

PTO
Pointless



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Heavy Mids

RIYL: Dinosaur Jr., Superchunk, Yuck

In the summer of 2011, **Nate Housley** was living in an attic in Salt Lake City and writing songs at a manic pace about a girl he couldn't win over. He was nearing 30, and having started a new, dangerously comfortable job, he was staring down another failure—that of achieving his secret, lifelong dream of becoming a rock star. Both pursuits seemed embarrassingly futile, and the societal pressure to settle for a safe existence might have convinced him to give up. Fortunately, **Adam Sanders** (of **Adam & Darcie**) expressed to Housley his desire to play drums in a band. Housley had just written a song with an arena-sized guitar riff, so they jammed. Not long after they recruited friends and former bandmates **Phil Smallwood** and **Chad Hokama** for bass and keyboards. Through a combination of great chemistry and practiced musicianship, the band arranged a handful of Housley's songs. They turned out so promising that Housley quickly wrote more, enough to round out an album.

Real life wouldn't go away so easily, though; a promising career move stole Sanders away to California. Not a band to be easily deterred, they brought in Housley's roommate **Greg Wilson** for his first time on drums (fitting, since it was also Housley's first time as a frontman). Together the new lineup arranged the songs, and in early 2012 Housley flew to California to record drums at Sanders' Grass Valley home. The band finished the rest of the tracks in Housley's room that summer.

The songs combine the smart songwriting and DIY ethic of indie statesmen like Guided by Voices and Dinosaur, Jr. with the bombastic instrumentation of the Led Zeppelin and Van Halen that Housley grew up on. Charging riffs and soaring solos are paired with wryly confessional lyrics. *Pointless* balances immediate pleasure with lasting resonance, working in a unique space between lo-fi distortion and high-concept sound textures. It will sound familiar to anyone facing the dilemma of losing their dreams.

And by the way, Housley still hasn't won over the girl.

Track listing:

- 1) Jealousy Song
- 2) Touch and Go
- 3) My Move
- 4) Ooh Ooh Ooh
- 5) Stars of Spinsterdom
- 6) Improvising the Plans
- 7) Wants to be Wanted
- 8) Nothing to Break
- 9) Your Defeat
- 10) Fake Like You Kiss
- 11) Salt Lake City

“A solid and almost flawless underdog album for today's youth” –SLUG Magazine

More info available at heavymids.com