

BRM

P.O.S.
Never Better
(Rhymesayers)

8.9

P.O.S. *Never Better*



Powerful. That's the word that best describes Doomtree emcee P.O.S. Laced with dark, heavy beats, P.O.S. rhymes about a variety of topics, throwing in a heaping amount of concern both for society as a whole and for the individual. Even with his intensity, P.O.S. still finds ways to work some very cool pop culture references into his work, including a punchline from a Mitch Hedberg joke on the album's lead song, "Let It Rattle." A complete album and a fantastic accomplishment, *Never Better* is a melodic punch to the face you'll be glad P.O.S. threw. -Adam Bernard

AP

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NEVER BETTER

(RHYESAYERS; rhymesayers.com)



The fast-flowing rhymes of Minneapolis MC P.O.S. (aka Stefon Alexander) may be the exception in my mostly hip-hop-free MP3 collection, but *Never Better* is quickly becoming a staple. Even though I still can't keep up with Alexander's breakneck pace to sing, er, rap along with the verses of "Drumroll (We're All Thirsty)," that doesn't stop me from trying. I will definitely have it down by summer when Alexander tears it up onstage on Warped Tour. I suggest you do the same. [JG]

FAVORITE TRACK: "Drumroll (We're All Thirsty)"

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P.O.S. *Never Better* (Rhymesayers) words_ryan warnberg

Lets retire the word "mashup." Let's stomp it dead and keep our boot heels planted so it never gets up again. *Never Better* isn't just a novel blend of punk, hardcore, and hip-hop, it is something truly transformative, where the lines between the genres are blurred within an inch of their lives. The result is simultaneously confrontational and introspective, with P.O.S. rapping through his teeth over scattering drums, hardcore screams, blasts of distortion and what sounds like an Alan Parsons sample. May the infernal "mashup" rest in peace.