

Daily

Life

COURTNEY BARNETT IS BACK

WITH HER

BEST ALBUM IN YEARS.

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The Australian singer-songwriter Courtney Barnett released her fourth solo studio album on Friday, March 27. Barnett is an indie rocker from down under who has been making waves since her debut EP in 2012 “I’ve Got a Friend Called Emily Ferris.”

Now five years removed from her last solo album with a film score wedged in the middle, she’s back with “Creature of Habit.”

The album opens with the song “Stay In Your Lane,” The track opens with a fun drum-beat and is joined by the heavy distorted riff that persists for the entirety of the song. Barnett’s deadpan delivery kicks off with the same line three times in a row: “I know you’re tryin’ to help me.” The line also comes back at the end of the track. The song’s chorus utilizes the lead vocals and back-ground to create an instantly catchy chorus. Then comes a pretty solid guitar solo showing off Barnett’s musicianship.

The following track “Wonder” is more jangly and sweet. It is a very pretty song with a chorus you’d be shocked nobody had ever written already. “And I wonder / What you say when I’m not around.” It’s such a simple chorus; I can’t believe it took until 2026 for it to be

written. The harmonies on the last chorus are the highlight of the song for me.

Track 3 “Site Unseen” features the country artist Waxahatchee. She primarily is here for backing vocals and harmonizing. Those said harmonies are beautiful, and the two have great chemistry. This song is great; I just wish it was longer, or they collaborated more on the album. This track is very replayable and has a great ending bridge.

“Mostly Patient” is a more laid-back calming track. It does its job to keep listeners from thinking each song sounds the same. It is a perfectly fine track.

“One Thing At A Time” picks back up with a punchy beat with heavier guitars. The song’s highlight is the almost two-and-a-half-minute guitar solo to the outro.

Following that we get “Mantis.” The song’s title refers to the album cover. “Mantis” is a very steady indie rock cut with a sweet chorus where the back-ground vocals and harmonies shine once again. This album so far has been killing it in that area.

Next up on the track list is “Sugar Plum,” which by itself is a perfectly fine track. However, now that we’re at seven tracks, I’ve become a bit numb to the slightly upbeat indie rock tracks. “Sugar Plum” is not a bad track, but the album starts

to get repetitive at this point.

The next track “Same” ironically switches things up a bit. It’s a big highlight of the album for me and helps keep it fresh. We get a nice taste of synths on the track post-chorus. Also, there was an excellent vocal performance on the chorus. “Same” keeps things relatively the same but makes it more colorful.

“Great Advice” is the next track. Barnett’s deadpan delivery really shines here in the verses. The way her talk-singing flows with the instrumental is great. The driving guitars continue to shine here, with some cowbell in the outro — who doesn’t love some cowbell?

The final song on the album, titled “Another Beautiful Day,” is the longest song on the album. This is another indie rock track with a passible chorus. Even though it’s over five minutes, which in the context of this album feels long, it doesn’t feel like it drags on. It’s a nice breezy song to put on, maybe on a beautiful day.

Barnett is not trying to reinvent the wheel on this album, and that’s okay. “Creature of Habit” delivers a clean and sharp 10-track album that doesn’t overstay its welcome. It has some alright-to-great indie rock tracks that offer an easy, effortless listen. I’m sure I’ll return to these tracks in the future.

Rating: 3.5/5



COURTNEY BARNETT
CREATURE OF HABIT



CREATURE OF HABIT
COURTNEY BARNETT.

TOP: A poster advertising Courtney Barnett's tour for her newest album, "Creature of Habit." It is Barnett's fourth studio album.

BOTTOM: The album cover for Courtney Barnett's album, "Creature of Habit." The album was released on March 27, 2026.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF @COURTNEYPARNETT ON INSTAGRAM



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In the mid-1770s, tension was brewing in the Americas. Colonists were becoming increasingly tired of Britain’s rule, and things eventually escalated to a boiling point with the writing of The Declaration of Independence. This abridged retelling of the founding of the United States has been heard over and over again in history classes throughout middle and high school, and yet what’s often overlooked is the crucial role the Founding Mothers played in the development of the nation.

As the last few days of Women’s History Month approach and the celebration of the United States’ semi-quincentennial unfolds, it feels fitting to discuss one of the many women who supported the patriot cause and advocated for women’s rights. This Week in History, on March 31, 1776, Abigail Adams wrote famously in a letter to her husband, John Adams, for him to “remember the ladies” when developing a code of laws for the new nation.

Over time, these words have become famous, and aside from being an incredibly catchy phrase, many associate them with a private step in the fight for women’s suffrage. However, looking into the context of these words, Adams’ letter may have served a different purpose in the fight for women’s rights.

In her adolescent years, Ad-

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

“REMEMBER THE LADIES”

ams was educated at home, with her large family library shaping her ideals and opinions into ones she would carry with her into adulthood. She first met her husband, John, when she was 17, as he was a friend of her brother-in-law. Her parents insisted on a long engagement, and she eventually married the young lawyer at 19; John was 28.

In their married life, Adams and her husband were typically apart due to John’s political activity. In his absence, she served as head of the household, having control over domestic and financial decisions. Their time apart also necessitated their lengthy correspondence over the years. In this particular letter, Adams goes on to say,

“In the new code of laws, which I suppose it will be necessary for you to make, I desire you would remember the ladies and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors. Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the husbands. Remember, all men would be tyrants if they could. If particular care and attention is not paid to the ladies, we are determined to foment a rebellion and will not hold ourselves bound by any laws in which we have no voice or representation. That your sex are naturally tyrannical is a truth so thoroughly established as to admit of no dispute.”

Given what is known about the meaning of marriage in the 18th century and the legal doctrine of coverture, it is more likely that Adams asked John to “remember the ladies” in the sense of providing legal protections in marriage so that wives could not be abused by their husbands. Due to coverture, when a woman was wed, she was no longer recognized as a separate legal entity. Meaning that she could not own property, enter into contracts or sue, giving men large amounts of power.

In his response to this, John

presumed she had been joking. However, Adams wrote back, clarifying that she was completely serious. While this was a private correspondence and Adams never made moves to advocate for women in this way publicly, it was still a step in the battle for women’s rights.

Throughout her life, she was an incredibly influential figure, influencing her husband’s policies in the White House and also leaving a substantial mark on her son, John Quincy Adams, during his presidency. Political opponents would make remarks that she was too outspoken and even call her “Mrs. President” when John was in office, but that shows the substantial mark she left on the nation.

Women have always been a part of this nation, from the successes to the pitfalls. During the 250th anniversary of the United States, it’s time to start looking at history beyond the lens of the Founding Fathers and instead through the eyes of the other people who helped build this nation.



ILLUSTRATION BY CONNOR SZREJNA, STAFF ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

A portrait depicting Abigail Adams, the second First Lady of the United States. Adams was an influential political advisor to her husband, President John Adams.

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