

Entertainment

WEEKLY

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• 10 best country albums of 2015

Kip Moore - *Wild Ones*

Moore's music is rarely written about without including a rundown of his influences: Springsteen's blue-collar fire, Mellencamp's firebrand character studies, Seger's preoccupation with relationships. Those writers aren't wrong; but even the Boss had influences too, of course. And in the current country radio climate, which is more attuned to glossy pop influences than heartland grit, Moore's allegiance to classic rock may actually hurt him more than help him. Even his most



accessible anthems, like the reaching-for-the-rafters "Lipstick" and thumping "Come And Get It" have almost too much heft for airplay EP's. In the end, he may have written his own best defense on the swampy kiss-off "That's Alright With Me" when he growls, "Call me country, call me hippie/A wild cat from Dixie And if you do or don't like what you see/That's alright with me." It's more than alright, it rocks.