

Iggy Pop: 'I need more than an ordinary grind'

I Need More
Iggy Pop with Anne Wehrer
Karz-Cohl Publishing

"What I want is to touch the earth, spit through my nose, and die in a river. Get the picture? I will NOT allow myself to disappear. What about you?"

— Iggy Pop

If you haven't heard of Iggy Pop by now, you haven't been listening. Following his first dozen albums from 1969 to last year's *Zombie Birdhouse*, *I Need More* marks his first literary effort and is as striking and unique as his music.

The Iggy Pop story is one of self-confidence, arrogance and defiance. From early childhood, James Osterberg (his given name) thought he was smart and knew he was different. He's proved himself correct on both accounts and *I Need More* is good documentation of that fact. His stage antics during the early '70s with his group The Stooges have become legendary. From rolling bare-chested in broken glass and peanut butter, to spray painting himself silver, to flinging his body into the audience, Iggy has never been at a loss for words, and his opinions froth from him with the enthusiasm of a child and the ego of a Mohammed Ali.

The book is a series of short vignettes dealing with the Ig's favorite concerts, his life on drugs, his close relationship with David Bowie and the like. At least half of the book's 125 pages are photos. The photographs, although not as bloody as some others I've seen, serve to describe Iggy's life as well as his confessions. A particularly moving series depicts Pop walking across an audience's hands during a performance in Cincinnati in 1970. Other photos trace the star from his days as a cub scout, to his bleached-blond "stooge" period, to the



healthy, lithe, (but still excessive) person he is today. Iggy Pop's life has obviously been far from the all-American boy stereotype. But in a sense, his is a wonderfully unique American success story. As he would be the first to tell you, it would make a great TV movie. Rising from a childhood of chronic asthma in a cramped trailer park in Detroit, James (Iggy) had his first band by age 20. Steered by nothing more than immense conviction and an attitude, he has carved his niche in the music world without once compromising himself. In fact, Iggy's success has come from defying authority and the "right himself. In fact, Iggy's success has come from defying authority and the "right career moves" rather than courting them. David Bowie has described *I Need More* as "a genuine rock action account of snatching defeat from the jaws of victory."

Iggy's life, as depicted in *I Need More*, involves rather large amounts of drugs, sex and violence. But in his hands, these things becomes means to an end, not mindless debauchery. They are merely tools he uses in asserting his original personal style and his independence from traditional norms. In that sense, and in the maverick, James Dean tradition, his success story is uniquely American.

It is clear from this book that Iggy's life is a work in progress. Iggy Pop needs more . . . and he will undoubtedly get it.

"I need more than an ordinary grind and the more I think the more I need my life is going all right up 'til now even so it's not enough for me . . . and I need more . . . than I ever did before" — *I Need More* 1980, Iggy Pop
Billy Shaffer

NETV features 'Alpine Ski School,' Winston Churchill this weekend

The Nebraska Educational Television Network features both instructional and entertaining viewing this weekend.

"The Alpine Ski School" premieres Saturday at 2:30 p.m.

Filmed at the ski resort in Killington, Vt., the series offers viewers five programs of down-hill skiing lessons. An instructional method known as "visual implantation" is used, which encourages learning through a process of mental visualization, allowing the viewer to feel himself in action.

The five programs feature Butch Findeisen and Kathy Wood, members of the Killington Ski School staff. Each lesson has an instructional segment, developed with the help of United States and Canadian ski experts, and a demonstration segment in which the instructors take viewers on a challenging, creative run down the slopes.

The premiere program, "The Mountain Awakes," introduces the sport, equipment and apparel, as well as the basics of starting, steering and stopping on skis. Other programs will explore traveling around mountains, the christie turn, parallel skiing and the step turn.

"Winston Churchill: The Wilderness Years," an eight-part mini-series dramatizing the loneliest decade in the life of England's great statesman, airs on "Masterpiece Theatre" Sunday at 8 p.m.

British leader's life from the time of his loss of office in 1929 until his return to the public spotlight at the outbreak of World War II.

The mini-series is based on Martin Gilbert's authorized biography.

Robert Hardy stars in the series which spans the

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