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EVILE
Enter the Grave (Earache)



- 01. Enter the Grave
- 02. Thrasher
- 03. First Blood
- 04. Man Against Machine
- 05. Burned Alive
- 06. Killer from the Deep
- 07. We Who Are About to Die
- 08. Schizophrenia
- 09. Bathe in Blood
- 10. Armoured Assault

7.5
7.6

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Is there anyone out there that has not yet noticed the numerous bands now playing a decidedly retro style of '80s Bay Area thrash? The list does go on and on with acts like **MERCILESS DEATH**, **DEKAPITATOR**, and **REANIMATOR** (to name just a few) tearing it up like nobody's business, and doing it quite well, I might add. Add England's **EVILE** to the list with their **Earache** debut, "**Enter the Grave**", the quartet of brothers **Matt** and **Oli Drake** (vocals/rhythm guitar and lead guitar, respectively), **Ben Carter** (drums), and **Mike Alexander** (bass) doing justice to the old form. The guys even went so far as to enlist the legendary **Flemming Rasmussen** (**METALLICA**'s "**Master of Puppets**" and "**Ride the Lightning**") to produce this bad boy.

So how good is "**Enter the Grave**"? While definitely not inventive and, unsurprisingly, rather predictable, it is an album of 10 worthy thrash metal tracks that do indeed owe a debt of gratitude to classic **METALLICA** and **EXODUS**. The riffs are darn strong with chainsaw speed cutting going on all over the place, and **Rasmussen** gives the mix a lot of beef. Most importantly, the members of **EVILE** have that indefinable spirit that separates the pretenders from the real thrash metal warriors. When **Matt Drake** screams "Bow down to the thrasher!" (on — you guessed it

— **"Thrasher"**) you do indeed feel like it is 1986 all over again. In fact, the lyrical fare is exactly what you would expect from an '80s-style band (e.g., "Darkness will consume the earth, the rivers will run red" from **"Burned Alive"**), as it should be. Incidentally, **Drake's** vocals are muscular and enunciated for maximum impact, a contrast from a lot of the nasally/raspy vocal styles heard from the neo-thrashers of today. His shout during the chorus of "We Who Are About to Die" is pure **Tom Araya**. Finally, there is just enough variety here to keep the album fresh during a front-to-back listen. For example, the creepy, lightly picked intro and riff-build to speedster **"Man Against Machine"** is nicely constructed.

If it is **Hetfield/Holt** riffs and **Hammett** soloing that you still crave and you seek a somewhat different representation of the golden age of thrash than what is played by groups like **MERCILESS DEATH**, then **"Enter the Grave"** is your ticket. It warms the heart to hear the youngsters latching on to the classic style and waving the flag, doesn't it?

- Scott Alisoglu

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COMMENT | 'pretty solid'

posted by : [oldskool667](#)
10/11/2007 9:19:42 PM

if the old masters get 9s and 10s, I give this a 7.5. Not as exciting imo as "new school" thrashers like Muni Waste or Dekapitator, but definitely worth your time if you're a thrash fan.



COMMENT | '.'

posted by : [Blackenistheyend](#)
10/11/2007 9:47:23 PM

Not very original, but at least there aren't any stupid death/black metal vocals on it.



COMMENT | '.'

posted by : [Blackenistheyend](#)
10/11/2007 9:47:47 PM

...or "operatic" vocals, I might add




COMMENT | 'time warp'

 posted by : [bigbalddave](#)
10/11/2007 10:57:55 PM

oh man when i hear this album its like im 18 again back in 1985 with hair again Imfao... like i said for the overkill cd, there is nothing wrong with old school thrash metal and man its here a plenty... not a bad album i just think theses guys where born 20 years 2 late... but still a cool album.. that will cop alot crap from the black/ death metal fans

 **COMMENT | NULL**
posted by : [MetalPoser](#)
10/11/2007 11:35:12 PM

They know they have to tour America soon, right?

 **COMMENT | 'thrash'**
posted by : [BleakOutlook](#)
10/12/2007 3:26:49 AM

Hmmm...having grown up and listening to the original thrash bands of the 80's it's a strange thing having this "retro-comeback".

I like what I hear from these bands (death metal has gone mostly to its namesake...to death) so thrash is a welcoming comeback, however, these bands might tend to be novelty.

Since bands like Overkill, Exodus, Hiram, and such have set the speed, so to speak, these newer bands ought to try and make their own sounds if they hope to endure a career over 2 or 3 years.

Helpful hint...make sure you have a unique vocalist. Anybody can play guitar. There's more and more good drummers now than ever before, but finding that unique singer (check out Overkill, Hiram, or Tankard) is the difficult part, but the special ingredient that makes thrash bands everlasting or like a banana popsicle out on a hot driveway.

 **COMMENT | 'Best uk thrash''s debut since Sabbath''s History of a Time to Come?'**
posted by : [Kyashan](#)
10/12/2007 5:02:19 AM

Quite possibly.
Easily a 10.

 **COMMENT | '...'**
posted by : [Sontaron](#)
10/12/2007 6:31:10 AM

A solid and enjoyable listen...I`m loving the fact so many young kids are forming old school thrash bands again but inevitably there is a sense of "been there done that" about them. Municipal Waste remain the flag bearers but Evile have shown a lot of promise with this one.

