

the layaways | we've been lost



Release Date
December 7, 2004

Track List
01. Silence
02. The Long Night
03. Lying and Stealing
04. We've Been Lost
05. Splendor and Loss
06. The Answer
07. Nothing Left to Burn
08. Just a Dream
09. Every Time We Try
10. Bombs Away
11. Contagious

For Fans of
Guided By Voices, The
Pernice Brothers, The Jesus
and Mary Chain

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Hooks, harmonies, and aural hors d'oeuvres. That's what you'll find on "We've Been Lost," the second album by Chicago indie-rockers the Layaways.

Though "We've Been Lost" picks up sonically where 2003's critically acclaimed "More Than Happy" debut left off, there are some big differences otherwise. What started out as David Harrell's one-man recording project on the first album has grown into a full-fledged band. Programmed rhythms were dropped in favor of drummer Nathan Burleson, while Mike Porter contributes his songs, bass playing, and vocals to round out the trio.

Harrell also made the move from his home studio to Chicago's Wall to Wall Recording. Dan Dietrich, whose recent work includes a slew of acclaimed local and national artists (Andrew Bird, the Redwalls, Head of Femur), recorded and mixed the tracks. Eric Masunaga (producer for Sebadoh, the Dambuilders) mastered the album at his Modulus studio in Boston.

"We've Been Lost" is a melodic, 11-song collection that mixes new-wave-influenced indie-pop with hints of folk and psychedelica. Porter and Harrell's songs and vocals combine to create a catchy sound that has drawn comparisons to Guided By Voices, the Jesus and Mary Chain, and the Pernice Brothers. These tunes make a fast trip from your iPod to your brain and will have you humming along in no time.

Praise for the Layaways' debut, "More Than Happy"

The Big Takeover: "These are songs that you want to take home with you, curl up with, hold them close—and pray that they are still with you when you wake up."

PopMatters: "...these 12 tracks evoke the spirit of early Beatles, R.E.M., and the best of the Cure."

Splendid: "...this album is less a case of trying to spot each influence than trying to keep track of all the hooks."

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