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Green Day Under Review 1995-2000 Music Video Distributors 5.5 out of 10 Band Website

For many teens across America, Green Day was the "underground" band that always topped the list of their favorite bands. It was cool to like Green Day for the ironic reason that they were so uncool just three snot nosed kids from Gilman Street. But even more ironic was the fact that even though Green Day sold millions of records and sold out amazing live arena performances, teens still felt that the band was still a bunch of misfits that only they, and possibly, a few close friends, listened to.

Green Day Under Review 1995 - 2000: The Middle Years chronicles the public life of Green Day, focusing on the success of "Dookie" to the beginning of the "American Idiot" saga. While it is interesting for Green Day fans, the documentary gives nothing substantial to the viewer's knowledge on the band.

Filmed like a bad version of VH-1's Behind the Music, but without the actual band's input, Under Review gives the viewer a mock sense that they are intellectuals perusing an interesting subject. While Green Day is interesting - they are, arguably, the foremost pop punk to ever emerge from the scene - the documentary downplays the unique aspects of the band, for example, their ability to write lyrics that misfits everywhere can relate to and their enthusiasm during their concerts, and attempts to elevate the mundane facts. Instead of showcasing Green Day as trendsetters, it makes the band seem like every other band that came from the genre.

Under Review utilizes the opinions of no-names, unless you are deeply involved in the music scene, which instead of validating its points detracts from them. In fact, one of the notable commentators revealed that his only basis and criteria for being a critic of Green Day is that he is a huge fan. While fan opinions are important, you might as well pull a kid off the street and question him about Green Day.

There is nothing new to be learned from Under Review. Spend your money buying Green Day albums and discovering them the good oldfashioned way.



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~Magic Stick Mish



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