**COMMENT | NULL**

posted by : RR
10/12/2007 7:53:35 AM

7.5????

Fucking 10!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Municipal Waste are awesome but Evile are REAL thrash.

**COMMENT | 'THIS'**

posted by : bodomrick
10/12/2007 7:58:07 AM

IS A STRAIGHT 10 in my book, Evile debut will kick your fucking teeth to neverland and back. Classic Neckbreaker right there

**COMMENT | '10'**

posted by : SouthernPelican
10/12/2007 8:13:26 AM

By Fucking Far.

THRASH!

Every old Thrash fan would enjoy this. Get it bought!

**COMMENT | '...'**

posted by : Rubin Barefoot
10/12/2007 9:15:10 AM

A for effort, artwork, and flying the flag of thrash
B+ for musicianship
B- for production
D for originality

**COMMENT | 'FUCK'**

posted by : bodomrick
10/12/2007 11:15:26 AM

ORIGINALITY!

THRASH my friend...is all about....THRASHING!!! BANG THAT FUCKING HEAD FUCCKKEEERRRSSSSS!

EVILE is my perfect fix right now....always gets me in the mood to fuck shit up



COMMENT | 'Good album'
posted by : Metalanarchist
10/12/2007 2:24:38 PM

Decent songs, but the vocalist isn't very charismatic. I prefer a nastier voice like Steve Souza's or Bobby Blitz's for this genre. Maybe he'll grow on me, though.



COMMENT | 'Saw these boys in Colchester early this month...'
posted by : britishpaul
10/12/2007 2:49:09 PM

..and they were awesome. Ive been listening to this kind of stuff since '91 so I don't need to rush out and buy it but props and credit from me!

THRASH TIL' DEATH!!!!!!!



COMMENT | NULL
posted by : Krane
10/12/2007 3:02:58 PM

Originality is overrated but these guys are just plain copying.



COMMENT | 'This album gets a 10 from me...'
posted by : Project Mayhem
10/12/2007 3:14:10 PM

....righteous!!!

See you on tour gents!!!



COMMENT | 'A solid 8/10'
posted by : nafnikufesin
10/12/2007 6:26:11 PM

A pretty solid debut album, and takes me back to the days of listening to "Ride The Lightning" and "Among the Living". Good old school thrash metal, nothing ground-breaking, but nothing bad about imitating classic material that the people that created it have since stopped playing. The lyrics seem to be all inspired from movies from Gladiator (We Who Are About To Die) to Terminator (Man Against Machine), and seem a bit cliched, but that's about the only fault I'd find. If you grew up listening to metal in the 80's (or have since

discovered it), then this album is definitely worth a listen. 8/10



COMMENT | 'Originality is not important.'

posted by : NORDIC VISION AND NORDIC METAL
10/13/2007 12:04:34 AM

I will always choose a authentic metal band, over a overhyped hybrid rock/ metal combo, with so-called originality.

I heard this band on Earache's The Headbangers Companion 6 CD set, there featured on the disc called Metal. Vinatge Metallica along with Vintage Mercyful Fate were my favorite bands in 82/83/84. And I like this band on that basis and nothing else.

I disagree with the comment that death / black metal fanatics such as myself, are going to dismiss and puke on this band from a mile high, or whatever. After all what do you think the death/ black metal fans were listening to back in 1980 -- mid 1984 in the first place.



COMMENT | NULL

posted by : Heavy_V
10/13/2007 9:45:20 AM

this album kicks ass. awesome fucking vocals!



COMMENT | 'Not bad for debut'

posted by : MODULATOR
10/13/2007 9:58:43 AM

7/10



COMMENT | NULL

posted by : SouthernPelican
10/13/2007 10:58:17 AM

It's funny that the reviewer has put "youngsters" when the Bassist is about 30 years old ha ha



COMMENT | 'Yet another lame album cover...'

posted by : DarkForest/DarkLight
10/13/2007 7:16:25 PM

1 Star...and that is based solely on the album cover.

**COMMENT | NULL**

posted by : Voodoo Butter
10/14/2007 10:30:49 AM

^ Thou art retarded.

-- bigbalddave: "but still a cool album.. that will cop alot crap from the black/ death metal fans"

I'm a black/death fan, and I love this one :-P
Sure, it's derivative, but then that's true for about 97% of all music.
As long as it rawks, who gives two shits?

(and BTW, the new 'Overkill' is quite dull.)

**COMMENT | NULL**

posted by : Slayer>YourFavoriteBand
10/14/2007 6:16:52 PM

May be thrash, but it's pretty fucking boring (just like Kreator and Sodom). You can be fast, but without melody it's worthless. Doesn't compare to early Slayer or Exodus at all. Oh well, at least they tried.

5/10

**COMMENT | '1/10'**

posted by : how1ard
10/15/2007 4:03:04 AM

1 for effort, this lot wouldn't have even got a record deal back in the day.

**COMMENT | NULL**

posted by : RR
10/15/2007 6:28:50 AM

I love all the great Thrash bands, and I love Evile too. It's a matter of opinion. I think they're great, better than some of shit around now.

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