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01/07/2009

Ween



At the Cat's Cradle, 1992

(MVD Audio)

www.mvdb2b.com






Nowadays, Ween is a serious touring band, a perfectly epic rock 'n' roll juggernaut of druggy jams and weird funk. But they didn't start out that way. Pre-*Chocolate and Cheese*, Dean and Gene worshipped at the altar of the DAT backing track to create their experimental, inside-joke bizarro pop.



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
The best songs from their first few albums are captured on this live CD/DVD combo set. "Reggaejunkiejew," "Tick," "Captain Fantasy," and "Big Jilm" are rendered in all their spastic glory, sometimes to pretty sparse audiences. Also featured, interestingly, is a very early version of "Buckingham Green."


Ween started out as less a proper band than two high school buddies venting about girls, pet peeves, and obsessions through a haze of pot smoke and hallucinogenics. For fans that miss this era, this collection is the perfect hit of nostalgia. The DVD half is especially intriguing. While the quality is often poor, when you do get to see Dean and Gene, it's hilarious to watch them so young and so nerdy rocking and freaking out onstage. Perhaps, watched out of context, these early Ween performances could be dismissed. But even back in 1992, a spark was evident of what would develop into the rabid cult following the band would soon achieve.


Standout Tracks: "Pork Roll, Egg and Cheese," "Never Squeal on the Pusher" JONAH FLICKER





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- Start smoking,

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- Have unprotected sex with a cute stranger.
- Create a music blog and rake in the ad dough.
- Do some illegal file-sharing.
- Host a pitbull fight.
- Sell/take drugs.
- Boycott crappy indie bands and check out some real music for a change.
- Write a sensitive, folky song about being abused/depressed/pissed/whatever.
- Abstain from answering dumb web polls.
- Get a damn life.

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