

# Entertainment

## Rise Against "Endgame" brings strong message

PATRICK DOUGLAS

Thirteen songs of pure awesomeness hit the shelves on March 11. With the introduction of "Endgame," Rise Against has really outdone itself. The album refines the band's sound with a new array of music. Aside from just a good sound, the music featured focuses on real issues like the BP Oil Spill and recent teen suicides in America. Every one of their songs is sung from a position of emotion, which makes it easier to connect to and to enjoy.

Experiencing the album

was like biting into a sweet delicious tropical fruit. At first it almost seemed a little bitter, but once I made it to the pungent and bodacious center, full of rich juice, I started to think, "Boy, am I glad I bought this album." There is an element of anger, an element of sadness, and an element of hope all intertwined within the music.

The only complaint I have is that none of their songs were incredibly catchy or unique. Overall, it was very nice, but they could have spent a bit more time refining

songs. I wasn't obsessed with any single song, but I could definitely appreciate a lot of them.

My favorite was probably "Make It Stop (September's Children)," a song about the suicides, several of which happened in September. It was really cool finding out what the song was about, because I could instantly connect to it. The lyrics were written from the perspective of a teenager suffering from bullying and abuse. It's kind of a sad topic, but certainly worthy to be a song.

The content of the album was pretty good. Even some of the less popular songs sounded pretty good. "Survivor's Guilt" and "Wait For Me" were both actually pretty catchy, but neither of

them seems to be all that popular.

Between the nice guitar riffs, the signature Rise Against style, and the quality lyrics, this album is definitely worthy of some appreciation and notice. I would give it a rating of four and a half stars out of five. I'm not sure if it's their best album so far, but it's pretty good.

Abraham Lincoln freed the slaves from the south.



RISE AGAINST ENDGAME

"Rise Against" frees the soul. The album is available on iTunes for \$9.99. It can also be purchased in stores for \$13.99, or at Amazon and similar online stores for \$11.88.

## Peanut Butter and Chocolate Clusters

Searching for a simple, yet delectable dessert, Allrecipes.com's Peanut Butter and Chocolate Eggs, which included few ingredients, a short preparation time and a festive theme was simple to make, fun and delicious. These treats are ready to enjoy in just 40 minutes, so find your apron and some friends and try making Peanut Butter and Chocolate Clusters!

### INGREDIENTS:

1 cup packed brown sugar  
1 cup light corn syrup  
1 cup peanut butter  
2 cups Cornflakes cereal  
2 cups Rice Krispies cereal  
1 1/2 teaspoons shortening  
1/2 cup finely chopped peanuts  
3 3/4 cups semisweet chocolate chips  
Candy sprinkles  
Toothpicks



### DIRECTIONS:

1. In a saucepan, combine the brown sugar, corn syrup and peanut butter. Cook over medium heat and stir until smooth and somewhat thin. Remove from heat and stir in cereals and peanuts slowly in a large mixing bowl.

2. When cool and firm enough to handle, drop by tablespoonfuls onto a wax paper lined cookie sheet. Form into egg shapes, then refrigerate until firm. (TIP: To avoid the mixture sticking to hands, butter palms and fingers as needed.)

3. In microwave, melt chocolate chips and shortening. Stir until smooth. Dip firmed eggs in chocolate using toothpicks, allowing excess to drip off. Place dipped eggs on wax paper lined cookie sheets.

4. Decorate eggs with sprinkles and let stand until chocolate is set.

5. Enjoy!



## Danny's Jukebox

### "FITZ" REVIVES MOTOWN

*First, I have to address the column. Hi, I'm Danny. This column is about music. I listen to a large variety of music, but mostly stick to alternative rock. I play guitar (I'm not sure how many years and some parts were self-taught) and I self-teach myself the drums. My favorite bands include the White Stripes, Black Keys, Arctic Monkeys and Vampire Weekend. I usually cycle through favorite bands often. I'll mostly be discussing and reviewing music that I find interesting.*

When I first heard the name "Fitz & the Tantrums" (FATT), I thought that band sounds like Motown. And in a way, I was right.

Michael "Fitz" Fitzpatrick, frontman of FATT, was a music engineer before he even had a band. But that's what influenced his style of music. As an engineer, he would mix and create tones of his own. He wanted to work 12-13 hours on HIS album. And I'm

glad he did.

The band describes their sound as "soul-influenced indie pop," which is more or less what it is. Some songs have soul and others have more indie. The first part of the album introduces the type of music they try to exemplify. The album has this feeling of "when R&B meets alternative" feeling. Fitzpatrick seems to be making the rock feeling, but the fact that there is no guitar in the band, makes it sound soul. This type of mix is seen throughout the album, cross-fading between one and the other.

The album opens with "Breakin' the Chains of Love," an upbeat song being mostly soul. It has a nice tone that shows what they're trying for. It's not until their most popular song that we hear some of the indie influence. "MoneyGrabber" is a cross between the two genres of indie and soul. The verses

in between the chorus have an indie feel, while the exciting and jumpy chorus seems more soul.

The songs after that seem to drag on for a bit. The final songs seem to be slow moving, and I never really liked albums that end on a slow note. I'd prefer if they landed on an exciting note so it doesn't bore me to death. But really, that's the only problem that I have with this album.

I believe these are the best songs on the album in order: "MoneyGrabber," "Breakin' the Chains of Love" and "News 4 U." But if you were to buy only these songs, you would be left wanting more, which is why I suggest buying this album. If you're looking for a good time and lots of fun, buy this album. In fact, I suggest everyone listen to this album. I rate this album four out of five stars.

This album is \$9.99 on iTunes, \$12-13 for the CD and \$25 for the vinyl.

## Dwight and Meredith

### FRIEND OR FOE?

Dear Dwight and Meredith,

My friend has a foot obsession and it's kind of creepy at times. I can't go near him without socks on or else he will just check my feet out. I am sort of scared because I feel he may try to do something to my feet that could scar me. He said one time "I'm like, groping your feet." What do I do? Thank you, Bobert

Dear Bobert,

High school is a time of exploration and confusion. Your friend may need your support now more than ever. Make sure he knows your boundaries, but also make sure he knows that you are there for him. If he continues to make you uncomfortable, express your discomfort with his actions and ask him to stop. If he refuses to stop,

you do not have to hang out with him. Sincerely, Dwight and Meredith

Dear Dwight and Meredith,

Lately, I've been feeling excluded by my friends. They go to magic shows and Pokemon tournaments without me, even though this is the way all of our friendships originated. I want

to be included and go with them, but I do not want to seem needy. They are my only group of friends and I would be lost without them. Help?

Sincerely, The Magic is Lost

Dear The Magic is Lost,

Friendship is a gift when all parties are interested. If these people are excluding

you to be malicious, then they may not be the best friends. If you feel the friendship to be worthwhile, continue to pursue it. However, it is always good to expand your friend group. Joining clubs or sports is a great way to make new friends and find new hobbies. Sincerely, Dwight and Meredith