



Let's count 1, 2, 3, 4... Again!

A Review of Seriously!

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This catchy and poppy EP by *Better Without You* brings you to your feet no matter what mood you're in. This four-piece is on the path to creating a fresh atmosphere by mixing punk and acapella to a musical masterpiece. They definitely create with passion when it comes to stitching together their musical

instruments, vocals, guitars and drums.

An EP is only a taste of band; and this taste of *Better Without You* leaves your wanting more to jam to! Describing their sound would only give you a spoonful of how the escalating drums and overlapping bass and guitar welcomes Ryan's childlike crescendos, bringing the sound together.

"Your Going Down" starts off with acapella vocals, which invites the whole band to start screaming "1, 2, 3, 4". The guitar riffs and drumming enter at this point and crash down around your ears. Lyrically it is an easy song to follow and the chorus makes for a perfect live sing-a-long whether you are in your car, or at the show.

"Cutting Ties" begins with a soft two guitar melody with each note graciously leading to the next. Ryan uses some longer notes for this song; which helps showcase his range. The drummer, Henry, holds things together with an easy beat that makes for a great air-drum play along. The guitar is the focal point of this song. Its uniqueness takes hold and doesn't let go of you even after the song finishes.

On the track "The Long Drive" the foursome tries to harmonize, something they should probably avoid in the future. Lyrically the song is strong, but without the proper voice to meld with Ryan's, the harmonies fall flat. This may be the only inconsistency of the album. The band also includes an untitled live track on this EP, something many bands should consider doing because it displays the true roots and sound of the band. This track encourages you to see them live, without much effort.

Better Without You is that pop-punk ear candy we all love to listen to, but is not forced or contrived. The band effortlessly brings together the elements of the genre (with a few extras) and leaves us wanting more, not searching for something better or more original to satisfy us for the moment. If you're in the mood for something sweet and salted with revenge, this is the band for you.

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