

Overkill by Motorhead - A classic album from 1979 with Philthy Animal Taylor on drums. Crucially, it was released in the era the man didn't completely suck. You can hear some of his more recent drumming on Youtube and when you do, you will totally understand why he got sacked in 1992. Apparently he was given three warnings, showing his fellow band members were very patient and had hearts of gold. But hang on... Heavy metal played by nice people? Many similar bands write about the devil and violence in general. Wouldn't it spoil their image if such groups picked flowers for their nice, though let's face it, super-girly scent? It would spoil things for me, anyway. On the other hand, it would spoil things if a musician went mental and killed people, so I do understand the pressure Phil and others would be under trying to find the right balance. It's something that would plague my mind anyway, but to the point of being incompetent and near incapacitated? I'm not so sure.

Some of Motorhead's music is intentionally nice, which whilst fitting their true nature is still at least a little different. One of the album's titles is 'I'll Be Your Sister'. THAT'S nice. It's a little too nice really, isn't it? It's sickly sweet. I'm being a sister for NO ONE. Let's make that very clear. Here are some of its lyrics 'I'll be your sister. Be your mother, if you need somebody. If you need someone to love, I'm the one you should be thinking of'. Urgh. Ok, ok, I've omitted some of the words, the real ones are 'I'll be your sister, BE YOUR LOVER.' That's a little less demented, at least to me. It suggests Lemmy's being romantic rather than completely puppy-like. Still though, a listener who is hard of hearing could certainly misinterpret the lyrics and take them the wrong way. A lost fan for life. Is that the group's fault? In my opinion yes and no.

Let's take a look at some more of the LP's songs... '(I Won't) Pay Your Price' goes 'You can't stop me, don't ya even try. Gonna stick my finger in your eye!!' Where did THAT come from?? It could be worse though. Imagine if this was one song: 'I'll be your sister. Be your mother, if you need somebody. Then I'm going to blind you!' Brutal. Very original, though; death metal wouldn't be pioneered for a number of years. 'Capricorn' goes 'I always knew the only way is never live beyond today. They proved me right, they proved me wrong'. I bet they proved you wrong. It always annoys me when people say 'live in the now' as if the alternative is totally crazy. How would you feel if that was the attitude of your prime minister? It would be like 'shall we all spend our live's savings on fast cars and beer? YOLO'. No! That is not acceptable behaviour from anyone in power.

Ok, we can conclude it's best not to take Lemmy's lyric writing too seriously. Personally I don't really even pay attention to the words, I'm more about the riffs, melodies and overall vibes. But what about people who are autistic and take everything literally? Well put simply, this album is NOT for them. Imagine someone saying to you 'I love you but I hate you', and imagine everyone around you knowing exactly what that enigmatic phrase means. It would drive you mad. Poor guys. What only makes matters worse is that many people consider 'Overkill' to be 'essential'. People on the spectrum wouldn't be able to get away from the music. Nightmare. But what rating do I give the album? Hmm... 8.5/10. It IS good! Just flippin' mental.