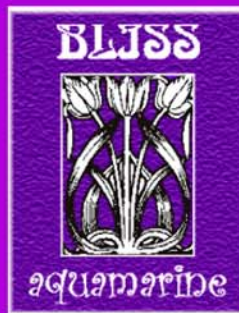


## aquamarine 32

Welcome to Aquamarine #32! This issue is currently in progress. As usual, thanks to all who made this issue possible by sending things to review. When contacting people written about in here, please mention Aquamarine, so that they know they're getting feedback from the reviews.

Bliss Aquamarine is on [Facebook](#) - if you would like to be kept informed of updates to the zine, please 'like' my page. Thanks to everyone who already has done!

- [ALBUM REVIEWS](#) - updated 23rd January 2022
- [SINGLE REVIEWS](#) - updated 6th December 2021
- [FOLK ARCHIVE](#) - updated 24th September 2021



## \*album reviews\*

ahead of their time. More info at [facebook.com/obviously5believers](https://www.facebook.com/obviously5believers)

### **PARTY DAY *Sorted!* Double CD/LP (Optic Nerve)**

Extensive compilation of recordings from these 1980s gothic rockers who also venture into melodic punk and alternative pop territories. The album was originally released on double CD last autumn, with a whopping 31 tracks comprising all the material from their vinyl releases plus previously unreleased songs. This format is temporarily sold out, though a re-press is due shortly. Just released is the double LP version, which includes the *Glasshouse* and *Simplicity* albums on purple and gold vinyl respectively, as well as a download code that gets you the LP tracks plus the bonus material from the CD.

*Carousel* is bleak, angular gothic rock, the vocals an impassioned howl. The self-titled *Party Day* introduces a distinctive, busily rhythmic, almost ritualistic drumming style amidst the gothic gloom. *Opium Gathering* is a horror filmic rumble topped off with a discordant rant. *Let Us Shine* comes from the darker side of punk, bristling with intense emotion summed up by lyrics like "I can take no more, is this the last straw?" *Glasshouse 1982* is a much poppier affair; its bright jangly guitar melody and tambourine would have sounded right at home in the indie pop scene of a few years later. The vocals are imbued with punk attitude while retaining a strong sense of melody. The song reappears later as a reworked version from 1985 that has a somewhat fuller sound - a great song in both its forms.

I was hoping there would be more of this indie pop-esque sound, and sure enough, there's *Stay in My Heart*, which combines aspects of goth and pop, its chorus sounding like a darker-edged version of St Christopher. *Simplicity* is another stand-out track, an exhilarating mix of melodic punk and the more boisterous side of indie pop, with spiky, chugging guitars and effective use of vocal harmonies. Available at [opticnerverecordings.com](https://www.opticnerverecordings.com)

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