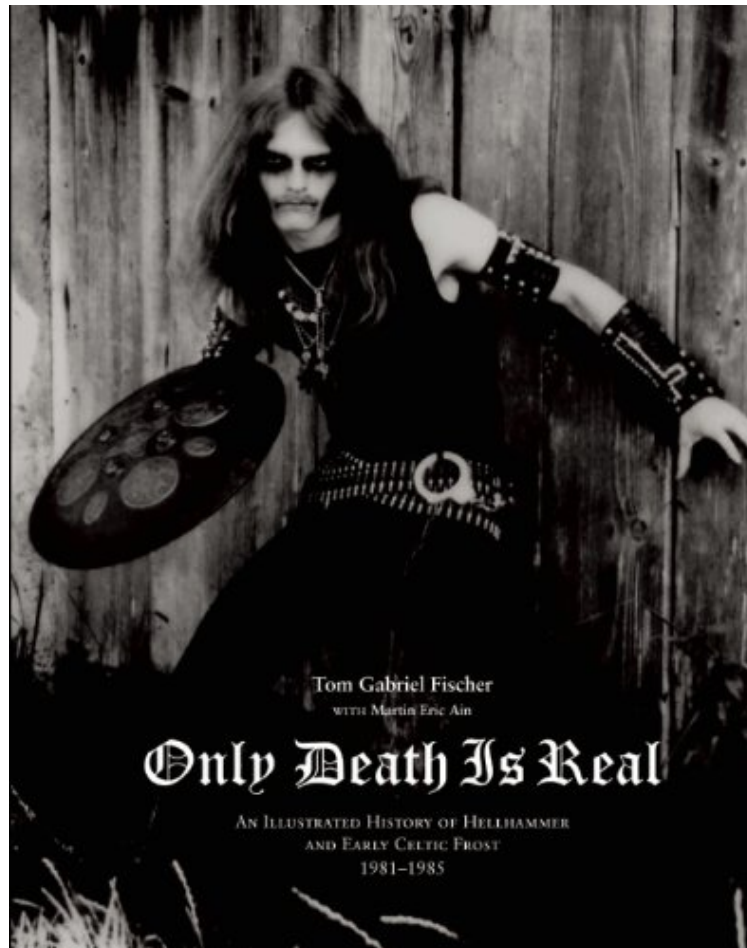


[Free and download] Only Death Is Real: An Illustrated History of Hellhammer and Early Celtic Frost 1981-1985

Only Death Is Real: An Illustrated History of Hellhammer and Early Celtic Frost 1981-1985

Tom Gabriel Fischer, Martin Eric Ain
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Tom Gabriel Fischer, Martin Eric Ain : Only Death Is Real: An Illustrated History of Hellhammer and Early Celtic Frost 1981-1985 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Only Death Is Real: An Illustrated History of Hellhammer and Early Celtic Frost 1981-1985:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Beauty in the Extreme By Privacy, Please Thomas Gabriel Fischer aka Tom G. Warrior, with some help from his early bandmates such as Martin Ain, tells the story of how Tom and a group of his fellow Swiss teenagers followed their dream of living the metal life, and in so doing, helped invent extreme metal as we know it today. Most of the book focuses on the Hellhammer years; there's a little Celtic Frost but it mercifully ends well before that band entered its misguided "Cold Lake" glam metal phase. Instead, you see the young Tom and his friends becoming totally committed to the idea of metal, and, as time passes, to more extreme

metal. The photography is really beautiful, the more so because much of it appears to have been (as you'd expect for an unknown teenage band) amateur snapshots of the group members hanging out, goofing around with girlfriends and each other. Whoever laid out this book deserves a graphic design award for making it all look so good. The first-person tales told by Tom and his cohorts do a good job of putting the music in the context of the societal and religious oppression they felt, which also explains some of the more jarring imagery (well, okay, it won't be jarring to normal extreme metal fans, but you know what I mean). An interesting feature is the inclusion, near the end of the book, of numerous pages from various metal 'zines of the early 80s showing reviews of Hellhammer's early "releases" (like other bands of that era, Hellhammer promoted itself by circulating demo tapes) and other material related to the band. Some of the pages also contain reviews or advertisements for other period metal bands, so students of metal history will want to especially check that out. I agree this book is best pored over while listening to "Demon Entrails", the release compiling Hellhammer's early demos. I also am left with the nagging question of whatever happened to Gabriella Enzler, Tom's girlfriend who appears in many of the photographs. I would have the same question regarding Martin's girlfriend Lilith who, as the artist who helped shape the band's image, is the subject of a chapter of the book, but her brother Baphomet has posted recently on metal forums explaining that he and Lilith have their own band. While the price of the book may be a little high for the casual fan, if you can afford it it's a very worthy addition to the library of anyone interested in the evolution of extreme metal. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. What a great read! My single By LA What a great read! My single, ONLY gripe really, is that the book ends entirely too abruptly. You're reading, and then in the last paragraph, Tom is pretty much "that's the end and the rest is neither here nor there." Maybe Tom didn't want to venture into To Mega Therion territory, which is fine, but the ending is too abrupt! Otherwise, fantastic read! Great pictures, perspectives, and everything. Buy it! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The greatest book on the topic of metal. By Chase Fillingame This book is amazing, I've never read an any book that covers the topic of metal quite like it. I honestly couldn't put it down once I started reading it. Tom G Warrior is such an amazing writer as well. I highly recommend this book to any metal head.

This formidable oversized hardcover runs 288 pages (including a 32-page color section), and combines hundreds of unseen early Hellhammer and Celtic Frost photos with a vast treasure trove of artwork and memorabilia. A substantial written component by Fischer details his upbringing on the outskirts of Zurich, Switzerland, and the hardships and triumphs he faced bringing the visions of his groundbreaking bands Hellhammer and eventually Celtic Frost to reality. In addition, the book includes an introduction by Nocturno Culto of Norwegian black metal act Darkthrone, and a foreword by noted metal author Joel McIver. Without question Only Death Is Real goes farther than any other source in exploring the origins of underground heavy metal. The wealth of visual information is astounding, both in terms of documenting early 1980s headbangers and exposing the still-relevant imagery of the first Hellhammer and Celtic Frost photo sessions. On top of that, the written chapters combine Tom Fischers often shocking stories with lengthy quotes from Martin Eric Ain and the other main Hellhammer members, explaining in intimately human terms how extreme metal was born.

Fischers delving deeper into his past than ever before every interesting reading. Its as much a document of metalhead life in the early 80s as the story of one band. MSN Music "Not just the story of two bands who became genuine linchpins in metal history, its also a universal tale about the power of heavy metal to provide a shelter from alienation" Metal Hammer Immaculately presented a tale of disenfranchised youth with the dedication to follow through with their dreams, against significant odds PopMatters A proud and regal commemoration of a band that clawed its way to legendary status. Five stars.