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Kim Cooper

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Kim Cooper : Neutral Milk Hotel's In the Aeroplane Over the Sea (33 1/3) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Neutral Milk Hotel's In the Aeroplane Over the Sea (33 1/3):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. It's okay to feel more than a little excited--boom boom crashBy jeffAfter living in Savannah for three years now, Athens has become an almost inevitable extension of life here in southern Georgia. And the folklore of Athens' music scene would certainly be incomplete without Neutral Milk's legacy. If you, like I, are enamored with the album, this book is a treat. Earnestly written, thoughtful and respectful to the artists and their art, Cooper's book lends deeper understanding to this almost sacrosanct album without diminishing any of its allure. I finished this book, which I later wrapped in brown paper and mailed to one of my oldest friends, and immediately had to go play the drums.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. true to reality and completely lacking prejudice and subjectivity which is great. Incredibly enoughBy Denis RomanovNot only it's the history of the album's recording but the whole history of Neutral Milk Hotel and its members from the earliest days. Drawn from

many sources including interviews, live shows and the personal experience of the author, information found here is detailed, true to reality and completely lacking prejudice and subjectivity which is great. Incredibly enough, the book also answers the question why Jeff quit music. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. great book. great album
By BrentThe best writing I have encountered on Jeff and NMH. It's really gets the "vibe" of the record down as well as the factual history. Some books about rock do one or the other but my favorites do both.

Of all the recordings to emerge from the Athens-via-Denver collective called Elephant 6, Neutral Milk Hotel's second album is the one that has worked its way under the most skins. Magnet magazine named it the best album of the 1990s, and Creative Loafing recently devoted a cover story to one fan's quest to understand why band leader Jeff Mangum dropped out of sight soon after *Aeroplane's* release. The record sells steadily to an audience that finds it through word of mouth. Weird, beautiful, absorbing, difficult, *In The Aeroplane Over the Sea* is a surrealist text loosely based on the life, suffering and reincarnation of Anne Frank, with guest appearances from a pair of Siamese twins menaced by the cold and carnivores, a two-headed boy bobbing in a jar, anthropomorphic vegetables and a variety of immature erotic horrors. Mangum sings his dreamlike narratives with a dreamer's intensity, his creaky, off key voice occasionally breaking as he struggles to complete each dense couplet. The music is like nothing else in the 90s indie underground: a psychedelic brass band, its members self-taught, forging polychromatic washes of mood and tribute. The songs stick to one narrow key, the images repeat and circle back, and to listen is to be absorbed into a singular, heart-rending vision.

"Much of the Neutral Milk story has been pieced together over the years, but never as comprehensively as in Kim Cooper's *Neutral Milk Hotel's In The Aeroplane Over the Sea*." — Real Detroit Weekly, December 7, 2005 (Real Detroit Weekly) "These books are individual love letters to the albums themselves, shedding light on the deepest, most tucked-away aspects of the creative processes that produced them. While reading about music is never quite the same as hearing it, and no prose could ever emulate the same carnival-like, haunting, shiver-inducing sound that is *In the Aeroplane Over the Sea*, Cooper's billet doux comes pretty close." — Chord Magazine, Winter 2005/06 (Chord Magazine) "In her new book *33 1/3: In the Aeroplane Over the Sea... Kim Cooper...* unravels the rumors and demystifies much of the legend that has wound itself around songwriter Jeff Mangum since the Athens band's 1998 breakup... Cooper effectively reminds the reader that Neutral Milk Hotel was a band of real people—dear friends—playing instruments, but reinforces the idea that *Aeroplane* and its songs are a unique document of a time, place and creative community. After only six weeks, the book has gone back to press for a second printing..." — Chris Hassiotis, *Flagpole Magazine* "Cooper's 2005 book on NMH and *Aeroplane* is part of the *33 1/3* series that treats cult-classic albums like dissertation fodder, and hers does a particularly stellar job of demystifying—as much as possible—the destitute and devoted dudes behind Neutral Milk Hotel's underground stardom. Her strengths as a social historian lend this read a certain depth that most Spin writers could never muster. Somehow, she miraculously manages to do an album of this ilk—as resistant to the bitter end as it's been to the spotlight—poetic justice." — Los Angeles Alternative, February 2006 (Los Angeles Alternative) "There is a treasure-trove of trivia for the NMH aficionado, and a contextual introduction and passionate advertisement for the newcomer. Also, with [Cooper's] detailed account of the NMH community, Cooper gives us a sort of normative sociology of the kind of scene that can produce great art." — *Ukula Magazine*, Spring 2006