



Neil Young's Harvest (Thirty Three and a Third series)

By Sam Inglis

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Neil Young's Harvest is one of those strange albums that has achieved lasting success without ever winning the full approval of rock critics or hardcore fans. Even Young himself has been equivocal, describing it in one breath as his "finest" album, dismissing it in the next as an MOR aberration. Here, Sam Inglis explores the circumstances of the album's creation and asks who got it right: the critics, or the millions who have bought Harvest in the 30 years since its release?

Excerpt

The White Falcon's split pickup might have been just a gimmick from the early days of stereo, but the way Neil Young uses it on 'Alabama' is remarkable. His muted picking brings stabbing notes first from one speaker, then the other, as though we were hearing not one but two guitarists, playing with an unnatural empathy. The electric guitar has seldom sounded so menacing, and Young's growling rhythm and piercing lead notes are tracked perfectly by Kenny Buttrey's bare-bones drumming. The build to the chorus is beautifully judged, and when Young and his celebrity backing singers let rip, there's an almost physical sense of release.

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Editorial Review

Review

"A fascinating book about a fascinating album...the insights into Young's life, methodology, and fans' and critics' reactions are compelling." – Leaf Salon, New Zealand

"...[Inglis's] lack of flash and authority has its upside; his ego stays far enough out of the way that emphasison the nuts 'n' bolts of the recording history of "Harvest" actually helps you hear what's going on...B" —Austin American-Statesman, 10/17/04

From the Publisher

"Thirty Three and a Third" is a new series of short books about critically acclaimed and much-loved albums of the last 40 years. The authors provide fresh, original perspectives – often through their access to and relationships with the key figures involved in the recording of these albums. By turns obsessive, passionate, creative, and informed, the books in this series demonstrate many different ways of writing about music. What binds the series together, and what brings it to life, is that all of the authors – musicians, broadcasters, scholars, and writers – are huge fans of the album they have chosen.

From the Inside Flap

"The White Falcon's split pickup might have been just a gimmick from the early days of stereo, but the way Neil Young uses it on 'Alabama' is remarkable. His muted picking brings stabbing notes first from one speaker, then the other, as though we were hearing not one but two guitarists, playing with an unnatural empathy. The electric guitar has seldom sounded so menacing, and Young's growling rhythm and piercing lead notes are tracked perfectly by Kenny Buttrey's bare-bones drumming. The build to the chorus is beautifully judged, and when Young and his celebrity backing singers let rip, there's an almost physical sense of release."

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Joel Fallis:

The book Neil Young's Harvest (Thirty Three and a Third series) make one feel enjoy for your spare time. You should use to make your capable a lot more increase. Book can to become your best friend when you getting tension or having big problem along with your subject. If you can make reading through a book Neil Young's Harvest (Thirty Three and a Third series) for being your habit, you can get a lot more advantages, like add your own capable, increase your knowledge about many or all subjects. You could know everything if you like wide open and read a publication Neil Young's Harvest (Thirty Three and a Third series). Kinds of book are a lot of. It means that, science reserve or encyclopedia or other people. So , how do you think about this publication?

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Spent a free time to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or their very own friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, planning to beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Would you like to something different to fill your free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book is usually option to fill your free of charge time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the book untitled Neil Young's Harvest (Thirty Three and a Third series) can be excellent book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

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