

Slayer - Reign in Blood (1986)

Written by bluesever

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1. *Angel of Death* 04:51 [play](#)
2. *Piece by Piece* 02:02
3. *Necrophobic* 01:41
4. *Altar of Sacrifice* 02:50
5. *Jesus Saves* 02:55
6. *Criminally Insane* 02:22
7. *Reborn* 02:12
8. *Epidemic* 02:23
9. *Postmortem* 03:27
10. *Raining Blood* 04:16
11. *Aggressive Perfectom* 2:30
12. *Criminally Insane (Remix)* [play](#)

Personnel:

- * Tom Araya – bass, vocals
- * Jeff Hanneman – guitar
- * Kerry King – guitar
- * Dave Lombardo – drums

For more than a decade, Slayer has proudly fused thrash and speed metal into loud, offering doomish dirges, voraciously boisterous and blasphemous songs groaning over lyrics that depict madness, suicide and murder in excess, a style which should definitely suit a ten-year-old metalhead. On October 7, 1986, Slayer released what was to become their masterpiece, "Reign In Blood". An album discribed by Kerrang! Magazine as "the heaviest album of all time" and peaked at number 22 on Metal Storm's "top 100 albums of all time" survey, a position that only "the crème de la crème" bands could get. Believe me, reviewing a very popular album from a very popular band isn't easy at all, but sometimes justice must be done.

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"Reign In Blood" could be summed up in four simple words, strenuous, volatile, asymmetrical and brutal...maybe too brutal. At first I was completely blown away by its amazing structural proficiency, I couldn't get over it. Fortunately, there was a day when I realized that except Metallica, even a band from "the big four" could suck. The answer is pretty clear now, this is a notoriously inconsistent effort.

The journey commences with "Angel Of Death", an impressive opener, built around ultra-fast repetitive thrash riffs followed by... well, rigorous barks and high-pitched growls of Tom Araya, but that's vocally speaking, sure there's nothing inherently bad with it. However, even the most ardent fans of Slayer will admit that the one-dimensional vocals of Mr Araya are probably the thing that should be removed from Reign In Blood. In case you haven't noticed it yet, the singer tries his best to mix things up without resorting to clean vocals, and I don't blame him for that, at least he screams like a man not like Dave Mustaine. Songs like "Raining Blood" and "Angel Of Death" are the album's highlights, despite being too uniformed for some to stomach, they are quite catchy with their crushing guitar riffs and the furiously thunderous drumming. However, in its entirety, the album is not as consistently memorable as "South Of Heaven", but let's make it clear, I've never been a fan of Slayer and if they're going to stick on "Christ Illusion meets Reign In blood" style I won't be, but to be fair, there was a time when I liked Slayer pretty much, I liked Reign In Blood though but not anymore, these guys don't deserve to be a part of "the big four" neither does Megadeth.

In the end of the day, Slayer will always have an audience because their discography is worth picking up, but when it comes to this album here's my advice, listen to it for one year or maybe two and then throw it away. Folks, I give you "the most overrated album of all time"... Reign In Blood. ---Mindheist, metalstorm.net

W chwili wydania był to najbardziej brutalny, najbardziej ekstremalny album w historii muzyki. Na "Reign in Blood" - trzecim studyjnym albumie Slayer - metalowy ciężar spotkał się z hardcore'ową prędkością i bezkompromisowością. Na album trafiło 10 utworów o łącznym czasie poniżej pół godziny - tak intensywnej muzyki w większej dawce nie dałoby się wysłuchać. Tym bardziej, że jedynym urozmaiceniem i uspokojeniem są efekty dźwiękowe (odgłosy deszczu i burzy) poprzedzające i kończące "Raining Blood". Jednak na tle dzisiejszego ekstremalnego metalu "Reign in Blood" zachwyca... melodyjnością! Kompozycje są przemyślane, a chociaż Tom Araya wykrzykuje teksty z prędkością CKMu, to nie ma

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problemu ze zrozumieniem go - w przeciwieństwie do współczesnych przedstawicieli najcięższych odmian metalu, preferujących growl lub inny niezrozumiały bulgot. Na "Reign in Blood" wyróżniają się zwłaszcza dwa, prawie dwukrotnie dłuższe od pozostałych, utwory. Są to otwierający album "Angel of Death" oraz zamykający go "Raining Blood", które są najlepszym przykładem jak powinno grać się agresywny metal, żeby nadawał się on do słuchania. W obu zwracają uwagę genialne riffy, nierzadko określane najlepszymi w thrash metalu. Do klasyki gatunku należy także "Postmortem" - odrobinę wolniejszy w pierwszej połowie, a dopiero w drugiej obłąkańczo rozpędzony. Z pozostałymi utworami jest niestety pewien problem - są do siebie bardzo podobne, trudno rozróżnić kiedy jeden się kończy, a następny zaczyna. Razem jednak bez wątpienia tworzą jeden z najbardziej powalających albumów w historii metalu.
---Paweł Pałasz, pablosreviews.blogspot.com

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