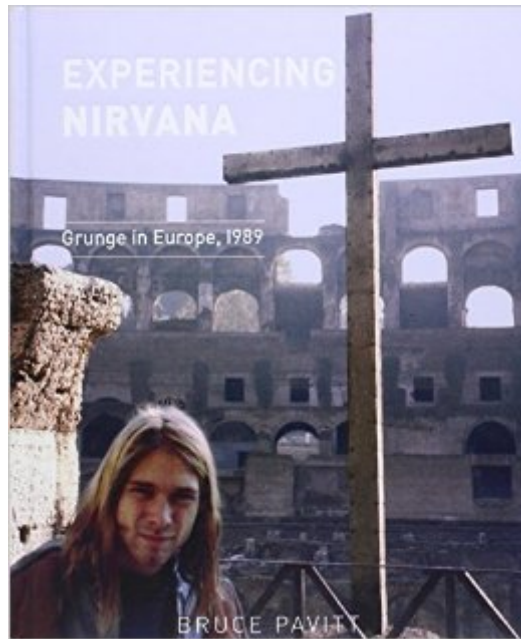


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# Experiencing Nirvana: Grunge In Europe, 1989



## Synopsis

Experiencing Nirvana is a photo journal, grunge rock micro-history, and an inside look into a crucial eight-day period in the touring life of Nirvana. In the last days of 1989, the young band goes from breaking up in Rome to winning over the influential British music press at Sub Pop's *LameFest* U.K. showcase in London, setting the stage for their imminent popularity. At the end of a grueling six-week European tour to promote their *Bleach* debut, the band was exhausted and Cobain frustrated and downcast. Despite a stolen passport and an attempt to leap from a 14-foot speaker tower, Cobain managed to continue to London. Opening for Tad and Mudhoney at the Astoria Theatre on November 27, 1989, Nirvana's heart-pounding performance won over the crowd. The powerful London music press proclaimed that Nirvana to be "Sub Pop's answer to the Beatles." Within two years, the band would become the biggest rock act of their generation. This is the photographic story of the breakthrough that almost never happened.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

But luckily preserved in uber freshness by Bruce Pavitt & Co. in this awesome photo journal. I especially appreciated the collected essays from the always entertaining British press that center around the Seattle scene and the bands this book documents: Tad, Mudhoney, and Nirvana. Pretty cool to be able to read some ancient Everett True over-fawning piece about Mark Arm's latest mosh-pit escapades. The Brits can fawn like no one else...But you really came for the pictures of Kurt right? And they're pretty fantastic. He really was an extraordinary looking gent -- and a great singer too. Pics of Kurt exhausted and burnt out somewhere in Italy. Pics of a revived and relieved

Kurt chatting casually w/ another punk rock fan about vinyl. A human being. Pavitt treats the subject matter w/ delicacy and respect, and that's very cool. It's really just a very rad book. It's not pretentious or over-the-top -- just like the Seattle scene & bands that all changed so many people's lives in the 20th Century. I've got to say it's really a nice tribute to the whole scene. I have friends that always talk about the Lamefest in London (the final concert documented in this book) being the most incredible show they ever got to see. "Nirvana > Tad > Mudhoney" was the bill. Easy to see why. Saw Mudhoney twice a couple weeks ago; they're still more vital and brutal live than 99% of the bands out there. It's just cool to be able to pick up a book like this and see a document of them in their beginnings. Mark Arm looks EXACTLY the same. Freaky.

Best Nirvana story never told!! love this book. Growing up as a teenager in Seattle in the 90's was saturated with Grunge lore. So much of it centered around the tragic death of Kurt Cobain. This is the early history that only a select few got to see. It's a history lesson in the last big bang that happened in music.

Only rarely in history is The Moment of an artist's public transformation from 'unknown' to 'possessed' documented by an attentive witness. And even rarer still is a witness who follows through with the production of a reflective, honest and eloquent account for all the world to share. In this case, Pavitt is both witness and instigator, and a fine story-teller with an eye for the archetypal. This book is the record of that Moment as it happened to a small group of young men who would go on to create the music and consciousness that defined an Age. Get it, and read it, When you do, you will feel the same spark and fire that launched Nirvana into legend. And if you're like me, you'll think more seriously about writing some songs and starting a band.

If you are in to music history then this book is highly recommended. It follows Nirvana through the early days before they became superstars. The candid shots of Kurt Cobain and others give you a close and personal view of their lives as they toured Europe with bands Tad and Mudhoney. The book gives you a great feel for what it was like and Bruce Pavitt shares great anecdotal tales and insight into the grunge music scene as it was beginning. If you grew up enjoying Nirvana and grunge then you will love this book.

Get to know the people involved before the hype. Find out what people were looking for without the push of society.

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