

Sonic Syndicate

"Side Two"

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00:00 - 00:40

The first 40 seconds are dedicated to some vehicle chatter.

Here's a rough transcription:

Woman: On the right!

Kim: Go get hamburgers.

Thurston: Right?

Man: Yeah, let's go.

Man 2: Did I hear Kim say hamburgers?

Lee: Put the defrost on...

Thurston 2: Cruisin' for some McReagan burgers...

Man 2: Forget it man, I'm not going to McDonald's, that stuff's

fucking gross!

Lee: It is.

Lee: Bob, you got fog, you got heavy fog..

on the outside, you want me to brush it off here?

Bob?: Left? Ronald Reagan fries...

?: Hey Jon, I'll give you all the lira in my pocket if you eat a hamburger.

00:41 - 01:15

Aimless noise panned from speaker to speaker

01:16 - 01:32

A very brief excerpt from what appears to be Shaking Hell.

01:33 - 01:51

An equally brief excerpt from Brother James.

01:52 - 09:00

Early American/Scream Tape

Nothing but a savage blur

In your face, in your land

The weight of you is greater than

Forgot my pride

Forgot my side

Don't bother to leave

There's no room outside

Your sense of pride

Nothing here but a savage blur

AAAAAAAAAAAAHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!!!!!!!

09:01 - 10:12

Burning Spear

10:13 - 13:04

Kill Yr Idols

I don't know why

You wanna impress Christgau

Ah let that shit die

And find out the new goal

Kill yr idols

Sonic death

It's the end of the world

Your confusion is sex

Kill yr idols

Sonic death

It's the end of the world

Your confusion is sex

13:05 - 14:34

Tacked on afterwards is the similar sounding section from

Confusion is Next, slightly spliced up. The song ends, the crowd cheers, and Lee begins retuning his guitar while Kim drones her low E.

14:35 - 15:12

This is somebody repetitiously pounding a single chord,

after which Thurston announces We want electricity!, a statement which later became the title of a July '93

Sonic Exhibit in Europe. Total length: 0:37

15:13 - 17:24

This is another unknown song segment.

It almost sounds like one gtr is going thru a wah or filter effect,

but it's hard to say.

This song has not yet appeared on any surfaced SY concert

recording, and likely dates back to 1981 (typically SY kept

everything they wrote in '82 and '83, but I could see something

like this skronky number not making it past the embryonic

stage).

17:25 - 17:46

This sounds like a traditional walkman blare, chime loops or the like.

17:47 - 18:32

Another version of Kill Yr Idols, beginning from the song's breakdown.

18:33 - 20:13

Here we hear Thurston banging out his opening chord to

The World Looks Red, while Lee gets his screwdriver in place.

Thurston says We're Sonic Youth, this song is called
The World
Looks Red.

This is almost certainly taken from the beginning of a
1983

show. The track fades just as the bassline begins.

A minute and forty seconds of pre-song preparation,
and then we only get half a second of music.

20:14 - 21:49

Apparently they agreed -- the exact thing happens with
Shaking Hell next. It's not as dramatically long,
and you get to hear more of the song,
plus the commentary is hilarious, so it's a little more
tolerable.

Lee introduces the song: This next song's called
Shaking Hell.

Someone does something to provoke the remark
Suck my dick, asshole from Thurston,
and as the band starts the song,

Lee explains: That's an American expression, 'Suck my
dick'.

Sadly the song is cut off pretty quickly.

21:50 - 22:28

However, it borders on offensive when next we're
treated to

Thurston's repeated open bass notes, flavored with
audience
participation, catcall style.

As soon as the opening riff to Making the Nature Scene
starts,

we're once again cut off...

22:29 - 23:25

...and it's more chimey noise,
either the zither or a screwdriver guitar.

23:26 - 24:14

Hear we get the intro harmonics of I Don't Want to Push
It,

one of the rarer moments on this album.

They're quickly cut out to the song's droning outro.

Unfortunately not much of this rarely performed track
appears.

Actually, the song appeared from some of the band's
first shows

up until the last Eurotour in '83,
so it wasn't all that obscure at the time.

24:15 - 25:09

This is the coda to She's in a Bad Mood.

Such an excellent song, it's too bad they didn't elect to
include

the whole thing on here.

The live performances are particularly enhanced by the

sounds

at the end, the aforementioned flute style hums.

I don't know if they're courtesy of a tape or some guitar handlings, but I dig them.

25:10 - 25:58

More subtly mixed/panned ambient noise.

25:59 - 27:37

This is the final unknown song on this release.

This song is also a contender for being the mysterious Destroyer. It plods along with atonal chord thrash and a steady, commanding drumbeat.

27:38 - 28:18

More solid white noise echovox amp drone.

28:19 - 29:31

The end of this side, and the album, features an excerpt of

Thurston talking to the crowd after the November 15th, 1982

Raleigh, NC show on the Savage Blunder tour with Swans.

I Wanna Be Yr Dog on Confusion is Sex was taken from this show as well.

"Buy records by Sonic Youth or Swans, um, they're at the door.

They're really cheap, they're like \$3.50, \$5 [mumbles]" Thurston mutters.

Someone in the crowd suggests

"Let's hear another one by Sonic Youth,"

a notion that is met with agreement by the seemingly few

people in attendance,

but Thurston insists:

"No, everything's fucked up. "

The crowd boos and persists, and Thurston applauds them and

comments on the crowd in Chapel Hill the night before:

"This is actually the best crowd we've had since...uh... we

played at Cat's Cradle last night and there were uh, I think.. 3 people there...

it was good! "

"We're appreciative, play some more!" somebody shouts.

More whistling and applause follows,

and Thurston announces:

"We could have a Sonic Youth and Swans jamfest," which the crowd finds very appealing. And the album ends.

COMPLETE SONG ALERT!

The following songs appear in full on this side of Sonic

Death:

Early American -- 01:52 - 09:00

Kill Yr Idols -- 10:13 - 13:04

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