

OUTBURN

THE THIEVES



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Tales from the White Line

(LIQUOR AND POKER)

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AC/DC MEETS U2 AND THE CULT: *The Thieves'* full-length debut, *Tales from the White Line*, is an all-out rock 'n' roll party complete with solos, original hooks, harmonies, and a fantastic lead singer. The band, originally from Oxford, England, relocated to Los Angeles, but this trio's new environment isn't reflective in their music. The opening track, "Gimmie Some Lip" features a memorable chorus and fuzzy guitars to create a bluesy rock vibe that the entire album mirrors. "Don't You Lose Me" features some familiar guitarwork—before the bridge, the song is pieced together by, what sounds like, a combination of The Who's "Baba O'Riley" and AC/DC's "Back in Black." On "You Get It Easy," lead singer Hal Stokes sounds strikingly like U2's Bono with harmonies that climb up a mountain of sound, then drop back down to combine with a river of easy flowing guitars. "My Old Mind" is an acoustic track accompanied by a piano and string section, and gives the feeling of being out in the country, riding on a train to an unknown destination. What makes The Thieves' album so significant is the fact that the band took their time to write hooks and didn't settle for repetitive power chords throughout the album. *Tales from the White Line* might as well be renamed Blues Rock Album of the Year.

~ Tracy D'Arcy