

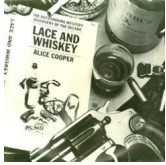
## Alice Cooper - Lace And Whiskey (1977)

Written by bluesever

Sunday, 04 June 2017 10:06 - Last Updated Monday, 02 October 2017 21:03

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### Alice Cooper - Lace And Whiskey (1977)



01 - *It's Hot Tonight*. 02 - *Lace And Whiskey*. 03 - *Road Rats*. 04 - *Damned If You Do*. 05 - *You And Me*. 06 - *King Of The Silver Screen*. 07 - *Ubangi Stomp* 08 - *(No More) Love At Your Convenience* 09 - *I Never Wrote Those Songs* 10 - *My God* Bass – Prakash John, Tony Levin Clarinet – Ernie Watts Drums – Allan Schwartzberg, Jim Gordon Guitar – Dick Wagner, Steve Hunter Keyboards – Bob Ezrin, Jozef Chirowski Percussion – Jimmy Maelen Piano – Al Kooper, Alan MacMillan Tenor Saxophone – Ernie Watts Vocals – Dick Wagner, Jimmy Maelen, Julia Tillman Waters, Lorna Willard The California Boys' Choir

As the rock & roll that made him famous began to grow stale, Alice Cooper found himself desperately trying to revive that fad with *Lace and Whiskey*. There are no shocking songs here -- just flat, dull melodies that sound like a bad combination of '50s rock & roll and classic '70s rock. One exception to the album might be the Top 20 hit "You and Me," but even this somewhat catchy ballad doesn't save the album from being a bore. Although it isn't as horrible as many critics have claimed it to be, *Lace and Whiskey* still fails to get anywhere beyond mediocrity. ---Barry Weber, AllMusic Review

This is one of those "Alice has started drinking too much" albums that I always assumed would be incredibly cheesy and spotty without ever listening to it fully. I already knew of "It's Hot Tonight", "You and Me" and "Road Rats" due to their inclusion on the *Life and Crimes of Alice Cooper* box set. "Road Rats" I never cared for (though the version on that box set is a remixed 1980 version), but I've always loved "It's Hot Tonight" and "You and Me".

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Too many session players to list for this album (which was but just know that leading the way is Alice, Bob Ezrin and guitarists Dick Wagner & Steve Hunter.

Lace and Whiskey is yet another semi-concept album with Alice debuting a brand-new character in the form of private investigator Maurice Escargot. While the whole thing comes off as very cheesy (and given that this album was inspired by showtunes and 1940s/1950s music, I'm sure that's the point), I wouldn't say it's a spotty record. There's a few duds like "Road Rats", "King of the Silver Screen" & "Ubangi Stomp" but the rest is excellent, even if you might be able to consider most of them guilty pleasures.

"It's Hot Tonight" is about nothing more than sex. I'm completely okay with that. "Lace and Whiskey" really hammers home the theme of being a private eye with a film noir style. A great vibe that Alice would similarly capture on the song "Dirty Diamonds" years later.

"You and Me" is Alice Cooper doing an easy listening ballad. Did the demon in the bottle make him do it or were Alice and producer Bob Ezrin looking for a big-time radio hit? Regardless, the song found itself charting at #9 on the Billboard charts as a single and the legacy continues because, as someone who used to work a day shift at Walgreens just a few years ago, I can tell you this song was played nearly every day before noon. It's a great song but in the long run it probably did more damage than good as far as Cooper's fanbase was concerned.

"(No More) Love at Your Convenience" is quite possibly my favorite track from this album. Such a guilty pleasure. Alice goes disco! "I Never Wrote Those Songs" is another easy listening ballad (complete with saxophone solo), but has a clever theme to it. "My God" is another fantastic piece that features a church organ.

Lace and Whiskey is definitely an oddball Alice album. He really went outside the box with this one and dropped the shock rock gimmick, but it's a good effort for the most part and worth seeking out. ---Metal Misfit, [metalexcess.wordpress.com](http://metalexcess.wordpress.com)

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