

# THE SHIVAS BETTER OFF DEAD



## Tracklist

01. Better Off Dead
02. Sad Sad Sorrow
03. Never Never Coming Home
04. Maryanne
05. Off Axis
06. Whatever
07. Gun in My Pocket (Revisited)
08. Nine, Six, and Three

**Catalog Number:** KLP258

**Format:** LP, CD

**Release Date:** February 19th, 2016

**Boxlot:** LP, 50, CD, 25

**UPC:** LP, 788856125814

CD, 789856125821

**Genre:** Pop / Rock'n'Roll

**Packaging:** LP jackets, Jewelcases

**Vinyl is Non-Returnable**



LP



CD

We're going to be digesting the 20th century in music for at least as long as it lasted. **The Shivas**—most frequently speaking the language of garage and surf and psych, pieces of **Nuggets and Pebbles**, touring regularly with **The Dandy Warhols** and playing **Austin Psych Fest**—have laid down **Better Off Dead [KLP258]** not with the raucous anarchy of the **John Cusack** movie of the same name, but instead with this lilting grace of static and radio waves from the past century falling all around, graceful and sweet, studying not the fuzzy chunks that fell off in the wake of the '60s psychedelic crisis. Instead, this is something earlier, slower, not a “new direction,” but just a natural branch off the same tree, familiar, and with some names carved in and scratched out of the trunk.

**Better Off Dead [KLP258]** is like a hall of mirrors, but instead of seeing yourself everywhere you look, it's **Roy Orbison**, and then it's **Les Paul & Mary Ford** in the fogged glass, and you step outside, and the air is damp and you're lost in the woods outside Northbend, Washington. There is a youngness and an innocence about **The Shivas'** voices, like **The Lennon Sisters** or **Patience & Prudence**. And there's **Ray Davies** in there, too—a ghost in the mixing board, collecting dust, all old and full of hiss, rattled loose and flying around inside here.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Better Off Dead** marks a curve in **The Shivas** career—a different kind of record for old fans, and a perfect starting point for new listeners.

- Recorded at **Dub Narcotic Studio (Beck, Jon Spencer Blues Explosion, Kimya Dawson)**, produced and engineered by **Calvin Johnson** and **The Shivas**.

- **The Shivas** will embark on United States, European, and South American tours following the release of **Better Off Dead**.

"I'd use the word 'effortless' if that didn't imply a lack of care...[**The Shivas**] are clearly so immersed in this stuff that they have no need to fake it or force it. Plus, they're all shit-hot players, which obviously helps." (*Louder Than War*)

"They've got a nasty lo-fi energy; it's one of those albums that makes you feel cool when you listen to it." (*Impose*)

"**The Shivas** might be Portland's best band." (*The Portland Mercury*)



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