

Today, I'll be reviewing 'Texas Flood' by Stevie Ray Vaughan! That's a tough name to spell, isn't it? I'd shorten it to SRV or if you want to save even more time whilst speaking, you could call him 'serve'. Then again, with that name he could get mistaken for a tennis player. Or someone who dances in front of other people in a way that disrespects them, maybe I've been watching too much South Park. Whatever the case, it's given me a distorted view of American culture because in England, people hate the middle finger gesture instead of dancing, and the hand sign isn't called 'serving', it's just being an asshole. I mean who dances (or serves) in response to road rage? If you heard someone describe Eric Clapton as a tennis player you'd think he was mad, so you do have to be careful. You want to apply for a guitar teaching job? You've blown it. 'Serve' is a reasonable nickname for a tennis player though, no? It's not a massive compliment or anything, it's like calling a guitarist 'The Six-Stringer', but it's a better name for a tennis player than 'The Ball Kicker' as kicking balls isn't allowed, obviously. 'How did this idiot get into Wimbledon? What else is on? Repeats? Then let's give this guy a chance after all. It's not morbid curiosity actually, I just hate repeats, that's all... Y'know?' I get attention in the exact same way. Similarly, if you hear of someone in school dying and you get the feeling he wasn't liked, the teachers would honour his memory by saying something like 'Y'know... he had a nice haircut...' So yeah, 'Serve' isn't a name to get excited about but at least it is fairly easy to spell. Oh if only it was spelt 'Serv' then it would be perfect.

Someone with very poor eyesight (i.e. me without my glasses), could mistake SRV's guitar as a tennis racket, so I'd say 'Serve!' as I throw a tennis ball at him hard, and all of a sudden I get charged with assault and alienate a guitarist I once admired. What's his music like? It's rather like Jimi Hendrix! Interestingly, both Jimi and SRV died young, so I think we can conclude... don't play in the style of either of those people. Think it's just a coincidence the two people died? Well, I once played Jimi's signature chord E7#9 and I had a heart attack, a massive stroke and I was dead for seven hours! Also, I broke my legs. Ok, ok, I haven't really had a heart attack (I better not with all the gyming I do) however, I recently slept with the window open in merely cool weather (although without covers, which is something) and I soon felt my heart beating very hard, so I do have to be careful. The internet seems to suggest I shouldn't worry, but as I'm typing I have the SRV in my CD player right now. If you don't hear from me in a while? Well, my heart exploded and it's all because of him. People say Black Sabbath is the music of the devil, but almost all of the original lineup are still going strong and the singer exceeded his life expectancy by about 50 years. So what does that tell you? To be fair though, Sabbath drummer Bill Ward may be a heavy metal drummer, but his style is kinda jazzy/bluesy too, in a way he could easily drum for Jimi Hendrix if he was still alive. And you know what? Bill had a heart attack, too.

So what do I think of Texas Flood? It's very good! SRV just about has the edge over Jimi in terms of skill and clean/tight playing, but Jimi is the better songwriter and is more original, I give the album 9.5/10! More than reasonable! Considering things, many people in my situation would put the album in the bin. Song 'Love Struck Baby' sounds really like Johnny B. Goode and rather weirdly, the SRV song was made a single. Clearly Stevie thought of the song as some kind of showpiece and it is, it's just not really his. Oh wow, Wikipedia says most of the songs in the album are covers (although ironically not Love Struck Baby). Well, they're good covers, I

suppose. Allmusic.com really likes the album giving it a very rare 5 stars! I'll say it again, Black Sabbath's debut album only got 4.5/5 and it invented heavy metal!! This is just a theory, but maybe the reviewer thought if he didn't respect SRV's music, he could die, too. A curse, if you will. As in 'Would you like to review an album that may or may not have led to the death of someone?' 'Sure, I give it five stars, just get it the hell away from me'. You have to wonder why I gave what is essentially a cover album such a high score and well... figure things out for yourself! Only joking, I gave it the score because I liked and more importantly, the album is NOT cursed! Bye!