

## = A Lesson in Romanticism =

A Lesson in Romanticism is the debut studio album from American rock band Mayday Parade . The band resulted from the merger of Kid Named Chicago and Defining Moment . In June 2006 the band released an EP , Tales Told by Dead Friends , which they sold to people by following the 2006 edition of Warped Tour and offering copies ; it eventually sold 10 @, @ 000 copies . The band signed to Fearless Records in August . A Lesson in Romanticism was recorded in early 2007 with producers Zack Odom and Kenneth Mount . Vocalist / guitarist Jason Lancaster left the band in March 2007 citing a lack of writing credit on the band 's releases . Prior to the release of A Lesson in Romanticism , " Black Cat " , " When I Get Home , You 're So Dead " , and " Jamie All Over " were made available for streaming . After the album 's release , the band participated in the 2007 edition of Warped Tour .

A Lesson in Romanticism was released through Fearless in July . A music video for " When I Get Home , You 're So Dead " was released in November , and the song was released as a single a month later . " Jamie All Over " was released as a single in May 2008 and a music video for the song was released two months later . The band then toured as part of the 2008 edition of Warped Tour . The music video for " When I Get Home , You 're So Dead " earned two MTV Video Music Awards nominations in 2008 . In January 2009 a music video was released for " Miserable at Best " . A Lesson in Romanticism is the band 's most commercially successful release , selling over 200 @, @ 000 copies . It was released on vinyl in November 2011 . The album was featured on Rock Sound 's 2014 list - The 51 Most Essential Pop Punk Albums of All Time .

## = = Background = =

Mayday Parade was formed in the winter of 2005 following the merger of two local Tallahassee bands , Kid Named Chicago and Defining Moment . Kid Named Chicago featured vocalist / guitarist Jason Lancaster , guitarist Alex Garcia and drummer Jake Bundrick , while Defining Moment featured vocalist Derek Sanders , guitarist Brooks Betts , and bassist Jeremy Lenzo . In June 2006 , their EP Tales Told by Dead Friends was released . The band followed the 2006 edition of Warped Tour , selling copies of the EP to people in line . By the end of summer , the group had sold 10 @, @ 000 copies of the EP . These sales caught the attention of Fearless Records , which signed Mayday Parade on August 29 . Fearless label president Bob Becker said the group : " were really believable , they were obviously good musicians , and they were really tight sounding . And we already knew they were hard @-@ working . " Between late September and early November , the band went on the Text on the Dance Floor tour with Mêlée , Wheatus , Brandtson , Lakes , and Fall of Transition . Tales Told by Dead Friends was re @-@ released through Fearless on November 7 .

## = = Composition and recording = =

All of the songs on A Lesson in Romanticism were written while touring after Warped Tour . The songs are about : " being in a relationship while you 're on the road , and the different hardships that come with that . " Unlike the band 's EP , the album was " more put together " and " more organized " , according to Garcia . Sanders thought it stood up " pretty well " to the EP , noting that it was " just as catchy " , but " more powerful . " " Jamie All Over " was originally recorded by Kid Named Chicago , Lancaster 's previous band . Sanders claimed the song was " kind of a tough one to choose " because the band had a lot of new material to choose from , but felt " pretty happy " with its inclusion . According to Garcia , the final track was called " You Be the Anchor That Keeps My Feet on the Ground , I 'll Be the Wings That Keep Your Heart in the Clouds " because the band was " trying to be poetic " .

Mayday Parade went into the studio in January 2007 . Recording took place at Tree Sound , located in Atlanta , Georgia . The band worked with producers Zack Odom and Kenneth Mount , who also engineered the sessions . " When I Get Home , You 're So Dead " from Tales Told by Dead Friends was re @-@ recorded because the song had previously received a big response from

fans . Natalie VanLandingham provided additional vocals on " Jersey " , while Daniel Lancaster provided additional vocals on " Jamie All Over " . Mixing was done by Mark Needham , while Steve Hall mastered the album at Future Disc , located in McMinnville , Oregon .

= = Release = =

Lancaster left the band in March 2007 citing a lack of writing credit on the band 's releases . Lenzo and Bundrick filled in for Lancaster 's vocals , while Garcia and Betts performed Lancaster 's guitar parts . Garcia said this change made the guitars " sound more clear " and not " clutter [ ed ] " ; on the other hand , the group found it hard working out who should sing Lancaster 's parts . Lancaster 's departure hurt Sanders personally as " he was a good friend " . Later that month , the band supported Plain White T 's on their U.S. tour . On April 4 , " Black Cat " was made available for streaming via Hot Topic 's Myspace profile . On April 13 , the release of A Lesson in Romantics was announced . Between early May and late June , the band went on tour with support from Bedlight for Blue Eyes , Driver Side Impact , and Sick City . The track listing was revealed on May 18 . On June 6 , the band made " When I Get Home , You 're So Dead " available for streaming via their Myspace profile . " Jamie All Over " was made available for streaming on June 19 via AbsolutePunk .

