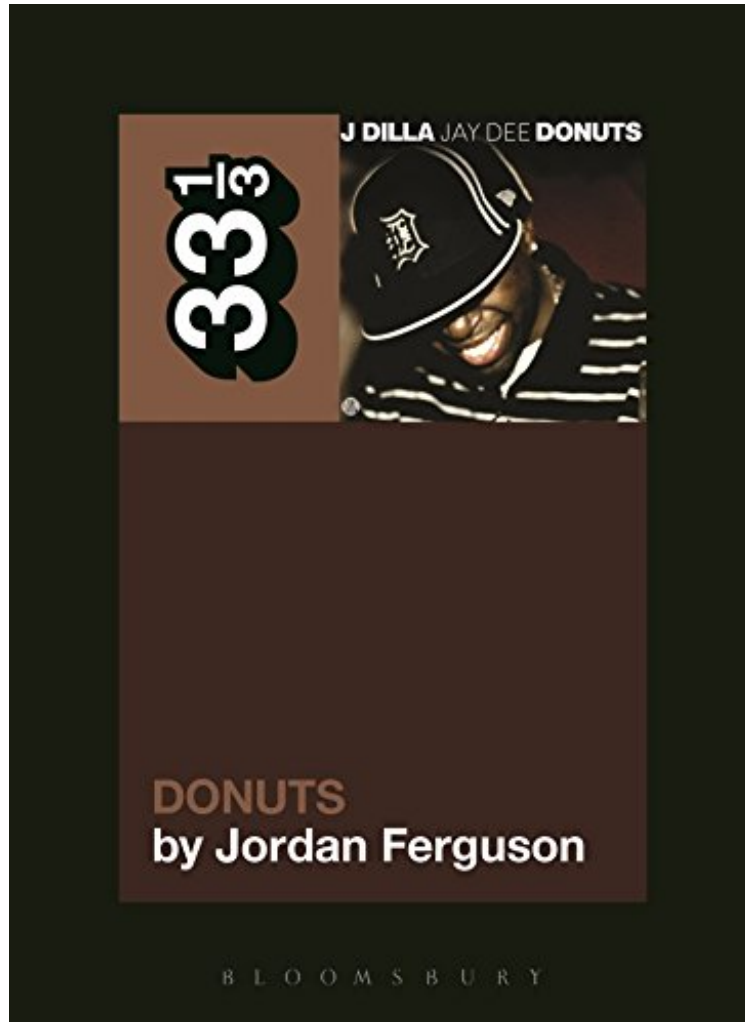


(Download free ebook) J Dilla's Donuts (33 1/3)

J Dilla's Donuts (33 1/3)

Jordan Ferguson

*ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#180790 in Books Ferguson Jordan 2014-04-24 2014-04-24Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 .26 x .1 x 4.831, .0 #File Name: 1623561833152 pagesJ Dilla s Donuts | File size: 76.Mb

Jordan Ferguson : J Dilla's Donuts (33 1/3) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised J Dilla's Donuts (33 1/3):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. More About the Context, Less About the AlbumBy C. W. SmithThis is not the book I expected. Though, honestly, I don't quite know what I expected.My favorite part about the 33 1/3 series is that each one is so drastically different that it's hard to get a "bead" on how the series will work.This one focuses quite a bit on the general context and history of the artist J Dilla, aka Jay Dee. That, of course, wraps up much of it with the history of modern hip hop, which was perfect for me. (I recently finished HIP-HOP EVOLUTION on Netflix and wished it had carried into more modern times. This book seemed to pick up, in many ways, where that series left off.)I didn't know much about Dilla or this album. I'd tracked it down and listened to it a few times prior to

reading this book, but nothing struck me as "amazing" or particularly noteworthy. However, Fergusson provided the appropriate context and discussed the life of this artist, which truly gave weight to the album itself. That being said, there isn't much about the album itself. There are a few references here, and one of the last chapters does a nice job analyzing the mood and style of the various tracks in comparison with Dilla's life. So, if there is one complaint, it's that it really is more about the artist than the album. Those looking for a huge focus on DONUTS will be disappointed. For those like me, though, who didn't know much about J Dilla--or, honestly, much about hip-hop's recent history--this makes for a great read about an extremely talented artist whose life was cut too short. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. More Than a 33 1/3 Book, a True Story of Human Triumph By LB This book was thoroughly researched and super informative. The writer's admiration, appreciation and respect for Dilla and his work really shows throughout the whole book. He took great care in doing Dilla's story justice, considering the god-like level of respect his name and music rightfully hold in hip hop heads everywhere. This book is written in a way that's sure to keep you flipping pages, and will make you want to compulsively bump Donuts over and over! I've been a big Jay Dee/Dilla fan for years before picking up this book, but always preferred his "fan-tas-tic" work with Slum Village and Jay Dee's Welcome 2 Detroit album to the Donuts' seemingly more minimalist/unfinished instrumental "beat tape" vibe, of which I've heard countless surface-level-similar releases from other producers over the years in the wake of Donuts' massive influence (also written about in this book). However, diving into this book compelled me to listen to Donuts again on wax non-stop during the course of reading it, lasting well into the following weeks and months. The absorbed information contained herein instilled in me a newfound understanding of the album and an appreciation for each piece within the whole, in such a way that I now experience a deeply resonating familiarity with every sample and minuscule melodic phrase, every twist and turn the album takes on its masterfully crafted journey. Reading about Donuts helped shine a light on subtle details I would've otherwise overlooked. Now I get what all the other Donut-heads have been feeling this whole time. It's also impossible to not be inspired by the detailed description of Jay Dee's compulsive, beat-making-above-everything-and-anything-else process of creating music he developed early on and quickly perfected on his own, in the face of a distraction-laden environment. Even more inspiring was how he continued this dedicated work ethic while experiencing the impossibly difficult circumstances of his illness. Through interviews with those who were there at his side, the book tells of how J Dilla crafted Donuts through sheer determination and willpower while suffering increasingly repressive physical debilitation, yet was still able to put the final touches on the record just before he passed on. This depiction unexpectedly turns what would otherwise have been your average 33 1/3 book about a classic album into a powerful story of human triumph. One thing I remember occasionally feeling uncertain of, however, was the insinuation on the part of the author (based on quotes from musicians who knew and loved Dilla [i.e. Questlove]) that Dilla deliberately instilled every track on Donuts with "secret messages" of various degrees of elaborate significance, suggesting that James Yancey be communicating to listeners from beyond through purposely intended hidden messages, even implying there are many which have yet to be detected. There's nothing necessarily wrong or problematic with making these assumptions- I actually think it's quite beautiful that Dilla's loved ones, friends and family, can derive a sense of his presence and spirit through messages they hear speaking to them through his music. I by no means am criticizing them; or anyone's personal interpretation for that matter. But for a writer to assert as fact to fans and listeners that there was a direct intent behind these hidden messages, without being able to check with the man who made it, seemed like a stretch. These pseudo-superstitious theories were entertaining to read about and interesting to ponder, but I had to take them in with a grain of salt considering the well-known fact that music/art is notoriously overanalyzed. Rap/hip hop in particular is plagued with critics and fans alike supplanting their half-baked interpretations in the mouths of the artist's. This was, however, my only complaint I could recall. Everything else was well researched with the highest regard for an incredibly unique, unfathomably influential artist and his final document. Peace/LB 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Dilla's Donuts Book By junclassic This Book Is Informative Of Dilla's Producing Process and Chronicles How He Got His Demo To Tip. It Is Somewhat Depressing As Well As The Author Contemplates Dilla's Mindstate In His Final Days. Good Reading Over All. Very Well Written.

