



Radiohead: Welcome to the Machine: OK Computer and the Death of the Classic Album

By Tim Footman

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Considered one of the defining albums of the 1990s, Radiohead's *OK Computer* was released at a pivotal point in music history—during one of the last years when an album was meant to be listened to in its entirety and songs were not yet available for individual download. This guide provides track-by-track dissection of every song produced during the *OK Computer* recording sessions, including B-sides, and illustrates how the 1997 album is a collection of songs purposefully placed next to one another. Themes prevalent on the album—such as fear of the new millennium, paranoia, political sloganeering, and suicide—and its artistic and political influences are explored, while discussions of the state of the music industry during the album's release provide rare insight into the improbability of a similarly phenomenal record ever being created.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Tim Footman is the author of several biographies on bands, including *Blink 182: The Unauthorised Biography in Words and Pictures*, *Global Assassins: The Limp Bizkit Story in Words and Pictures*, and *Radiohead: A Visual Documentary*. He is the former managing editor of the *Guinness Book of World Records* and has contributed pieces on music and pop culture to *The Encyclopedia of Popular Music*, *The Guardian*, and *Time Out*.

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