

SIC FOR CHRISTIANS

BORN TO WORSHIP

Sarah Kelly
Gotee Records



In an emerging world of both culture and church, conventional wisdom says, to find God one must be quiet—away from the roar of traffic, the sounds of the city. Of course, solitude has its place, but what about finding Him in the midst of the chaos? Sarah Kelly's newest album, *Born to Worship* is a wonderful blend of the sounds of pop culture without an abandonment of God talk.

Kelly once said that her musical goal was to “communicate emotional honesty,” and she delivers. With two Grammy nominations under her belt, Kelly not only has the experience of the music scene, but has kept humility and holds the unique ability to merge Christ and culture. And even though the Los Angeles vibe is still apparent, this album marks her first album focused solely on worship. With a team of excellent writers and producers, her soul is mirrored in her songs. You can't hear her voice without looking down and finding that your heart has jumped out of your rib cage and is sitting on your sleeve. Like flipping through an old journal, one may find themselves connecting to her lyrics in places they have forgotten about. Like walking down memory lane, the worship takes places in view of where she has been.

Her sound is unique. And some people like it, some don't. With a muscled passion that wavers between power and intimacy, Kelly is an acquired taste for some, an immediate love for others and a bit of an enigma to the rest. However, her lyrics are so rich with theology, that it will be the heart behind her songs that beats the loudest. In a unique and inspiring way, Kelly shows the Church that engaging culture in a relevant way does not mean forfeiting Christ.

WL TAKEAWAY: *This album is unique in that you can worship or dance to it. Pick out your favorite for each appropriate occasion and make a shuffle for your Bible Study, and for your church's youth group.*

SARAHKELLY.COM

HAWK NELSON IS MY FRIEND

Hawk Nelson
BEC Recordings



Within moments of hitting play, it's clear that there is something different on *Hawk Nelson Is My Friend*. The sharp drumming and high-energy guitar drive the album forward with a fierce determination on songs like “Friend Like That” and “You Have What I Need.” The vocals add to that intensity, joining in unison for a Ramones-esque chant that makes you want to pump your fist with the rest of them. After a few songs, that difference is clear: Hawk Nelson has grown into their style, one that mixes influences from before their time with the pop-punk they're known for. The lyrics promote non-conformity with a positive and encouraging message for teenagers, as seen on “Let's Dance.” But not everything Hawk Nelson is turbo-charged—they slow things down on the heartfelt “I Miss You,” and the catchier “Not The Same.” If you're a fan of their previous albums, you should be proud to say that Hawk Nelson is your friend.

WL TAKEAWAY: *Hawk Nelson is My Friend has a positive message of unity and a strong identity in Christ. An excellent addition to your personal listening collection.*

HAWKNELSON.COM

THE INVITATION

Meredith Andrews
Word Records



If you could write a journal between a dialogue of you and the Creator, it would