



Again The Burden of loving Rests upon My Shoulders and its weight
seems Unbearable - you Tomb is Where your Heart is / should have told
her - but within me hid A Secret So Terrible - To Cry is to Know
that you're Alive but My River of tears has Run Dry -
I Never Wanted to Fool You - But A Cold Heart is A Dead
Heart and it feels like I've Been Buried Alive By Love
If I Should Die Before I Wake pray Mi On My Soul to Take
and If I Wake Before I Die - Rescue Me With your Smile
the Kiss of Love & Plead Me With A Spiritual Murder and
Fed The Gods of War insatiable - your Home is Where The Dark is
I should have Told Her - and Entranced The Fire Indestructible
To Die is to Know that you're Alive and my River of Blood won't
Run dry - I never Wanted to Lose You - But A Cold Heart is
a Dead Heart and A Deserted Soul is Gone - And it feels like
I've Been Buried Alive By Love

She Waits Sun Shining upon the Tomb of your Hopes and Dreams So Fragile
He Was The Moon lighting you with its Glow so Vulnerable and Pale
Lovers The funeral of Hearts and an Ode for Cruelty - When Angels Cry
Blood on flowers on soil in Bloom - The Funeral of Hearts
and A Plea for Mercy - When Love is A Gun Separating me from You
She Was The Wind Carrying In all the Troubles and Fears you've tried to
He Was The Fire - Restless and Wild - And you were Like A moth to that Flame ^{as I tried to} forget
The Heretic Seal Beyond Divine - A prayer to A God Who is Dead and Blind yet
The last Rites for souls on Fire - Three little words and A Question - Why?

I see your Scars - I know Where They're from - So Sensitive Carved and
Bleeding until you're Dead and Gone - I've seen it all Before
Beauty and Splendor Torn - It's When Heaven turns to Black
and Hell to White - Right so wrong and wrong so Right
Feel it turning your Heart into Stone - feel it Piercing your
courageous Soul - you're Beyond Redemption - And No one's going
to Catch You When you fall
I see you Crawl - you Can Barely Walk - And Arms Wide open
you Kneel on Beggar for More - I've Been There Before - Knocking on
the Same Door - It's When Hate turns to Love and Love to Hate
Faith to Doubt and Doubt to Faith

Today Tomorrow Seems So far Away and The War in Vain
So Safe In The Blinding Light of Love Unchanged In Yesterday's Grave
The truth that Could set souls Free is Buried within Sweet Pandemonium
Concealed By Disbelief The Riddle stays Veiled In Sweet Pandemonium
Afraid that Everything Remains Unchanged In this fragile Dream
Ashamed of The Shattered Remains of Promises Made
- Drained by The Anger and Grief - Faced By The Envy and Greed
The Secret Crave for A Release - The Lucidity Hidden Deep
In Sweet Pandemonium

There's A Flame that Leads all Souls astray - No one's Safe
from its Tender Touch of Pain - And Every day it Looks
for New Slaves - to Celebrate The Beauty of The Grave
We Are Like The Living Dead - Sacrificing all we Have
For A Frozen Heart and A Soul on Fire - We Are Like The
Living Dead - Craving for Deliverance with A Frozen Heart
and A Soul on Fire - Again we're falling for Disgrace and Hate
will shelter us from The Rain - We Are Enslaved By The Sacred
Heard of Shame - And Gently Paped By The Light of Day -
Addicted to Our Divine Despair - The Venom of The Cross We Bear -
The Guilt will Follow us to Death

I hear your breath so far from here - I feel your touch so close
and real - And I know my Church is not of silver and gold
its glory lies beyond judgment of souls. The Commandments
are of consolation and warning - you know our sacred dream
won't fail the sanctuary tender and so frail - The sacrament
of love - the sacrament of warmth is true - The sacrament is
you - I hear you weep so far from here - I taste your tears
like you're next to me - And I know my weak prayers are
not enough to heal the ancient wounds so deep and so dear
The Revelation is of hatred and fear

No one can hurt you now in this heaven safe and sound
No one can save you now from this grace you are drowning in
Just hold your breath on your way down
This fortress of tears I've built from my fears for you
this fortress won't fall - I've built it strong for you
No one can free you now from the chains around your heart
Don't be afraid now - Just die in this fiery hell
And hold your breath on your way down -

Heartache is knocking on her door - Shadows dance
outside her window - Tears keep falling on the floor
As the world around her crumbles
If you want to save her first you have to save yourself
if you want to free her from the hurt - Don't do it with your pain
if you want to see her smile again - Don't show her your afraid
Because your circle of fear is the same
Love can be as cold as grave - A one-way ticket to
endless sorrow - An empire of gentle hate - Today without
tomorrow - It's the circle of regret - The circle of hate
The circle of death - Your circle of fear is the same

Softly the light shines in through the gates of grace on me and you
deceiving our restless gleams -
A flickering flame so serene devours the night so we could see
The fear we hold on to so strong -
But I know where I belong - Away from your gods
that heal all wounds and light this endless dark
lonely the light shines on you through the gates of fire consumed
feeling on your love -
Weak is the blaze that kept me away from cruelty and
tenderness embraced - Saving my soul no more -
And I know where I belong - Away from your gods
that heal all wounds and light this endless dark
- that shine on you and tame your burning heart
- that bury my truth right into your arms - That worship
the tomb of our forlorn love

There is no turning back from this unending path of mine - Serpentine and black
it stands before my eyes - The hell and back it will lead me once more - it's all I
have as I stumble in and out of grace - I walk through the gardens of dying
light and cross all the rivers deep and dark as the night - Searching for a reason
why time would've passed us by - With every step I take the less I know myself
From now I break on my way towards your heart - Countless times I've prayed for forgiveness
But gods just laugh at my face - An this path remains leading me into hell
Arms - I see through the darkness my way back home - The journey seems
endless but I'll carry on - The shadows will rise and they will fall
And our night draws in dawn - Amidst all the tears there's a smile
That all angels greet with an envious song - One look into stranger's eyes
And I know where I belong - and the path goes on.



