

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