

Soundgarden – Down on The Upside (1996)

Written by bluesever

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1. *Pretty Noose*
2. *Rhinosaur*
3. *Zero Chance*
4. *Dusty*
5. *Ty Cobb*
6. *Blow Up The Outside World*
7. *Burden In My Hand*
8. *Never Named*
9. *Applebite*
10. *Never The Machine Forever*
11. *Tighter & Tighter*
12. *No Attention*
13. *Switch Opens*
14. *Overfloater*
15. *An Unkind*
16. *Boot Camp*

Bass – Ben Shepherd Drums, Percussion – Matt Cameron Lead Guitar – Kim Thayil Vocals,
Guitar – Chris Cornell + Mandolin, Mandolin [Mandola] – Ben Shepherd, Chris Cornell
Synthesizer [Moog], Music By – Matt Cameron Electric Piano [Rhodes Piano] – Chris Cornell

Superunknown was a breakthrough in many ways. Not only did the album bring Soundgarden a new audience, it dramatically expanded their vision, as well as their accomplishments. If *Down on the Upside* initially seems a retreat from the grand, layered textures of *Superunknown*, let it sink in. The sound of *Down on the Upside* is certainly more immediate, but the band hasn't returned to the monstrous, unfocused wailing of *Louder Than Love*. Instead, they've retained their ambitious song structures, neo-psychedelic guitar textures, and winding melodies but haven't dressed them up with detailed production. Consequently, *Down on the Upside* is visceral as well as cerebral -- "Rhinosaur" goes for the gut, while "Pretty Noose" is updated, muscular prog rock. *Down on the Upside* is a deceptive album -- it might seem like nothing

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more than heavy metal, but a closer listen reveals that Soundgarden haven't tempered their ambitions at all. ---Stephen Thomas Erlewine, AllMusic Review

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