

Today, I'll be reviewing 'Keeper of the Seven Keys Part 1' by Helloween. Clever people will know that the scary fun day is actually spelt 'Halloween'. I'm assuming the band aren't English-illiterate, (which would be perfectly understandable as they're from Germany) but instead are trying to be clever. Whether they mean Hell-oween or the more friendly Hello-ween, I honestly don't know. Evidence of the latter is found in the ultra-positive song 'Future World' which goes 'We all live in happiness, our life is full of joy. We say the world tomorrow without fear. The feeling of togetherness is always at our side', etc., etc. Needless to say those almost grammatically perfect lyrics are very odd for any metal style, excluding perhaps a strangely popular genre that goes on about having a great time being a pirate, over and over. (No joke whatsoever, you'd think it would get old). Much metal music is about people dying in very unfortunate/interesting ways. (Doomers Unholy shout about perishing in a monster's stomach after failing to blow up the insides with dynamite, for example. It's very good). Again, in contrast, some of Helloween's music is as happy as flip.

Having said all that, there is a possibility the Germans simply misspelt Halloween. You never know. I have a German name, and for ages I thought the spooky day WAS spelt the same wrong way. Maybe it's just a Teutonic thing. Don't ask me why that would be the case, I'm just putting the thought out there. Because French people have so called masculine and feminine words, they see actual objects as having gender specific traits. For example, they see (apparently manly) bridges as being strong and powerful, rather than needing pink dresses. (I'm sorry if that feminine stereotype has offended people, but there's nothing wrong with women wearing pink dresses). It's a (huge) stretch of the imagination, but maybe the band spell their name in the way they do because of some strange Germanness as opposed to Frenchness, or however you want to put it. Do you get what I mean? It's a very difficult and deep concept to explain, but the more intellectual individuals out there might want to have a crack at it. Best case scenario, an essay gets written about it, and I get some kind of underground fame in the psychiatric community. Not that I don't have it already. I think it's called a 'case study'.

The same album has a song called 'Follow the Sign', but as it should be noted the band are perhaps prone to making somewhat serious spelling errors (their own name!), it's worth taking any directional signs made by the band with a pinch of salt. Of course they may not have made the signs, but it's definitely something you'd want to find out. Especially if you're someone like me; clear instructions are of paramount importance, as I'm sure you know by now. The LP also has a track called 'A Tale That Wasn't Right', and that should be a surprise to no one. BUT!... apparently this is supposed to be one of the best power metal albums of all time, so keep it away from your English teacher so he or she can't tarnish it any more than I already have done. (Actually I'm going to continue doing so. Not because of any kind of grudge, just because it makes me feel powerful). Sure it IS a good album, but one of the greatest power metal ones? No, no, no. 'Glory to the Brave' by Hammerfall, 'Legendary Tales' by Rhapsody, etc.

According to Wikipedia, the band once performed 'in front of 100.000 people.' Why mention such a precise amount of fans? A hundred point zero, zero, zero?? I guess if someone lost a tooth in a mosh pit, that would make him 99.999% of a person and the audience would therefore be filled with I think 99.99999(?) music enthusiasts, but why in the world would that matter? I don't even think there are such pits in a

Helloween concert, everyone is just celebrating how happy they are the whole time. (Ok, ok, not ALL the time, you got me). Only joking, I'm fairly certain a comma was meant to be used in the number, not a full stop. I wonder who made the mistake. Judging by past experiences, it was probably by the band. I don't know why the album is spelt wrong, yet one of its tracks IS called 'Halloween', maybe they didn't want to risk complete failure, they decided to go for a safe and moderate 50% success rate. I've certainly been there. Let's give this album... 9/10! Bye!