

The Days Of Our Nights (Jericho/Sire)

Luna's Dean Wareham once warbled his sly musings as if he were singing down from the window of a New York penthouse (party raging inside) to the echoing city canyons below. Now he sounds more like he's muttering desperately in a telephone booth. The party's over and Wareham is stumbling home drunk, rueful and regretful, obsessing over old memories. Previously the witty lover, sometimes spurned but always playing it cool, now Wareham sounds like a stalker. Most of all, in these songs - including an odd, quiet cover of the G'n'R classic "Sweet Child O' Mine" - he stalks himself, pursuing his own conscience, darting among tart guitar riffs and snippets of terse lyrics that rise up ghostly, like steam from the sewers, concealing him yet allowing him to reveal his innermost secrets. - Michael Kramer