

Great Album? Definitely. Greatest Album? Maybe.

Oasis

Definitely Maybe

By: Broderic Duncan

Oasis' debut album, *Definitely Maybe*, released on August 29, 1994, became an instant success in the UK. Peaking the charts at number 1. And there is definitely a reason for that. Every great album needs a great opener and Oasis gives us one with "Rock 'n' Roll Star." Oasis comes right at us with straightforward lyrics singing about how they all want to escape their bleak lives and become rock stars. It's a great statement, "This is who we want to be and this is who we're gonna be." It also sets the tone for not only the rest of the album, but also for Oasis itself. Cocky, immature nobodies saying "Screw this we're gonna go big and make a name for ourselves." Not only is the song a powerful statement about the band, it actually sounds good. Like this song can hype you up a little, and that's what rock album openers must do.

Moving on to the next song "Shakermaker" is when I just go "What the hell?" How can this band go from a great opener to a song like "Shakermaker?" To put it lightly, the song sucks. It is by far the worst song on the album. The song is slow and the lyrics are boring and repetitive. And to top it all off, Liam sounds like he's whining the whole time.

Oasis really makes up for it though with their next song "Live Forever" which is arguably their best song ever. And I am one to concur. The lyrics and vocals carry this song and make it what it is. Liam is fantastic singing this song, which is surprisingly considering vocals are Oasis' weakness. (Liam has some very inconsistent vocals.) If there was one song not to screw the vocals up on, it was this one. Not only are the vocals great, the guitar solo gives it the cherry on top that makes this song perfect. This is the type of song that takes you to another place when listening to it.

This whole album is kind of an up and down, with one great song succeeded with a really shitty song next. "Up In The Sky" is no exception. It's okay but really I'd put it down there with "Shakermaker" and "Digsy's Dinner." After "Up In The Sky" the album really starts to take off with a stretch a solid songs. *Columbia*, *Supersonic*, *Bring It On Down*, and *Cigarettes & Alcohol*, all songs that really give us that rock n roll attitude. After *Digsy's Dinner* comes another classic song of Oasis' "Slide Away." For me this song is easy tied for first place when it comes to top Oasis songs. The guitar intro is superb, and the chorus and melody are extremely catchy. This song has gotten stuck in my head quite a few times. My only complaint is that they should've switched this song and *Married With Children* around. *Slide Away* should've been the outro to this great album. *Married With Children* as the closer doesn't sit right with me.

From a scale of complete shite to biblical, I give it a gin and tonic. 8/10