

Today, I'll be reviewing 'Empire of the Blind' by Heathen. I've been thinking about it for a LONG time, and I can't for the life of me think of what to say. Making things worse, I don't really know what to say about anything else. Maybe I should eat some spicy noodles to calm me down and make me think clearer. Hang on... Spicy noodles? There is lots of spicy noodling on the album... I've also eaten quite a few nuts today. The music, whilst not completely mental is kind of nuts, too. I'm on a roll here, I've discovered a truth about the material and minds of musicians and how they're connected to foods, I'm just not sure about why, yet. Let's see if anything else I've eaten matches the music. I've also eaten grapes. Ah. Nothing about the album whatsoever reminds me of grapes. Green or red. A double blow. There go my dreams of becoming a legend in the psychiatric community. I'm no Carl Jung, YET. Not a food based musical version of him or indeed a typical one. Well, actually I think I am a bit of a legend already in the world of psychology, just for different reasons. Ah, case studies. I know I've been written about, people like me don't get ignored.

Let's just try one more food and see if it has anything to do with the band: Chicken. Nope. No comparisons can be made there. :( Calling a metal band 'chickens' is never good, but most of such musicians are at least reasonably good natured and brave. By that I mean they often sing about how they fight dragons, and even more admirably they never post real life videos of themselves doing so. Very humble. If I fought a dragon, I'd post it all over Facebook. Well, fighting dragons is more of a power metal thing, really, not so much thrash, and Heathen are thrash. Milking the subject a little, naturally there are some people I'd never call chickens. Basically anyone wielding a weapon. That's more of a black metal thing. Here's a thought: If you scream 'Chicken!' at an actual chicken, is that abuse? Similarly, is it ok to call a cow a cow? Is it only offensive if you call a chicken a cow or a cow a chicken? For the sake of saying something at least partly relevant, let's examine the album title: Empire of the blind? What is it with empires and heavy metal music? You have the band Satan's Empire, the album 'Evil Empire', and the Iron Maiden song 'Empire of the Clouds.' That's three. At least. In another review I pointed out band names ending with 'Head' are very common. I wonder if 'empire' and 'head' are the two perfect heavy metal words. If that's the case, and the musicians aren't just lazy coming up with ideas that are new, here's a MEGA idea for a heavy album: 'Empire of the Heads'. I genuinely think it could be the new Master of Puppets. Or should I say 'Empire of the Puppethead Master'?

Back on the subject of food, maybe I could buy a bar of chocolate and see if that has anything to do with the album. I'm thinking of getting a Lion bar. (Just as a one off - got to think of my teeth). Do chocolate lions have anything to do with Heathen? Let's make that question less crazy: Have chocolates in general got anything to do with Heathen? Well, a heathen is someone who doesn't believe in God. Personally when I eat chocolate, I think to myself there IS a God. So that doesn't really work. Next up, do lions have anything to do with atheists? Interestingly, you call a group of lions a pride of lions, and pride is a sin. Therefore, lion bars are half to do with the band. Is that luck? I honestly have no idea. In conclusion, I think I handled that writer's block pretty well. Do I like EotB? I actually thought it was boring at first (just like the water I just had), but after a few listens, I appreciated the spicy noodling more and more. The riffs are pretty cliched, but they're pretty tasty, too. Again, like a bar of chocolate. The album cover may feature a skull which is also just as boring as the water I had earlier (I've actually had water at least twice today, hence the repetition), but you

shouldn't judge a book by its cover, right? You know what? I think I'll give this album a solid 8.5/10. Not bad at all. I think that's it! Byeeeee!