

Today I'll be reviewing Staind's most recent album 'Confessions of the Fallen'! As pointed out before, the band's first two albums were very dark, their next album was just sad, and their sixth album was actually rather cheerful. Wow, what's the latest album like, then? Dream pop? Upbeat children's music? An album consisting of reworkings of the classic Super Mario theme, where the vocalist sings things like 'I'm super happy in the mushroom kingdom'? If anything that's too happy which is something I sadly understand all too well, it's perhaps even a reference to drugs (not something I can relate to) so in a way, I'm relieved CotF is another heavy album. In a way, I'm reminded of the cycle of life. Life starts out boring as you're just eating, sleeping and being pushed in a trolley, then things get more interesting and better, then it gets worse when you die. Deep stuff, but hopefully the band aren't at the end of their lives. A bit of a chilling prediction from me there, I wouldn't worry about it personally. You know what I also predicted? As a child (a depressed child) I assumed as I'd grow older I'd become more and more unhappy, simply because you like Christmases less as you grow older. Actually the opposite is true! And whilst I don't go MENTAL over Christmas anymore I do indeed still like it. That's nice isn't it? So sorry again Staind, for suggesting you're about to die, no one wants to hear that.

How's this for a blog title: 'Simon Predicts Staind Will Die (Blog 562)'. It's not on is it? Especially as I like the band. Having said that, it's perhaps even worse if I say a band I don't like is going to die. I'm also wondering if it's worse if I openly say a band is going to die or if I keep it secret. What I do know however, is that it's better to compliment a band and wish them well, so let's do that. Your music is very good Staind, and I hope you don't die as I predicted! And it's not just because I want them to release another album actually, the singer has a very nice voice and by that logic, I consider him likeable and trustworthy. Ah, here's something positive to say: I may have suggested that their music is getting darker again and all that stuff, but the first single of the album called 'Lowest in Me' was released on May 31st, 2023 AND their latest single 'Better Days' was released on April 19th, 2024... The band are getting cheerful again! False alarm! Just don't go TOO far in that direction, you wouldn't want a song called 'Amazing Days in the Mushroom Kingdom!' Staind, we're all worried about you. I'm just saying there will certainly be a comedown. You wouldn't want Staind to write the song 'Terrible Days in the Mushroom Kingdom' hit or otherwise.

The album was engineered by a man called Anthony Reeder? Isn't it ironic that someone who was once noted for being good at reading many generations ago now (explaining his surname) can't spell properly? It's Reader! Still though, it's not as bad as the guy who mastered the album who is called Justin Shturtz. That's a random collection of letters, he really sucks at reading and writing. Huh, my spell checker recognises that name? He's from a different culture, I guess. I guess it's unbelievable I typed such a thing when my surname is Wiedemann. Especially as that too sounds like a misspelling of Reader or at very least, Readerman. Hypocrite warning. Another notable name is the album manager Ben Kitterman. A man who looks like a cat? That sounds unbelievable too? Well, I believe the 'Bieber' surname describes someone who looks like a beaver, and that's true! I suppose Justin Bieber does look a bit like a beaver. Right, to end this review I'd like to say sorry to Staind and Justin Bieber, even though for the latter artist I just repeated a fact. I'd also like to give the album a more than respectable 9/10 score! Or maybe even 9.1/10! Bye!