

Nirvana – Incesticide (1992)

Written by bluesever

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1. Dive 2. Sliver 3. Stain 4. Been A Son 5. Turnaround 6. Molly's Lips 7. Son Of A Gun 8. (new Wave) Polly 9. Beeswax 10. Downer 11. Mexican Seafood 12. Hairspray Queen 13. Aero Zeppelin 14. Big Long Now 15. Aneurysm Personnel: Kurt Cobain – vocals, guitar
Krist Novoselic – bass guitar Dale Crover – drums Chad Channing – drums

Buying time and thwarting bootleggers, Nirvana and DGC released the rarities compilation *Incesticide* toward the end of 1992. Like any odds'n'sods collection, this is uneven, but that's its charm since it captures Nirvana's character better than any official album. After all, this was a band that was born equally from '70s sludge metal, bubblegum pop, post-punk artiness, and indie rock inclusiveness, each of which are apparent on this collection. There are some non-entities here, particularly on the second side, but the plodding sub-metallic grind was part of their identity, one part of their multi-faceted character. Nirvana meant everything to everyone, from the jangle pop veterans to the garage rock ravers that worshipped the Stooges to stoner metal fetishes and indie rock bed-sits that adopted Sebadoh just as they outgrew Morrissey -- everybody loved Nirvana, and there's something for every kind fan here, thanks to murky sludge, Devo and Vaseline covers, BBC sessions, instrumentals, and limited-edition singles, plus sub-Melvins goop, everything visceral where *Bleach* was tame. Nevermind doesn't capture this freewheeling indie spirit but *Incesticide* does, piling on some essentials in the meantime -- the pummeling "Dive," the childhood snapshot "Sliver," the terrific forgotten indie pop tune "Been a Son," and "Aneurysm," perhaps the greatest single song the group ever recorded. Yeah, there's some filler here, but this is the sound of what Nirvana was actually like. ---
Stephen Thomas Erlewine, allmusic.com

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