

'Standing on the Shoulder of Giants' isn't exactly regarded as Oasis's best release, but it does contain a very cool song ('Where did it all go Wrong') that has inspired me to write this review. I don't know why Noel sang on it, I just know the band thought it wasn't working with Liam. That doesn't make complete sense to me as it would perhaps be better if Noel sang on all songs, but I don't know. I guess Liam has a more punky edge, but is he a better singer? Hm. And now that I think of it, is it really appropriate for Oasis to have any punk influences? It certainly wouldn't be good if they were too heavily influenced. Can you imagine them writing 200 BPM songs about disrespecting the queen or even worse can you picture them 'going GG Allin'? Disaster - certainly not what most fans would want.

The album opens with a song in very bad taste, I have to say. It alone is responsible for the 'parental advisory' warning. (Unless people get offended by tales of people feeling sad and depressed, but I don't think that's likely. Then again, who knows? I've heard stories of Youtube videos getting demonetised for absolutely no reason. What the hell is wrong with pictures of swirling objects??) So the song must be really good if it's worth getting rid of a huge portion of the group's audience? Not really, it's just an average (if that) instrumental rock song with voice samples. Noel is no Joe Satriani, so his attempt to compete with him (at least vaguely) doesn't go too well. If he attempted to shred, he'd probably sound like later period, apparently arthritic Richard Benson, but thankfully he doesn't. I guess the song isn't BAD but it's not as good as you may be hoping for. Having said that, when I first saw and heard the music in a guitar magazine when I was around 11, I thought the song was really cool. That goes to show how easy children are to impress. That's why teaching guitar to them can be a goldmine. Well that was my theory, but it wasn't to be.

The album title the band uses is kind of interesting in that it doesn't work for two reasons. The first is that the music here is relatively weak which is bad enough. However, the second reason is quite a bit darker. I don't know if the group were aware of this, but apparently the phrase 'standing on the shoulder of giants' may not have meant intellectual progress that has been inspired by great thinkers of the past, but rather it could have been mocking a poor, short individual with a hunchback. (No joke). That's what I heard anyway, and if it's true and Oasis WERE aware of that, they're kind of thoughtless idiots, really. Why not use a genuinely inspirational quote for a name, for example 'live as if you were to die tomorrow'. Wait, that might go very badly when you consider Liam's punkish tendencies. God knows what would happen if he lived like that. How about 'No one can make you feel inferior without your consent'? Maybe the band wouldn't take that one seriously, but maybe I'm just paranoid.

To sum up, we have a very good song and mostly mediocre songs, here. I guess you can call the latter 'growers'. Again, I'm not sure what the parental guidance is all about. It's like The Beatles (who Oasis are sometimes compared to) releasing a totally clean album, but having one song saying 'Oh (expletive) it!!!' Just why? Actually, now that I think of it there is a swear word in 'Hey Jude', if you listen carefully. I'm being deadly serious. Search for 'swear word, Hey Jude' in Youtube and you'll get the shock of your life. The thought of The Beatles having such a warning is a pretty funny thought, isn't it? Anyway, what rating do I give 'Standing on the Shoulder of Cripples'? I think 7 out of 10 is fair. I've certainly given it quite a few listens. Soooo, I guess that's it. Byeeeee!