

# OUT+BURN



## THE DEAR HUNTER

Act I: The Lake South,  
the River North  
[TRIPLE CROWN]

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### FINELY ORCHESTRATED CONCEPT ALBUM:

Casey Crescenzo, former guitarist/vocalist/effects operator for The Receiving End of Sirens, has stepped inside the realm concept albums often take on. *Act I: The Lake South, the River North* shatters practically every boundary with its majestic, innovative arrangements, both vocally and instrumentally. The album explores the tribulations and gluttonies a young mother faces raising her boy in the early 20th century, with running themes of deceit, corruption, and lust set to a rock/jazz and classically infused soundscape. Crescenzo's a cappella hymn on opener "Battesimo Del Fuoco" initiates the album's effortless continuity. Calling upon horns and piano arrangements, plus the help

of his family (his father Phil plays the organ on "1878" and his brother Nick plays the drums throughout), the eight tracks are heavy in legions of sermon-like vocal stanzas, which could suit the soundtrack of a Tim Burton film ("City Escape" features singing by his mother Judy with a woozy chorus) and symphonic instrumentals on title tracks "The Lake South" and "The River." While The Dear Hunter and The Receiving End of Sirens are both distinct outfits, *Act I* displays Crescenzo's ability to step outside the realm he once knew with a cinematic and ambitious rock based album. ~ Jennifer Sica