PUNK USA
The Rise and Fall of Lookout Records by KEVIN PRESTED

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A chronicle of an influential music label and the underground scene it created told through the participants own voices. Plus the detailing of missteps that squandered tens of millions of dollars through bad business decisions and damaged relationships. Through hundreds of exclusive and original interviews, Punk USA documents an empire that was built overnight as Lookout! Records sold millions of albums and rode the wave of the second coming of punk rock until it all came crashing down. In 1987, Lawrence Livermore founded an independent punk label to release records by his band the Lookouts. Forming a partnership with David Hayes, the label released some of the most influential recordings from California’s East Bay punk scene, including a then-teenaged Green Day. Originally operating out of a bedroom, Lookout Records created the “East Bay Punk sound,” with bands such as Crimpshrine, Operation Ivy, the Mr. T Experience, and many more. The label helped to pave the way for future punk upstarts, and as Lookout! grew, young punk entrepreneurs used the label as a blueprint to try their hand at record pressing.

ISBN: 9781621066125
Published: December 2014
Format: Paperback, 5x8”, 192 Pages
Subjects: Music / Business
Price: $14.95 U.S.

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