

# Mp3 Charlie Bookout Studio Works - The First Euphoria



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Retro-Progressive Pop: The first in a series of home-brewed small town synth-pop albums recorded in the early 90s on equipment held together with duck tape. Now refined and resurrected for the 21st century.

10 MP3 Songs POP: 80's Pop, POP: with Electronic Production Details: This was my first collection of tunes. (The term has changed over time: record, tape, disc, album. I guess I still call them albums.) Each of them was written in the late eighties and very early nineties; an era that was all about youthful exuberance, inspiration, ridiculous late-teen angst, and the forming of lasting friendships. And I think these songs capture those feelings pretty well. The one exception is Zero. The songs needed a new opener that would set the tone. Kevin Stell and I wrote it sometime in the year 2002. The First Euphoria was conceived in a variety of places including the tin shed Kevin and I built behind Mom Dads house, Granny-Shed Studio, Big Chick Studio (the abandoned one-room school in Springtown), the closet in Jays trailer house, and of course, The Mortuary. A little history... Back in the 80s, there was a microscopic town in rural Arkansas where life was simple. If you could learn how to spit and take the ditch to run over a possum with your pickup, you were a man. There were no other rights of passage. But something weird happened. There was a group of kids who wanted more. They were all born with an inexplicable desire to create (visit mortuarygangfor more of that story). My own story involved some of the most primitive lo-tech multi-track recording imaginable. (Step #1: Start off by placing a \$2 microphone up to a speaker that is playing the drum pattern you recorded. Step #2: Run the mic into a 2nd tape deck while you play a keyboard part to merge with it. Step #3: Put the 2nd tape into the first deck and repeat the process with a third instrument. Presto! You're your own one-man-band!) But I moved forward, figuring that must be how the pros did it, and started composing. I wrote song after song firmly rooted to the influences of the 1970's progressive rock of Kansas, the modern funk of Prince, and the whatever of Saturday morning School

House Rock cartoons. So I've patched up this old record, and here it is for sale. Hope you think it sounds as cool as I do. (If you buy it, I'll be one step closer to buying a lawn mower.)

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