

Scorpions - Reading Festival (1979)

Written by bluesever

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01 - Backstage Queen 02 - We'll Burn The Sky 03 - Loving You Sunday Morning 04 - Lovedrive 05 - Always Somewhere 06 - He's A Woman, She's A Man 07 - Another Piece Of Meat 08 - Robot Man Line-up: Klaus Meine – vocals Rudolf Schenker - rhythm guitar Matthias Jabs - lead guitar Francis Buchholz – bass Herman Rarebell - drums. Recorded Live at Richfield Avenue, Reading Festival, Reading, England - August 25, 1979.

A year on from the introduction of punk to the festival saw a continuation of the previous years format, with Friday being the "New Wave "night and the domination of mainly Blues Rock , Metal or Prog acts on the remaining two days . Its interesting that 1979 did not feature any really hard core punk acts since the movement was still going strong in 79, and in general Reading never booked any of the really famous UK punk acts either (apart from the Jam in 1978) . Bands such as The Clash, Pistols, Banshees ,never got a look in. Perhaps this reflected the innate conservatism of the promoters, who , although providing quite a spread of musical styles over the years, never did bite the bullet and put together such eclectic mixes of music as Freddy Bannister did at the Knebworth festivals. There was always the feeling that Reading was a tad predictable in its booking policy after 1970, even if a band such as Hawkwind or Thin Lizzy missed a year or two , you could always rely on them returning eventually to the fold.

Saturday 25th. Last up were replacement headliners The Scorpions , who were deputizing for Thin Lizzy . They proved to be highly energetic hard rockers who electrified the crowd with their onstage presence and high octane riffing and they were invited back to no less than two encores . Given that most of the crowd would have been unfamiliar with their music and were no doubt there to see Lizzy, this Reading debut could be described as a triumph . ---
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