



WINTERPILLS
THE LIGHT DIVIDES
Signature Sounds/
Soft Alarm
SIG2003

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"This disc scores very high in our imaginary "this is what music is and was meant to be" chart. Gorgeous understated production, lovely melodies sung by people who can really sing..."
- *The Village Voice*

"Wildly infectious tunes... Price writes poignantly melancholic songs backed by a talented and innately dynamic band."
- *No Depression*

When *Winterpills* released their debut album in the fall of 2005, fans and critics alike scrambled to define what made it one of most significant musical discoveries of the year. Critics met the album with descriptions like "Heavy with moments of sheer beauty", "exquisite vocals", "deeply moving...heartrending", and "as textured as the best indie rock around." Fans put the album in the Top 100 on iTunes and Amazon.com and made *Winterpills* a most requested band on radio stations across the country. A feature on NPR's Weekend Edition followed along with performances on syndicated radio shows World Café, Mountain Stage and others.

The Light Divides is a breakthrough bittersweet collection of songs that resoundingly delivers on the promise of the band's debut. While the last album was recorded in singer/keyboardist Flora Reed's home, *The Light Divides* is a true studio effort that opens up the band's sound into an even more expansive palette, with richer colors and vibrant hues. "Our original idea for the first record was to casually record some demos at my house, but before we knew it we were making a full-length record," says Reed. "We were able to go a lot further with this one. You'll find some unexpected arrangements and a lot more backwards guitar than you might expect to hear from us. There's a lot you won't catch on initial listens that hopefully, will tap you on the shoulder later."

"These songs were ghosts when they first arrived, became flesh and blood for a while in the studio, and somehow became ghosts again, only even more translucent," Price mused when asked about the album's title. "I was thinking how, in the dark - as in, unrevealed - we are all one event, a miasma. It's only when we are hit with light that we are divided, become separate and differentiated. In a way, perhaps this collection of songs is my way of cursing the light and, for better or for worse, avoiding lighting any candles."

Novelist and music writer Jonathan Lethem says, "*The Light Divides* ups the ante on the *Winterpills'* shimmering, resonant, heartbroken pop glory. These songs, as musically sophisticated and delicate as any of songwriter Philip Price's career, and given otherworldly treatment by band members Flora Reed, Dave Hower, and Dennis Crommett, nevertheless feel essential, even familiar, like old friends. The hooks and harmonies have been burnished so that they glow from within - it's as if *Winterpills* has brought to light the songs you were already humming to yourself, but didn't know it.

"Here's "*Lay Your Heartbreak*", where a Neil Young melody tumbles down a Beatle rabbit-hole; "*Broken Arm*", which might be Smokey Robinson lyricism negotiating with the shade of Elliott Smith; "*July*", heartily embracing Matthew Sweet and The Byrds; "*I Bear Witness*", a ramble along the dark road paved by Red House Painters; "*June Eyes*" channeling Joni Mitchell through acoustic Led Zeppelin, and the gorgeous twin climaxes of the album, "*You Don't Live Long Enough*" and "*A Folded Cloth*" - magisterial pop dramas that convince the listener that *Winterpills* is ultimately having a conversation with the whole history of rock and pop, and further that it's one of the great conversations going on at the moment. Tune in."

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