

# The Jesus Lizard Book

By The Jesus Lizard

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Featured as a "This Week's Reading/What We're Loving" pick at ***The Paris Review***

Named the Best Music-Related Book of 2014 by **Joel Gausten**

"If you're a Jesus Lizard fan or a David Yow devotee, you're sure all over this. But even if you've never heard of the band, the book stands as one of the best ways to experience being in a tight, cohesive band. You get everything except the sweat, spilled beer, and blood. It's a fun ride, and the closest thing possible to getting in the van with these guys."

--***Mother Jones***

"*The Jesus Lizard Book* is a beautiful document of a band that wasn't afraid to be abrasive, chaotic, brutal, and sometimes, ugly."

--***The Chicago Tribune/Printers Row***

"These guys deserve to pat themselves on the back...If the spectacular photography in *The Jesus Lizard Book* is to be believed, their shows resembled nothing more than that scene in *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom* where some poor dude has his still-beating heart removed in an elaborate ritual."

--***The Paris Review***

"As a reader, you don't need to hear the songs to appreciate the story--and *Book* delivers the band right to your coffee table loud and clear."

--***BoingBoing.net***

"The gorgeously crafted, 176-page hardcover *Book*...dives deep and candidly into the Jesus Lizard's first decade and touches a bit on that 2009 coda, too. Through many thousands of words, hundreds of photos, and collected ephemera, it celebrates the sweat, menace, humor, musicianship, lasting power, and genitals of one of the best bands ever coughed up by the rock underground."

--***The Village Voice***

"*Book* is a valuable document that brings us back to the era when artists were conditioned to practice the art of self-defense."

**--Pitchfork**

"A series of essays and photos that illuminates the Jesus Lizard--humorous, jolting, sometimes surprisingly moving."

**--*The Chicago Tribune***

"If there is any recurring theme within the 176 pages of the newly released *The Jesus Lizard Book* it's this: The Chicago-grown noise rockers will be remembered as one of the greatest live bands to ever grace--or very well desecrate--the stage."

**--*Chicago Sun-Times***


"Impressively candid, informed and informative history of a remarkable group of musicians. A 'must read' for their legions of appreciative fans...Highly recommended."

**--Midwest Book Review**

"Even if you're unfamiliar with or disinterested with the band's music, *Book* makes for an intriguing exploration of the alternative music scene of the '90s--a short burst in time when a band as gloriously odd as The Jesus Lizard could do whatever they wanted to do and get a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow."

**--Joel Gausten**

*The Jesus Lizard Book* is a coffee table affair of exclusive photography, art, and other imagery with written pieces by all four members of the seminal indie rock band the Jesus Lizard. The layout is stylish and elegant, particularly in contrast with the harshness of much of the band's music. Included are many Polaroids by David Wm. Sims, a delicious recipe by David Yow, a concise list of every show the Jesus Lizard played, and writings by two producers who recorded the band--Steve Albini and Andy Gill. There is biographical material of each member that covers childhood to the demise of the group. Other contributors include, Mike Watt, Alexander Hacke, Steve Gullick, Rebecca Gates, Jeff Lane, Sasha Frere-Jones, KRK, Bernie Bahrmassel, and many more.

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### **The Jesus Lizard Book By The Jesus Lizard Bibliography**

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## Editorial Review

### Review

"Crawling out of the same noisy, punk and hardcore indie underground of the early 1980s, Dinosaur Jr. and the Jesus Lizard took somewhat similar paths on the road to becoming two of the most influential bands of their generation...Now the two bands have something else in common: books. Two beautiful volumes, *The Jesus Lizard Book* (Akashic) and Rocket 88's Dinosaur Jr. scrapbook...Both are loving tributes to two very unique bands."

--**Flavorwire**

"*Book* is pretty much the sort of thing you would want from any band you adore: thoughtful, articulate comments from all of the players, short essays, some only a few lines, from various folks who knew or worked with them and a ton of excellent photos."

--**Austin American-Statesman**

"*The Jesus Lizard Book* by The Jesus Lizard (out now). Much like Dinosaur Jr., the band has created a detailed, full-color hardcover for its fans. And as a bonus, members are reuniting to promote it at South by Southwest and elsewhere."

--**Pensacola News Journal**

"Imagine a round table discussion with the Jesus Lizard in a dark bar drinking all afternoon, listening to all the war stories."

--**BeatRoute Magazine**

"*Book* is FULL of cool shit: silly pictures, lots of stories, full band member auto-bios, and the band's narrative."