Mayday Parade toured as part of the 2007 edition of Warped Tour . Following this , A Lesson in Romantics was released on July 10 through Fearless Records . In August , the band went on tour with Olympia and Sound the Alarm . The music video for " When I Get Home , You 're So Dead " , directed by Marco de la Torre , was filmed in September . In late September 2007 , the band supported Paramore in Japan and Australia . The band went on a co @-@ headlining tour with Madina Lake in October and November . The " When I Get Home , You 're So Dead " music video was released on November 14 , and the single was released on December 3 . The band went on the Manwhores and Open Sores Tour alongside All Time Low , Every Avenue , and Just Surrender in January 2008 . In April and May , the band went on the Explosions In Your Pants Tour with support from My American Heart and the Graduate . A music video was filmed for " Jamie All Over " in May , and the single was released on May 20 .

Mayday Parade went on the 2008 edition of Warped Tour , playing all summer @-@ long for the first time . Sanders explained that the group " finally felt like one of the real bands " on Warped Tour ; they " had a bus for the first time this year " . Following this , Independent Label Group , who help promote and market Fearless releases , persuaded Target Corporation to sell A Lesson in Romantics in its stores . The video for " Jamie All Over " was released through MTV on July 21 . The song was released to radio on September 2 . In October and November , the band supported All Time Low on the Compromising of Integrity , Morality , & Principles in Exchange for Money tour . A music video for " Miserable at Best " , directed by Mark Staubach , was released on January 9 , 2009 on the band 's Myspace . On November 21 , 2011 , the album was released on vinyl with a different colored cover . A white vinyl edition was released a year later , on August 28 , 2012 .

= = Reception and legacy = =

A Lesson in Romantics is considered a fan favorite . Daniel Thompson of Music Emissions wrote that : " every song is spectacular on this album and is a potential hit . " Despite its eventual success and acclaim , A Lesson In Romantics received little attention from professional music critics . Reviewers noted the improved sound from the band 's debut EP , Tales Told by Dead Friends . Joe DeAndrea from AbsolutePunk.net wrote that : " after their unimpressive release of the EP Tales Told By Dead Friends in November , the band 's back with their debut album that will surely become one of your most played of the Summer . " Sputnikmusic reviewer Adam Knott gave the album a score of 4 @. @ 5 out of 5 , calling it " a hell of a lot better " than most pop punk records .

A Lesson in Romantics debuted at number 8 on the Billboard Heatseekers Albums chart , staying on the chart for six weeks . The album finally dropped off on the chart dated March 1 , 2008 before eventually returning on the chart on July 12 . It stayed on the chart for 70 consecutive weeks . The album also charted on the Independent Albums chart , peaking at number 31 . In January 2009 , it

was announced that the album had sold over 100 @, @ 000 copies . The album would later become the band 's biggest selling album , selling over 200 @, @ 000 copies . " When I Get Home , You 're So Dead " was ranked at number 194 on the New York Post 's 2007 list of best songs to download . In 2008 , the music video for " When I Get Home , You 're So Dead " was nominated at the MTV Video Music Awards for Best Rock Video and Video of the Year . The album was number 42 on Rock Sound 's The 51 Most Essential Pop Punk Albums of All Time list .

= = Track listing = =

All songs written by Mayday Parade .

" Jamie All Over " ( Kid Named Chicago cover ) ? 3 : 36

" Black Cat " ? 3 : 23

" When I Get Home , You 're So Dead " ? 3 : 13

" Jersey " ? 3 : 29

" If You Wanted a Song Written About You , All You Had to Do Was Ask " ? 4 : 04

" Miserable at Best " ? 5 : 20

" Walk on Water or Drown " ? 3 : 29

" Ocean and Atlantic " ? 3 : 30

" I 'd Hate to Be You When People Find Out What This Song Is About " ? 4 : 01

" Take This to Heart " ? 4 : 07

" Champagne 's for Celebrating ( I 'll Have a Martini ) " ? 3 : 58

" You Be the Anchor That Keeps My Feet on the Ground , I 'll Be the Wings That Keep Your Heart in the Clouds " ? 4 : 40

2008 reissue bonus tracks

= = Personnel = =

Personnel per 2008 reissue booklet .

= = Chart performance = =