

Mp3 Sleep Good - Pop: New Wave



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A blend of new age bands such as Grandaddy and Wilco, with some vintage elements similar to The Beatles. 6 MP3 Songs POP: New Wave, ROCK: Modern Rock Details: Now Available on iTunes for cheap! Sixteen-year-old Will Patterson is the musician behind Sleep Good's willowy indie-pop. With influences as varied as Jeff Tweedy, The Beatles, and yes, even Jimmy Buffett, he smoothly blends poppy sing-alongs with thought-provoking lyrics that belie his youth. Lyrics like "Don't look past this old cliché / think of today and only today... people today thinkin' way too straight / don't realize matter's shaped like an eight / endless time and space" aren't exactly the notebook scribbles of your typical high schooler. Sure, "Paradise Is Where You Are" isn't the deepest sentiment (perhaps it's the Buffett influence), but lyrically speaking, the song proves that youth and talent aren't mutually exclusive. Patterson doesn't just scratch the emotional surface. "I know what it's like to be born into sight of the oceans and the lands," he sings, "with everything in my hand / and I know people lead lives of misery / who don't change one thing except their clothes." He's given this some thought. Droning alt-rock ballad "Stars" is the EP's most accessible cut, but it's also Patterson's strangest. While most of his songs follow the straightforward verse/chorus/verse formula, "Stars" features a set of tempo breaks that showcase his guitar-playing abilities. "Leave Yourself Behind" and "Smile Wide" round out Sleep Good and head back into the more familiar, less experimental territory that is Patterson's strength. Like fellow Texas musician Ben Kweller, Patterson got his start in other bands (Ari Fouk), and Sleep Good gives the multi-instrumentalist a chance to hone his craft -- he plays the mandolin, xylophone, guitar, keyboard and drums. In true DIY fashion, Patterson records his music on an old computer. Overall, though, Patterson comes across as a less-jaded Kevin Tihista or Elliott Smith. Hopefully his innocence and talent will continue to enhance his music as the years pass. -- David A. Cobb of Splendid Ezine

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