--**The Stranger Slog**

"The only way to truly do this band justice in book form is with exactly the kind of energetic and engaging visual weight that *Book* provides."

--**KGB Bar Lit Magazine**

"There is finally a book that captures the godhead megalithic monstrosity that was the Jesus Lizard....know this is going to be one of my favourite books of all-time."

--**The HuffPost Music (Canada)**

"The deluxe coffee-table book about The Jesus Lizard that we can't believe exists."

--**Oregon Public Broadcasting/NPR**

"The big, beautiful *Jesus Lizard Book*...delivers a fun, albeit wild ride fans are sure to enjoy thoroughly."

--**BookPeople Blog**

"*Book* suits the Jesus Lizard as well as, say, *The Dirt* suits Mötley Crüe....Everyone I know loves the Jesus Lizard, and all those same folks are going to love *Book*."

--**Dark Forces Swing Blind Punches**

"Stunning new work of popular culture historiography...*The Jesus Lizard Book* is a work of art, and it should be treated as such."

--**Alibi.com**

"It's less a compendium of traditional rock band hedonism and more of an example of how things can be done right."

--**Stand Up, Hippy!**

About the Author

**The Jesus Lizard** (1988–1999) hailed from Chicago by way of Austin, Texas. They released seven records on the independent record label Touch and Go, and a few more on different major labels. Many have called them the best live band of the 1990s. Unlike most of their contemporaries, the Jesus Lizard managed to create a beast, an entirely autonomous being, an entity who outgrew and is very likely to also outlive their makers. While each and every personality in the group is an integral part of its mentality and thus ultimately irreplaceable, it is the rapport and friction between them which makes the music possible, allows it to blossom and eventually break free. It was not just David Wm. Sims's monolithic basslines, but the stance he took in order to deliver them. Like a sailor manning a raft through a storm at high sea, he took position at stage right and pounded away at his instrument—stoic, reliable, and unwavering. Mac McNeilly's drumming didn't merrily serve as a time-giver, but as a display of unrestrained energy and a joyously bouncing, good-natured spirit. Somersaulting patterns and probability-defying breaks were stacked on top of one another, made to tumble and fall only to be caught again, as if a boxer was juggling dishes while pummeling an already delirious opponent. Duane Denison shaped his guitar work like a taxidermist dissecting a puppy. With cruel precision, he stabbed and sliced and inserted the limbs of chord progressions with bolts and rods and wire, smiling dreamily while his riffs danced around onstage like biomechanical freaks of nature. Then there was the man who is the embodiment of the band's name, the tormented soul thrown about and struggling to withstand the torrent in the tornado of the music: David Yow spilled his insides while he spent most of the shows in, no on the audience, being lifted and carried by the masses, groping and ripping at him, trying to be part, greedily looking to get a piece of the action; he was the ingenious saboteur, the anarchistic oddball in this form of modern theater with the other three serving as the perfect "straight men" to his madness.

## **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Ellen Omalley:**

Inside other case, little folks like to read book *The Jesus Lizard Book*. You can choose the best book if you love reading a book. Given that we know about how is important a book *The Jesus Lizard Book*. You can add understanding and of course you can around the world by the book. Absolutely right, mainly because from book you can learn everything! From your country until foreign or abroad you may be known. About simple thing until wonderful thing it is possible to know that. In this era, we can open a book or maybe searching by internet system. It is called e-book. You can utilize it when you feel uninterested to go to the library. Let's learn.

**Jenni Roberts:**

What do you with regards to book? It is not important with you? Or just adding material when you really

need something to explain what the one you have problem? How about your free time? Or are you busy individual? If you don't have spare time to try and do others business, it is make you feel bored faster. And you have time? What did you do? All people has many questions above. They need to answer that question since just their can do that will. It said that about publication. Book is familiar on every person. Yes, it is right. Because start from on guardería until university need this specific The Jesus Lizard Book to read.

### **Wayne Gaddis:**

Spent a free a chance to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or all their friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, likely to beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book is usually option to fill your free of charge time/ holiday. The first thing you will ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the reserve untitled The Jesus Lizard Book can be great book to read. May be it can be best activity to you.

### **Josette Leonard:**

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent they will free time just watching TV, or perhaps playing video games all day long. If you would like try to find a new activity honestly, that is look different you can read any book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spent the whole day to reading a book. The book The Jesus Lizard Book it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. In the event you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can m0ore quickly to read this book through your smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book has high quality.

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