

Ben: Or U2.

Tim: Yeah, but I don't feel close to the souls. I don't. I know the names and the members of the band as I do with R.E.M., as I do with U2. I don't feel anything for them groups anymore. I don't feel that I'm the same or similar. There were comparisons to The Stone Roses on our first LP, but when our sixth LP comes, you don't know what to compare it to, so have an open mind and compare it to something you haven't heard before because there's a combination of pieces that are involved in our group that just don't make sense, but it's beautiful.

Ben: The best thing to strive for is something...

Tim: That just comes natural and you don't question.

Ben: What do you think of the scene in L.A.?

Tim: I like action. I like going to the Shortstop. I do like Three of Clubs though sometimes it fucking annoys me. I like Mover. They played at

Three of Clubs. I like B.R.M.C. I think I like Anton. We started off really bad. At the moment we're pretty close. I thought he was odd at first. I think I am [odd], especially with musicians. I like him, I wish he'd fucking shape up. People throw that fucking word genius about. No one's a genius unless you work fucking hard and do fucking great stuff. Anton...genius? When? Why don't I know about him? Was Johnny Rotten a genius? No, he wasn't.

Ben: People always talk about these people who didn't live up to their potential as geniuses, like Johnny Thunders.

Tim: Was he a genius?

Ben: I don't think so.

Tim: No he wasn't. He was a waste of fucking talent. He wrote "So Alone" and "Can't Wrap An Arm Around A Memory." You know what? I fucking wrote "The Only One I Know" and "Can't Get Out Of Bed" and "Crashin' In." "One To Another," "Senses," this whole new LP. Excuse me, there's a potential

genius sitting over here doing a fucking interview now.

Ben: There's a mystique about talented people who fuck up.

Tim: You know what? I want to live. My exit in pop music will be fucking huge. I'll fucking do it with more drama than anyone has ever even fucking attempted. But I'm not ready to fucking do it yet. I like being in a band. It holds my fucking life together. I like expressing my thoughts through music, but my exit will be fucking tragic but it won't include death. It won't include football. It won't be fucking shit. It won't be tragic, but it'll be fucking mindblowing. I'm working on it. When we go, there won't be any coming back. I'm 32 years old and some days I feel old, but I'm not ready to quit yet.

Ben: I think it's state of mind. I don't think you should have to retire at a certain age necessarily.

Tim: I know, the Rolling Stones did give us...you can still be good at 40 if you're into that sort of music. I don't like age, I don't like sex, I don't like death, I don't like life, I don't like drink, I don't like drugs, I love drink, I love drugs. I love guns, I don't like guns. I love women, I don't like women. I don't like everything. I don't care where you create it from, it just comes from the natural fucking source and what you fucking do with it, you fucking do with it. I love energy. I don't like sport though.

Ben: Not even football?

Tim: I sometimes pretend I like it.

Ben: Everyone I know in England is really obsessed with it.

Tim: It frightens me that that's all they've got. Football is all they have. What are you doing on Saturday? Oh, I'm staying home and watching the football. I used to walk out of the house on a Saturday. I don't like sport. My dad would just sit there, watching sport all day on a Saturday because it was his day off. It killed me. I don't like sport. I love records. I don't like building. I don't like car repairs. I don't like anything that takes a lot of preparation. I like things spontaneous. It's hard to live

life like that. Everyone else does have to prepare their day. I don't live like that.

Ben: Being able to live on impulse is almost like being in touch with your higher self.

Tim: People search for karma. I've known my karma or whatever it's called since I was a fucking child. I knew what my belonging was. I knew what my desire was. It's natural for me. I just go forward. It's just natural. I don't have to bring up icons. I don't have to bring up Ganesh or Buddah. I follow instinct.

Ben: Most people are afraid to do that.

Tim: I know. I'm a brave man. It didn't come overnight. It came in trusting myself. I trust myself. That's what's good about karma. People rely so much on other people's words of wisdom. I've digested other people's words and digested them and taken them, but I think the key is to learn and then plan it for yourself. I'm not saying I'm right, but I'm right for me. I'm a lucky man to know that. Everyone should know that. I do see a change happening now. I think people want to dance. I think people want to let go of their inhibitions. People want to look in on the ocean and let the sun shine in on them. Good music, good drinks. Why not keep trying? Is that so fucking naive? That was an insult when I was a kid, naive. People would just say that I believed in fucking idiotland but I would just say that I've got a state of mind. I've got a fucking gun and I'm going to shoot. There was something in the back of my mind that was like a speaker in the back of my head. It was high frequency. In my dream I had aerials on the top of my head and I was getting frequency. I went for that. I'm a musician and I can't play a thing but I can tell people what to do. I write songs on my answering machine. Sometimes I'll carry around one of those dictaphones. I've got a really bad memory so when I think of an idea, I'll call my answering machine at home and leave a message and sing a song. That was the only way I could get around it. It's fun. My life is different. It's fun. It's not categorized. Let's have a drink, turn the tape recorder off.

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