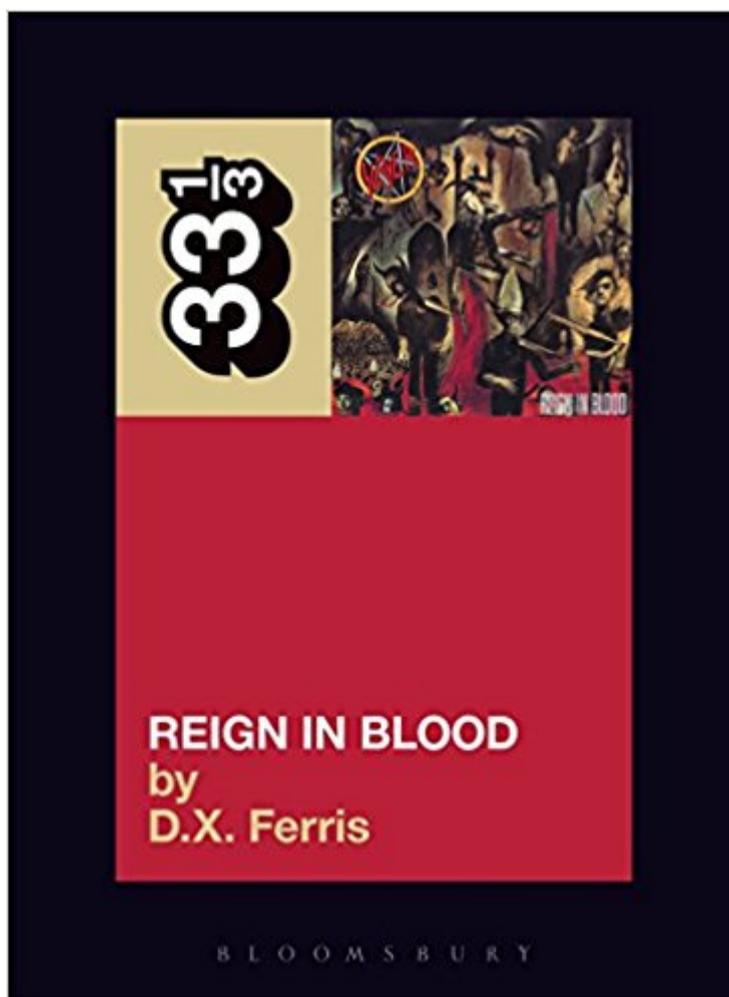


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Slayer's Reign In Blood (33 1/3)



Synopsis

Issued on America's premier rap label at the peak of the thrash metal movement, Slayer's controversial *Reign in Blood* remains the gold standard for extreme heavy metal, a seamless 29-minute procession of ten blindingly fast, apocalyptic songs. The first English book about Slayer explores the creation of the most universally respected metal album and its long road to the stores, through original interviews with the entire band, producer Rick Rubin, engineer Andy Wallace, cover artist Larry Carroll, and Def Jam insiders from Russell Simmons to M.C. Serch. From Tori Amos to Pantera's Phil Anselmo, dozens of fans and artists discuss the record's ongoing impact and Slayer's status in the small fraternity of rock's greatest groups.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“... in writing one of the few 33 1/3 books on a metal album, Ferris knows he must argue persuasively for their inclusion. Toward that end, he conducted a raft of original interviews for the book (everyone from Slayer frontman Tom Araya to Tori Amos) to tell their story as clearly and as vividly as possible.”
— Stephen M. Deusner, Pitchfork

"Reign In Blood is notable for its brutality, but as the defining manifesto of thrash metal, it is transcendent for its purity. To love rock & roll is to love subcultures, and D.X. Ferris has explained, in stunning detail, how one subculture was defined and galvanized by that single album, and why

that definition will never need to be written again."

One of the best in this series. A to-the-point analysis of the hows, whys, and wheres of everyone involved. Song-by-song analysis, a breakdown of the recording sessions, an observation of how this album impacted the metal community, details of the problems with getting this album released, and don't forget an overview of Slayer's Metal Blade years....If you're a Slayer fan, you need to pick this one up NOW. If you're not a fan of Slayer but like the 33 1/3 series for its attention to detail, then you'll like this book. And if you're a casual music fan who's heard of this album and wondered why people talk about it to this day, then you should read this book.

Ferris has done his homework and interviewed a sufficient number of people, especially those directly involved. He's obviously a huge fan also, which any author who tackles one of these 33 1/3 books should be. The book is a highly enjoyable and informative read, even for those of us who remember waiting for this release. I learned a few things. "Reign In Blood" holds up incredibly well and, as the author and those interviewed state, it continues to be highly influential. I give much respect to the editors of this series for including it.

Info about the band, the circumstances of how the album came to be, the story behind the cover art, breakdowns and stories about each song. Quotes from just about everyone involved and fans and other musicians who see this album as the work of art it is. The material presented in this small book provides proof that this is THE definitive thrash metal album. CONS: It takes a bit to get through the "SLAYER RULES" and "F*&%^G SLAYER" repetitiveness for a chapter and a half. Id knock off half a star for some of the annoying time-jumps the book goes through. Its a very quick, informative and entertaining read. For under \$10 there is no excuse for Slayer fans to miss it.

I don't know who assigns contracts for 33 1/3 books, but D.X. Ferris should not be allowed near music-ology nor the English language. Scores of typos, unenlightened opinion in 5th grade lingo sporting as informed musicology, bland subjectivity, and an analogy to Terminator 2 at the very last page that comes out of nowhere but is touted as if he'd been building to such an godawful comparison all along. Imbecile and juvenile - this is not a quality testament to Slayer's place in the metal canon, but rather a diatribe that MIGHT enthuse Beavis and Butthead, but I doubt even they would find this entertaining. Such a shame - 33 1/3, please vet your authors and get a flipping editor. Don't waste a single penny on this atrocity.

Except for the huge number of typos, this is an enjoyable read. Ferris spends too much time trying to prove that this is the greatest thrash-metal album of all time. But his commentary on the songs and the band members and other folks involved was all quite interesting.

If you're a Slayer fan, this book is a must for you. If you're not a Slayer fan, read this book and you will be. D.X. Ferris has history from the people who made the album happen, as well as people who have been influenced by it, and does a great job of showing why this album is loved by so many fans. Not just a stuffy history of album with "this happened, then this happened, then that happened," the book goes into the cult like following that this album has earned. For about \$10, you can't go wrong. And, at any price, you won't find a better book on Slayer. Vince

Sadly, I am writing this the morning after Jeff Hanneman (lead Guitarist for Slayer) passed away. This book is a great read for Slayer fans who grew up listening to the best album of all time. "Reign in Blood" is covered, from early songwriting sessions, to the recording, AND all the weird behind the scenes stuff going on in their management. Really worth your time,.

If you love this album, you'll love this book. Get it, then crank up Reign in Blood and appreciate it even more. Because now you know even more about it. SLAYER!!!!

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