

Getting High: The Adventures of Oasis

By Paolo Hewitt

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Between 1994 and 1996, music writer Paolo Hewitt spent the greater part of his life on the road with Oasis, in the U.K., Europe and America. He came back with tales that would cement the legend of the brawling, effing, hedonistic, charismatic, confessional and extraordinarily talented Gallagher brothers, Noel and Liam, and their group.

Hewitt is a rare and perceptive fly-on-the-wall during the band’s hectic rise to the height of their powers, as their first two albums are released to the kind of excitement scarcely seen in British rock music since the sixties.

Hewitt takes the Gallaghers’ story right back to their parents’ roots in Ireland, and the descriptions of Noel and Liam’s childhoods in working-class Manchester reveal the seeds of their determination to make Oasis the force it became.

Getting High is an illuminating, funny, sometimes shocking reminder of how big a band can get, and how quickly the insanity sets in. Oasis have today sold in excess of 70 million records worldwide. Hewitt's intimate account of this explosive and beloved band, in their prime, is a rock classic and a riveting narrative.

"Paolo is the only person to speak about what it was like on the road with us because he’s been there. He’s been there, he’s seen it, he’s done it." Noel Gallagher

"Top read." *Melody Maker*

"Unlimited access to all areas of the Oasis bandwagon is the ace up this biography’s sleeve." *Q*

"10/10 – sometimes you get what you pay for." *Esquire*

"By adopting a fly-on-the-wall approach and writing Oasis’s story as though it were a novel rather than a straight biography, he succeeds in entertaining, informing and occasionally putting you inside the head of the Gallagher brothers." *Hot Press*

"In *Getting High* we get closer to the real Oasis, not the tabloid fancies, the music press stereotypes of Noel the genius, Liam the wanker and three other blokes who don’t count. Hewitt paints an engrossing and uplifting portrait of one of the most important bands of the decade." *The Word and Issue*

"*Getting High* is refreshingly well written" *Total Guitar*

"Compelling drama" *Manchester Evening News*

"If you only buy one book about Oasis, then make sure it’s this one."*FHM*

"This well-researched tome chronicles many a pivotal moment in Oasis’s history and is filled with plenty of ribald anecdotes."*NME*

"Head and shoulders above every other Oasis book. I hated finishing it so much I read it again." Irvine Welsh

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review
The best band since the Beatles? Naah. Okay, the best *Beatlesque* band since the Beatles, not counting Badfinger? I say maybe. In any case, Paolo Hewitt's breathless, ungrammatical bio is a treat, mainly for its day-by-day documentation of exactly how the Brothers Gallagher just can't seem to get along. These belligerent Mancunians bicker, denounce each other to the press, and resort to fisticuffs at the drop of a hat. Noel is always giving Liam right proper stick, or vice-versa. And while the other band members end up with second-banana roles, they don't lag far behind in the hedonism derby, as witness this pharmaceutically-enhanced performance in Manchester: "By the time they got on-stage, they were seriously gone. Bonehead played with three cigarettes in his mouth, Noel was E'd up, Guigsy fell off the stage and McCarroll forgot to tighten the nuts on his cymbals so when he first hit them, his drum kit half- collapsed." The rest is history.

From Library Journal
Too many rock group biographies are written because the artist is popular at the moment, not because there is anything interesting to say about the group. Getting High is an unfortunate case in point. Oasis is a talented young band whose records have performed very impressively in the United States and Britain, but the group has only been together for a few years. Thus, the book provides nothing more than a dreary chronicle of the band's life on the road, a life that seems to consist entirely of drinking, complaining, and fraternal squabbles. Hewitt (The Jam, Trafalgar Square, 1997) writes in a breezy style that frequently lapses into cliches and even bathos?the Nineties are "about freedom. The freedom to take drugs, hold raves, protect the environment." Moreover, the band's music is actually given rather short shrift. Purchase only as demand requires.?Rick Anderson, Penacook, N.H.
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From Kirkus Reviews
A little over 30 years ago, England gave the world the Kinks-- a band founded by two brothers who couldn't stand each other. Now England has given us Oasis, led by Noel and Liam Gallagher, who are equally belligerent if not slightly more complex. Hewitt tracks the band's history from the Gallaghers' childhood in Manchester with a sadistic father (he begrudged them even Christmas gifts, according to his wife), countless soccer matches, and petty crime, to overnight success, the downside of fame, and mounds of cocaine and oceans of alcohol. While Hewitt's treatment of Oasis is innovatively nonlinear, bouncing back and forth between 1960s Manchester and 1990s London and concerts (Hewitt accompanied the band on tour), and he writes in the colorful vernacular of the Gallaghers' hometown, his preference for Noel is obvious. The reader gets the impression that the guitarist/songwriter is a reborn Coleridge--equal parts Romantic poet and drug devotee--while his brother, singer Liam, is unwashed and downright simian. But as Hewitt demonstrates, the two found each other indispensable--they alternately stormed out of the band only to return. Hewitt has a very strong sense of Oasis's roots- -probably from having written Beat Concerto: The Story of the Jam (not reviewed), on one of Noel's primary influences. And Getting High is at its best when recounting such serendipitous events as Noel meeting the only displaced Irishman from northern England more famous than himself--Paul McCartney. However, his lax treatment of Oasis's drug use smacks of tacit approval; Hewitt could have been equally descriptive without glamorizing the Gallaghers' lapses. Still, Hewitt finally proves his thesis that ``if Oasis was just Liam, they would never have been signed, they would have threatened to self destruct. If Oasis was just Noel, they would have never reached the heights they have." (16 pages photos, not seen) -- *Copyright ©1997, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Myra Lopez:

Now a day folks who Living in the era just where everything reachable by connect to the internet and the resources inside can be true or not demand people to be aware of each details they get. How individuals to be smart in receiving any information nowadays? Of course the reply is reading a book. Reading through a book can help people out of this uncertainty Information mainly this Getting High: The Adventures of Oasis book because book offers you rich information and knowledge. Of course the knowledge in this book hundred per cent guarantees there is no doubt in it you know.

Hyacinth Mills:

Hey guys, do you wants to finds a new book to learn? May be the book with the concept Getting High: The Adventures of Oasis suitable to you? The actual book was written by popular writer in this era. Typically the book untitled Getting High: The Adventures of Oasisis one of several books in which everyone read now. That book was inspired a lot of people in the world. When you read this e-book you will enter the new shape that you ever know before. The author explained their concept in the simple way, and so all of people can easily to know the core of this publication. This book will give you a great deal of information about this world now. So that you can see the represented of the world within this book.

Stephen Rael:

The guide with title Getting High: The Adventures of Oasis includes a lot of information that you can understand it. You can get a lot of benefit after read this book. This kind of book exist new know-how the information that exist in this reserve represented the condition of the world now. That is important to yo7u to be aware of how the improvement of the world. This particular book will bring you inside new era of the glowbal growth. You can read the e-book with your smart phone, so you can read this anywhere you want.

Sandra Romero:

A lot of people always spent all their free time to vacation or maybe go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Do you know? Many a lot of people spent they will free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity here is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun for you. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent the whole day to reading a guide. The book Getting High: The Adventures of Oasis it is quite good to read. There are a lot of people who recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can m0ore easily to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book offers high quality.

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