

Stratovarius - Infinite (Bonus CD) (2010)

Written by bluesever

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01. *Why Are We Here* 04:44
02. *It's A Mystery* 04:05
03. *Neon Light Child* 05:09
04. *Hunting High And Low (Demo Version)* 04:20
05. *Millenium (Demo Version)* 04:10
06. *Phoenix (Live)* 06:33
07. *Infinity (Live)* 09:17]

Jens Johansson - Keyboards Timo Kotipelto - Vocals Timo Tolkki - Guitars, Vocals Jari Kainulainen - Bass Jörg Michael - Drums

Nice extras, but it's not all gravy...Stratovarius recently issued two new re-releases to spark interest in the band. The first, Infinite, was the last great CD by the band with ex-guitarist and founder, Timo Tolki. I found it interesting that the band would be re-issuing this CD now that Tolki is out of the band. There is no doubt that this was their last great record, starting off with a bang in the anthem Hunting High and Low, and continuing to pummel with solid tracks like A Million Light Years Away and Infinity. I could go on, but I wanted to get into the portion of this CD that might prompt a fan to buy this again; this deluxe edition includes the original CD as well as another one full of bonus tracks, demos, and a couple of live cuts.

Getting into the meat of this thing, there are 7 bonus tracks [on this extra CD] that I was most interested in because you sometimes find songs that are stronger than some of the actual original tracks. The first bonus track, Why are We Here, is a mid tempo rocker full of melody and killer riffage. It's classic Stratovarius, and sounds like it could have been written during the Destiny sessions. A killer tune which could have fit well on the original album easily. The next two tracks are okay, but you can see why they didn't make the original cut. Not bad, but nothing to knock your socks off either. Overall, the demos are pretty cool to hear, but nothing that special. The live tracks sound great, however, and once you hear these tracks, you hear how

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much Tolki is missed. ---therighttorock.com

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