

# J. Tillman

## Year In The Kingdom

WESTERN VINYL WWW.WESTERNVINYL.COM INFO@WESTERNVINYL.COM



*Year In The Kingdom* unravels some kind of galactic wilderness. Tillman's 6th album lyrically borders on mystic; proffering a transcendent union, an effortlessness. Strange and honest, this song cycle inhabits its own idea-scape; one seemingly obsessed with wrestling death. These are afterlife dialogues of a mysterious future. Celestial badlands.

Unknown to just about everyone, Tillman started recording in April, tracking most of the instruments during the two week session himself. Hammered dulcimer, banjo, recorder, cymbals of varying size and wheezing air organs all feature heavily and lend YITK its bizarre scale, conjuring tidal shifts with tiny movements. The string arrangements, performed by Jenna Conrad, as well as transposed from Tillman's sung direction, were intended to rest on chords almost counter-intuitively, bringing to bloom complex, decontextualized tones. Most noticeable upon first listen, however, is the production itself. While most of Tillman's records evidence some shambolic home recording, YITK is undisturbed throughout. Out up front of the mix, and dry as a bone, Tillman's voice is featured in a way unlike any of his previous records.

YITK sounds liberated; it is far and away Tillman's most joyful work. Created with little input or context, it is seemingly disinterested in communicating much else than a meditation for the few who allow themselves to listen with an open heart.

1. Year In The kingdom
2. Crosswinds
3. Earthly Bodies
4. Howling Light
5. Though I Have Wronged You
6. Age Of Man
7. There Is No Good In me
8. Marked In The Valley
9. Light Of The Living

a WESTERN VINYL release  
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## SELLING POINTS

- Josh will embark on his first US tour in years in November. In September he'll tour the EU
- Josh has released several critically acclaimed records and has toured in Europe and throughout the US.
- Features artwork by acclaimed designer and illustrator Mario Hugo

## PRESS QUOTES

"This is no mere side-project. His first proper UK release is a treat, at times conjuring the beautiful, stark bleakness of Nick Drake, elsewhere not afraid to crank things up, as on the distortion heavy 'New Imperial Grand Blues'. Best of all is the upliftingly redemptive 'Above All Men'." – **Q Magazine**

"An existentialist's songs cycle, Vacilando...s lonely songs reinforce each other with an impeccable internal logic, fashioning its own little world-weary universe, wherein less is more, simple guitar strums signal seismic shifts in mood, shadows bump into one another. Like Neil Young's *On the Beach* or Jason Molina's *Songs: Ohia* incarnation, it's best heard late at night, alone, lights down low, one last glass of wine in the wings." – **Uncut**

"Josh Tillman's practise resonates throughout roomy Americana in which he ranges from spare meditations to rambunctious blues, biblical imagery to intimate studies and bleak introspection to hymnal uplift. Gorgeous stuff." – **The Independent**

"Tillman's stories sound as elliptical as his music, as if the lyrics demand such sparse arrangements." – **Pitchfork**

"...his husky, hushed voice echoes in the folksy expanses shared by Nick Drake, Will Oldham, and Seven Swans—era Sufjan Stevens..." – **Spin**

"J. Tillman captures the night like two fingers plunged into your chest." – **The Line of Best Fit**

"...a compelling whirl of Laurel Canyon-echo balladry and desolate-psychedelia stomp" – **Rolling Stone**

"Vacilando Territory Blues is one of the more compelling pure Americana releases I've heard in quite a while" – **Pop Headwound**

"these thirteen songs will nourish the soul like few releases of its kind." – **Clash Music**

"Tillman's warm, smoke-filled intonations are impossibly soft and heart-rendingly emotive at every turn...Very highly recommended indeed" – **Boomkat**



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