From a Los Angeles hospital bed, equipped with little more than a laptop and a stack of records, James "J Dilla" Yancey crafted a set of tracks that would forever change the way beatmakers viewed their artform. The songs on Donuts are not hip hop music as "hip hop music" is typically defined; they careen and crash into each other, in one moment noisy and abrasive, gorgeous and heartbreaking the next. The samples and melodies tell the story of a man coming to terms with his declining health, a final love letter to the family and friends he was leaving behind. As a prolific producer with a voracious appetite for the history and mechanics of the music he loved, J Dilla knew the records that went into constructing Donuts inside and out. He could have taken them all and made a much different, more accessible album. If the widely accepted view is that his final work is a record about dying, the question becomes why did he make this record about dying? Drawing from philosophy, critical theory and musicology, as well as Dilla's own musical catalogue, Jordan Ferguson shows that the contradictory, irascible and confrontational music found on Donuts is as much a result of an artist's declining health as it is an example of what scholars call "late style," placing

the album in a musical tradition that stretches back centuries.

"The book is at once a worthy biography of Dilla's early life, a lush blueprint of Donuts's sample sources and a moving personal essay on what the record might actually be about...Ferguson has aced his listening homework (and done the extra credit)." - Scott Heins, "OKPlayer.com" "Early on in the book, just as he begins to make his case, Ferguson offers up a rather exemplary articulation of why Donuts deserves a book, why its myth is manicured so delicately, and why we love it so."-Nicholas Miriello, "Los Angeles of Books" "J Dilla would hate this book," Ferguson writes, as he posits how he believes Dilla would react to people delving so adamantly into his work to extract deeper meanings, as Ferguson does in this portrait of an album. Donuts, released four days before Dilla's death, was created during the last moments of the artist's life, and thus carries a much more substantial weight in comparison to other Dilla productions--whether he would have it that way or not. Thus enters this book, included in the 33 1/3 series, which combines a historical perspective of the album and the context in which it was released, along with a prominent first-person narrative in which Ferguson theorizes on the influences used in the album and how they translated into the larger hip-hop community in which Dilla worked. It feels pretty meta to be criticizing the work of a critic, and while Ferguson spends what I felt was an unnecessarily long time coming to terms with the role of writing as a critic himself, he writes in a way that ultimately succeeds in expressing the significance of Donuts when contemplating Dilla's life. -Brinley Froelich, "SLUG Magazine" "Jordan Ferguson's book on Donuts provides a trove of information about what was clearly one of the albums of the last decade of any genre [...] Ferguson offers a cogent reading of the album. Others have speculated that Jay Dee buried "secret messages" within the tracks. I don't know how secret they are but it is clear that there were major preoccupations, life-death-relationships and, of course, music. What he produced was a brilliant, multi-layered, sonically exhilarating work and Ferguson has done the album justice with this slim volume." -Robert Iannapolo, "ARSC Journal" "The book is at once a worthy biography of Dilla's early life, a lush blueprint of Donuts's sample sources and a moving personal essay on what the record might actually be about Ferguson has aced his listening homework (and done the extra credit)." - Scott Heins, OKPlayer.com "Early on in the book, just as he begins to make his case, Ferguson offers up a rather exemplary articulation of why Donuts deserves a book, why its myth is manicured so delicately, and why we love it so.--Nicholas Miriello, Los Angeles of Books" "Early on in the book, just as he begins to make his case, Ferguson offers up a rather exemplary articulation of why Donuts deserves a book, why its myth is manicured so delicately, and why we love it so.--Nicholas Miriello "Los Angeles of Books" "About the Author Jordan Ferguson is a freelance culture writer based in Toronto. He can be found online at poetryforgravediggers.com.