

This Christmas I will be reviewing one of the least Christmassy albums ever, by doom metal band Candlemass, that being 'From the 13th Sun'. Unholy are even more depressing but I've reviewed their 'Second Ring of Power' album already, and it would simply be contrasting with Christmas TOO much. There's a difference between confusing someone on the holiday like I'm trying to do and ruining it for good. The lyrics 'Never ending daaaaaay, never ending paaaaaiiiin' or whatever they are (I have at least partially forgotten as it's not one of my 'go to' songs) are too unseasonal. You can sing it in the Summer though, if anything I'd think the words would be rather fitting. I prefer to listen to 'I wish it could be Christmas every day' even if I don't agree with the lyrics. Christmas EVERY day? Pizza every day maybe, but even that sounds excessive. As it's Christmas I will be doing at least something right though, and that is promoting an album that is often overlooked and wrongly I think, that being the subject of this review.

And why are Candlemass such a grim band when Candlemas is a completely harmless Christian holiday? I guess such holidays and the weights of candles are too very different things, despite the similarities with the spelling. It's like megadeath and Megadeth, one is one million deaths (who wants that?) the other is a fun metal band! Oh yes, I said I'd be promoting the album. There are some comments on Youtube saying the drum solo in song 'Cyclo-F' is a bit rubbish but I think that's very unfair. It started well, though. Not a spectacular listen for the most part sure, but I do think there is at least something about it. It's like driving in a super fast Ferrari or driving in a Mini, both have their charms. The former is exciting if not scary, but in the latter vehicle you can relax a little more. It's interesting I bring up feelings of fear as Candlemass are a little bit scary at least, too. Again, not to be confused with the Christian holiday. It's the WEIGHT of candles that is chilling. I personally feel terrified when I see people weigh candles. Why are you doing that? What's wrong with you? No seriously, how would you feel if you saw someone weigh a single candle with no explanation and then leave? Having said that, maybe it would be worse if you did get an explanation. 'I need to know the weight of candles, hahaha!' Get lost.

The CD liner notes say the album is 'dedicated to the greatest band of all time: Black Sabbath'. Well, all doom albums owe a lot to BS with the band inventing the genre, and all. It's like a writer being asked who his main influence is and saying 'The guy who invented the pen!' You're just an idiot, aren't you? Or a teacher could ask 'What's your favourite car?' and a student would be like 'My favourite car? The one with four wheels!' Wow, you've thrown your whole education just to get some laughs and people were just feeling awkward anyway. What Candlemass really should have said is something a little more precise. Maybe they could have listed a specific song they were influenced by, maybe Sabbath's 'Rat Salad'? Well maybe not that, that had a good drum solo. Compare the album to the Sabbath song simply called 'Black Sabbath', then? That would be better, but that one has a good GUITAR solo, which is something FTTS is lacking. It's lacking in good bass lines as well. All things considered, it's not looking great for BS with the comparison. If I were that band I'd like people who were more or at least equally skilled to promote me. It's like getting a compliment from a toddler, would you take it seriously? Probably only if you're feeling very low.

I searched for the FTTS singer online and was given at least some information about him, but his age is apparently 'N/A'. How can someone's age be non-applicable? His

age doesn't exist? He's been around since or before the birth of time? What, is he God? THAT'S holy, suggesting the band don't weigh candles after all, it suggests they simply made a spelling mistake. Why God chose to sing on a doom metal band is a mystery, but to be fair the band isn't black metal and therefore isn't as contradictory as it could have been. For whatever reason he only appears on 2 or 3 Candlemass albums. The most logical reason is he's not very good. God's not very good? Talk about the rest of the band being picky. Granted he doesn't have the operatic style of some of the other vocalists, but to many that seems silly! Do you want to know what God's real name is, according to the site saying he has no age? He's called Bjorn Flodkvist! He's a guy from Sweden! That's random isn't it? Wait... just because someone's age is 'N/A' that of course DOESN'T mean someone is God. Apologies to Bjorn for given people the wrong idea. Think how many letters people would be sending him! Again, he is NOT God. And now to rate the album: 9/10! Bye!