

## Mp3 The Afflictions - ...do You Have The Afflictions?



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Another kinky lo-fi production from the boys at losers/weepers, the afflictions range the line between uninitiate backwoods twang and cosmo, fuzzed indie-rock. 14 MP3 Songs ROCK: Americana, POP: Folkly Pop ...do you have the afflictions? Songs Details: Inbred cousins drink in beer, write twangy spastic rockers and folksy ballads to cricket song and leaf shimmy on back porch, record on four track, shoot at moonlit squirrels with wrist rockets and miss, then descend into the root cellar and give the stripped down songs the frankenstein treatment (maniacal laughter). The afflictions combine a primitive sincerity (one string canjo, percussive gibson) with a curious desire to tinkle with available technology (analog drum machines, digital echo units) to create railroad box country and folk leaning musiques swirling in a static and feedback drenched soundscape. Pointing out the dichotomy of living deep down east with access to unlimited technology two steps away indoors? Throwing caution to the wind and fear of inconsistency onto the compost heap? Experimenting with new sonic mediums by way of traditional craft? Go bravely into these moon shine tipsy gear geeks world o' sound, and find out for yourself. Hint: Think Tom Waits, Will Oldham, Daniel Johnston, Steve Earle ram their tractor into the school bus containing the Jesus and Mary Chain, My Bloody Valentine, Flying Saucer Attack, and Guided by Voices. The resulting melee? A lo-fi hootenanny along the lines of Wilco, Sparklehorse, Grandaddy... Check out other available records from losers/weepers right here on cdbaby, most notably, rural electric, a back woods cross between simon and garfunkel and sonic youth, and the forthcoming anon. e. mouse! From the Portland Phoenix: "Great Afflictions. Yes, Virginia, there are such things. Take Nate Carroll and the Afflictions; their record...do you have the afflictions?, is a sludgy, layered mix of pump organs, banjo, screechy guitars, cheap amps, and studio hum. If there's a beautifully quiet guitar vibrato, bet that Carroll will be wailing in the background; likewise, if he's singing sweetly, expect a furious, feedback-drenched solo a la "Heroin."

{...do you have the afflictions? is} at turns brave and fragile. His press says to think "Steve Earle fronting Flying Saucer Attack or Will Oldham replacing Bob Pollard in Guided by Voices" and those are fair comparisons." -Josh Rogers From PopMatters.com: "...the Afflictions don't let DIY-limitations stop them from conducting their musical experiments. The pump organ on the small-town ennui-soaked "Bricks to Wood" turns the song into Waits-meets-Springsteen and the ghost-folk of "Nowhere Girl" is nearly enveloped by otherworldly static, as if spirits were sending transmissions. More successful are the moments when the band keeps the instrumentation as spare as the production. To wit: the near-hymn "Storm of Ladybugs", the proto-alt-country of "Sadly Ever After" and "Exit Wounds" and the lo-fi pop gem "Rotten" ...other DIY-ers should take note..." -Stephen Haag

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