREE COCAINE'

CULLED FROM an early EP entitled 'Lucifer's Crank' this ragged one minute blast is pretty self-explanatory. 'The best things in life are free! Well, if they're free why don't you give 'em to me!'. **FIND IT:** 'Free Cocaine', 1999.

'BETTER BE WOMEN'

A SIMPLE ditty about a singular failure with the better sex. 'You try, but you don't get none. And I said, "why? Is she a lesbian?". PC as always then. **FIND IT:** 'Come Clean', 2000.

'HOW IT'S DONE'

ONE OF many songs in which

Blag blows his own trumpet and basically tells the world how great the Dwarves are. Laughable if he wasn't absolutely right. **FIND IT:** 'Come Clean', 2000.

'SALT LAKE CITY'

A RARE radio-friendly tune from our heroes. Not that many stations would touch it given that the cover features a dwarf being crucified by naked girls. **FIND IT:** 'The Dwarves Must Die', 2004.

'BLAST'

OPENING WITH a sample of Nick Oliveri giving his reasons for being elbowed from Queens Of The Stone Age, this also features a venting of Oliveri's not inconsiderable spleen. **FIND IT:** 'The Dwarves Must Die', 2004.

'DOMINATOR'

'I TAKE the cake and then I take

it back! brags Blag in this superb punk steamroller, before declaring 'don't really give a fuck about no right or wrong'. Like that needed pointing out. **FIND IT:** 'The Dwarves Must Die', 2004.

'MASSACRE'

A GAUNTLET throwing tune that disses everyone from Good Charlotte to Creed and QOTSA. It was reported that this was the song that caused QOTSA singer Josh Homme's altercation with Blag. **FIND IT:** 'The Dwarves Must Die', 2004.

'GO!'

IN WHICH Blag complains rather vigorously about the dating process. 'Why can't I just fuck that bitch and go?'. It's inadvisable to play this to your girlfriend. **FIND IT:** 'The Dwarves Must Die', 2004.

I X THE DWARVES DEXTER HOLLAND

THE OFFSPRING

"**THE DWARVES** are super punk, that's what I always loved about them. Today when you call someone punk, it might say more about the T-shirt some dude is wearing instead of their attitude. The Dwarves came before that stuff; they are a seminal punk band to me. Live, their shows descended into chaos and didn't last more than 15 minutes, usually ending up in a riot of broken chairs and tables flying across the tiny clubs they played. Onstage they were probably naked and their rad album covers always verged on obscene - particularly the 'Blood, Guts And Pussy' cover; nowadays it takes more to shock. They were mysterious too - you never quite knew who was in the band or even if they were alive or dead. They were a punk band back when punk was dangerous. They scared the shit out of me and I loved it. Plus they are going strong today, they redefined their music by not sticking to a formula and recording across styles from hip-hop to industrial but always bringing the raw power and attitude that makes them what they are. We're all lucky they are still around. The Dwarves must not die."

