

Ah, 'Is Survived By' by Touche Amore. I bought it at random from a CD shop's emo section, and let's be honest, I'm disappointed. My first thoughts when reading the album title were 'ah, a nice dark and sentimental album that gets you in the feels'. Rather it is just noisy. Whilst it is emo technically speaking, it's a demented form of emo called 'screamo', where you guessed it, the singer screams his head off. Consequently, you may be assuming the singer is happy that the subject of the music is dead, ala Slipknot, but actually I don't think that's the case. Which I think is weird. I guess people grieve in different ways. Some people cry, Touche Amore shout for 29 minutes. It wouldn't be so bad if he sung clean SOMETIMES, but all the time? It gets a bit much. On the plus side, nice guitar chords!

In the shop I also bought an album by a band called 'The World is a Beautiful Place and I'm No Longer Afraid to Die', which I wasn't expecting to be as good, but actually it was far better. Surprising because the name doesn't really make sense. How is dying beautiful? I'm just saying the world isn't perfect as the group implies. 'But dying doesn't last long so the world isn't THAT bad'. I don't mean to make you depressed, but there is a phrase that goes 'we are born to die.' Sorry about that, but again, not beautiful. Anyway, I hate to make the band name even longer, but really they should be called 'The World is OFTEN a Beautiful Place and Whilst I don't want to die I'm not Scared Anymore Because I've Accepted my fate'. THAT'S clear. (I never understood which words should begin with a capital in a name). But still you think that's dumb? Actually an emo album I reviewed not long ago had a RIDICULOUSLY long album name. Stupid emos. They can't even begin to comprehend the concept of snappiness, and many don't even seem to understand what real emotions are. Unless you call screams emotional. Personally I call happy smiles emotional.

Anyway, TA. Hang on... 29 minutes? That's not an album, that's an EP. 'Jar of Flies' by Alice in Chains is considered an EP, and that's about a minute longer. This is an outrage. Why isn't ISB considered a mini album? Never mind, I'll let it go. But I bet you're just as angry as I am. You and I both need to live in a world where the difference between EPs and LPs is clear. That's a no brainer. Moving on, Wikipedia says the 'Is Survived By' LP (the EP) got some five star ratings! Why?? The music can't get any better? Come on. Writing perfect music sounds easy, now. Here's a flawless band name for you 'Life's Great, but it Isn't'. Oh no. Remember when I was talking about the World Is Beautiful band being gibberish? Guess what label they are on... It's called 'Deathwish'. The world is beautiful and you WANT to die? How in God's name does that make any kind of sense whatsoever? Oh, I'm sorry, Deathwish is Touche Amore's label. But imagine if it was the other band's label. That would be funny.

Ok, to conclude I'm glad to have a new genre in my CD collection, but I really don't like screamo much at all. Interestingly, I like death metal which is far more screamy than screamo. I don't know why that is. Maybe it's because death metal whilst violent actually makes sense. You know what? I'm giving 'Is Survived By' a 5/10. Very meh. The other band I was talking about on the other hand and their album 'Always Foreign' gets a very respectable 8.5/10. Maybe the name could have been shortened to Twiabpainatd, pronounced 'Twiab-pain-ated', as that's a name that makes you think. The old version simply leaves nothing to the imagination. (Yes, I know I recently said the band name should be clearer). Hoobastank is another apparently nonsense name, though I guess it could be short for 'Hooray, oh, oh

Brilliant! Argh! (S word)! This Actually Needn't Keep'. i.e. 'Brilliant. No Actually, I Want This To Go Away'. (That was the best I could do. Maybe I shouldn't have bothered. I'm just saying that's another contradictory band name). And on that dumb though much pondered on note, bye!