

Like Sabaton, Satan's Empire sure like their war themes, at least in their album 'Hail the Empire', which I'll be discussing. (They just don't go on about the subject ALL the time!!!) However, the latter band's songs are darker than the former, meaning there is a huge improvement, here. With SE, there is a reasonably heavy song about a Roman general, for example. Thank God it's not Sabaton style cheerful. Would you trust a cheerful general? Either he's in a manic state and can't/doesn't want to control himself or indeed his weapons, which would be scary, or he's had a massive disconnect from reality which is even worse. God knows what he'd think of me or you. He could think we're all fish or whatever. I'm serious, they're the kinds of thoughts schizophrenics are capable of. Now that I think of it, didn't the Roman empire go mad because of all the lead poisoning? Maybe generals of that time did think their poor soldiers were gold fish, for example. Try fighting a war like that. Yep, that's my theory on how the Roman empire ended. Sad, really.

SE also sing about riding some kind of bikes. I'm assuming motorbikes, but it's not clear. A macho and serious metal band writing about how cool it is riding on bicycles would be extraordinarily strange. Ahem: Breakdown! I'm trying to imagine what kind of music videos these guys would make if they had the money. Would they be riding mountain bikes in the heat of ancient battles? That may sound dumb, but there is little consistency in the lyrics of this LP. THEREFORE, why would the videos be any better?? Just a thought. Ok fair enough, there doesn't really have to be any consistency in their material, but there would be if HtE was a concept album. Without a doubt, it would be one of the strangest releases of that type, of all time. This is unlikely to happen, but wouldn't it be interesting if the SE guys wanted to become Hell's Angels to join the other 'bikers'? What if they dressed in leather with metal studs and roamed the streets on pushbikes to look cool? Obviously a huge misunderstanding about what HAs are, but it's a simple mistake to make. Motorbikes are also called bikes, aren't they? That's the problem.

It's also interesting the way some of the other lyrics go 'Who can I talk to, this music is driving me insane. I can remember when metal ruled the waves'... and 'an uprising is near' or whatever. You never really hear such a militant attitude from pop bands. I mean if Justin Bieber said he wanted to dominate all radio stations and he compared himself to the British Empire era Royal Navy, you'd think he was crazy. For whatever reason that attitude is accepted in the metal community to put it mildly. Fortunately, 'metal soldiers' dressed as pigs (a la Slipknot) or wearing girly make up (think glam metal) are very ineffective when facing the well trained, more traditional army, so there's little reason to fear them. Even black metal musicians armed with axes and clubs aren't exactly that much of a threat. They'd just get shot.

The overall sound of the album can be compared to Iron Maiden, which can only be a good thing. Not only that, some of the lyrics here are better than the super group! However, don't get too excited. I'm talking about the super group at their worst. In IM's song 'The Angel and the Gambler', the singer infamously goes 'Don't you think I'm a saviour, don't you think I could save your life?' about 30 times. SE are deeper than that, if a little on the disjointed side. I guess Maiden wanted to get a point across, but clearly they went overkill. I mean who's ever heard a teacher saying 'World war 1 started in 1914 and ended in 1918. World war 1 started in 1914 and ended in 1918. World war 1 started in 1914 and ended in 1918. World war 1 started in 1914 and ended in 1918', etc. to his students? It's simply not necessary. Actually it

would be seriously creepy. Ok! What rating do I give this one? It's not bad you know?
Let's say 8/10. Bye!