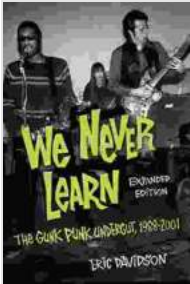


# We Never Learn: The Gunk Punk Undergut 1988-2001



## We Never Learn: The Gunk Punk Undergut, 1988-2001

by Eric Davidson

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
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The Gunk Punk movement was a short-lived but influential subgenre of punk rock that emerged in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Gunk Punk bands were characterized by their noisy, distorted sound, often incorporating elements of sludge metal and noise rock. Lyrically, Gunk Punk bands often explored themes of alienation, depression, and social decay.

The Gunk Punk movement was born out of the DIY ethic of the punk rock scene. Many Gunk Punk bands self-released their music on cassette tapes and played shows in small, independent venues. The movement was also fueled by the rise of independent record labels, such as Sub Pop and Matador Records.

Some of the most well-known Gunk Punk bands include We Never Learn, The Melvins, and Mudhoney. These bands helped to define the sound of the Gunk Punk movement and inspired a generation of underground musicians.

The Gunk Punk movement began to decline in the mid-1990s, as grunge and alternative rock became more popular. However, the influence of Gunk Punk can still be heard in the music of many contemporary bands, such as The Jesus Lizard and The Yeah Yeah Yeahs.

### **We Never Learn**

We Never Learn were one of the most influential Gunk Punk bands of the early 1990s. The band was formed in 1988 by guitarist/vocalist Kurt Cobain and bassist/vocalist Krist Novoselic. Cobain and Novoselic were both members of the Aberdeen, Washington punk band Fecal Matter.



After Fecal Matter broke up, Cobain and Novoselic formed We Never Learn with drummer Chad Channing. The band's early sound was heavily influenced by sludge metal bands such as The Melvins and Tad. However, We Never Learn quickly developed their own unique sound, which incorporated elements of punk rock, noise rock, and grunge.

We Never Learn released their debut album, Bleach, in 1989. The album was a critical and commercial success, and it helped to establish the band as one of the leading lights of the Gunk Punk movement. We Never Learn followed up Bleach with the albums Nevermind (1991), In Utero (1993), and MTV Unplugged in New York (1994).



The cover of We Never Learn's album Nevermind

Nevermind was a commercial breakthrough for the band, selling over 30 million copies worldwide. The album's lead single, "Smells Like Teen Spirit," became one of the most iconic songs of the 1990s.

We Never Learn broke up in 1994, following the death of Cobain. However, the band's music continues to be influential, and they are considered one of the most important bands of the Gunk Punk movement.

## **The Melvins**

The Melvins are an American sludge metal band that formed in Aberdeen, Washington in 1983. The band is known for their heavy, distorted sound and their dark, often nihilistic lyrics. The Melvins have been cited as an influence by a wide range of bands, including Nirvana, Soundgarden, and Tool.

The Melvins have released over 20 studio albums, as well as numerous live albums, EPs, and singles. The band's most successful album is Houdini (1993), which reached number 29 on the Billboard 200 chart. The Melvins have also toured extensively throughout their career, and they have played shows with a wide range of bands, including Nirvana, Metallica, and Red Hot Chili Peppers.

The Melvins are one of the most influential bands in the history of sludge metal. Their heavy, distorted sound and their dark, nihilistic lyrics have helped to define the genre. The Melvins continue to be an active band, and they continue to release new music and tour regularly.

## **Mudhoney**

Mudhoney is an American grunge band that formed in Seattle, Washington in 1988. The band is known for their heavy, distorted sound and their dark, often humorous lyrics. Mudhoney have been cited as an influence by a wide range of bands, including Nirvana, Pearl Jam, and Soundgarden.

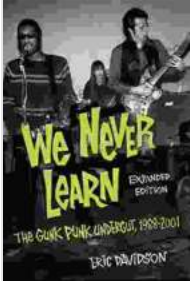
Mudhoney have released over 10 studio albums, as well as numerous live albums, EPs, and singles. The band's most successful album is Superfuzz Bigmuff (1990), which reached number 34 on the Billboard 200 chart. Mudhoney have also toured extensively throughout their career, and they have played shows with a wide range of bands, including Nirvana, The Smashing Pumpkins, and The Red Hot Chili Peppers.

Mudhoney are one of the most influential bands in the history of grunge. Their heavy, distorted sound and their dark, often humorous lyrics helped to define the genre. Mudhoney continue to be an active band, and they continue to release new music and tour regularly.

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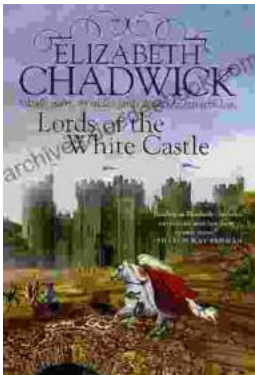


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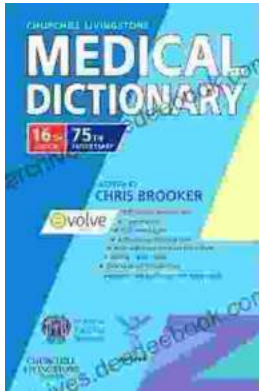
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