

THE CRIBS RETURN WITH *NIGHT NETWORK*

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After parting ways with their old management, The Cribs took a break from the music scene to deal with legal issues concerning their rights to their own music. They were unsure if continuing music was ideal for them. Foo Fighters frontman Dave Grohl swooped in and offered the band access to his home studio. After

several long legal battles and a pandemic ly self-duction, they finally released their eighth album, *Night Network*.

The record opens with "Goodbye," a harmonious

and melodically swooning song that contrasts with the loud and brash tracks that follow. Main single "Running Into You" blends indie power pop and garage rock. Its energy and passion sets the stage for the rest of the album. "She's My Style" is especially energetic. It's meant to be performed live, which is a shame considering the limits of COVID on the music industry. "Under the Bus Station Clock" layers harmonies, distant vocals and power punk guitar, recalling the work of The Strokes.

The Cribs' debut album was full of wit and dynamic lyrics. It introduced a band that wanted to be heard. *Night Network* steps away from this and let's the guitars shine. While it's expected for the band to evolve musically after 15 years, the result of their maturation makes it seem like they no longer have anything of substance to say. With that being said, the album is still a classic Cribs work. Considering everything they went through since their last album, it would be unfair to expect them to create something better than everything else in their incredible discography.

They still stayed true to their core and their sound is unique to them.

Night Network is the epitome of The Cribs, defying all expectations. It exemplifies elegance in the face of adversity, rather than throwing in the towel. The Cribs reconnect with their love of music. They made a euphoric record despite their marish experiences with the music industry. Their stamina is unbelievable. No indie band is doing it like The Cribs. This is The Cribs that we all know and love.