PRODUCED BY HIILI HIILESMAA WITH HIM ENGINEERED BY HIILI AT ⁵NNVOX, HELSINKI, ⁵NLAND MIXED BY TIM PALMER MIX ENGINEER: MARK O'DONOUGHUE MIXED AT SCREAM STUDIOS, STUDIO CITY, CA ASSISTED BY ALEX UYCHOCDE EXCEPT TRACKS 1 & 4 MIXED AT SPHERE STUDIOS, LONDON, ENGLAND ASSISTED BY NICK FRIEND, ASKO KALLONEN: ASKO KALLONEN COVER ART BY NATAS POP WITH VALO MANAGEMENT: SEPPO VESTERINEN FOR HINTERLAND ALL SONGS WRITTEN BY VALO, PUBLISHED BY OY HEARTAGRAM LTD/HEARTAGRAM, INC., ADMINISTERED BY KOBALT MUSIC GROUP LTD. MASTERED BY JUSTIN SHTURTZ AT STERLING SOUND, NYC.

THE TITLE AND ARTWORK SAID IT ALL, REALLY.

LOVE METAL: A BRASH TWO-⁵NGER SALUTE TO THE ENDLESS SUB-GENRI⁵CATION OF MUSIC BY JOURNALISTS AND FANS, BUT ALSO A VERY LITERAL REFER-
ENCE TO THE TWO MOST PROFOUND AND LIFE-AF⁵RMING IN⁶UENCES THAT LIE AT THE ROOT OF HIM'S MUSIC.

THE COVER ART: A GOLDEN ITERATION OF THE BAND'S "HEARTAGRAM" LOGO — VILLE VALO'S IMPULSIVELY DASHED-OFF WORK OF GRAPHIC GENIUS — LAID OVER AN INTRICATELY EMBOSSED BACKGROUND AS BOTH A TRIBUTE TO AND PARODY OF VENOM'S ICONIC BLACK METAL LP. A SOURCE OF HILARITY FOR THOSE WHO GOT IT, AND A SOURCE OF CONSIDERABLE IRE FOR THOSE WHO DIDN'T, THE ALBUM'S ARTWORK PERFECTLY COMPLEMENTED THE MUSICAL ⁵RE AND THE PASSIONATE MISSIVES OF THWARTED DESIRE CONTAINED WITHIN. "I'D SAY THAT WE'RE A BIT MORE SENTIMENTAL, A BIT MORE SENSUAL, A BIT MORE EMOTIONAL AND MELODIC THAN MOST METAL BANDS," VILLE TOLD ME IN 2005, AROUND THE TIME THAT LOVE METAL (WHICH ORIGINALLY SAW THE DARK LIGHT OF DAY IN APRIL 2003) WAS ⁵RST RELEASED IN THE US. "WE'VE COME TO GRIPS WITH OUR FEMININE SIDE, WHICH MOST METAL BANDS HAVEN'T!"

IF IT'S POSSIBLE TO PICK A "DE⁵NITIVE" HIM ALBUM, LOVE METAL WOULD CERTAINLY QUALIFY. RECORDED IN THE AUTUMN OF 2002 AT HELSINKI'S FINNVOX STUDIOS WITH PRODUCER/ENGINEER HIILI HIILESMAA BEHIND THE BOARD, THE ALBUM PLAYS ⁵RMLY TO THE BAND'S STRENGTHS. GOTH-⁶AVORED ATMOSPHERICS? MEATY RIFFS? EXPERTLY-CRAFTED ARRANGEMENTS? INSTANTLY-CATCHY CHORUSES? OPERATIC DESPAIR? IT'S ALL HERE, MOST NOTABLY ON THE ALBUM'S THREE CLASSIC SINGLES: "BURIED ALIVE BY LOVE," WHICH OPENS THE PROCEEDINGS WITH A ROAR, AND PROCEEDS TO RATCHET UP THE INTENSITY FROM THERE, AND "THE FUNERAL OF HEARTS" AND "THE SACRAMENT," BOTH OF WHICH BEAUTIFULLY PAIR VILLE'S LOVELORN BARITONE WITH THE BAND'S INNATE ABILITY TO SWITCH GEARS FROM DELICATE TO MUSCULAR WITH THE ⁶ICK OF A CIGARETTE ASH.

THE RHYTHM SECTION OF MIGÉ AND GAS LIPSTICK ARE SEAMLESSLY PROPULSIVE AS EVER ON LOVE METAL, WHILE LINDE'S GUITAR LEADS SEEM TO BURST FORTH WITH RENEWED VIGOR, AND "NEW GUY" BURTON HAS SETTLED IN NICELY ON THE KEYS. THIS IS THE LINEUP THAT WOULD CARRY THE BAND INTO ITS NEXT DECADE AND BEYOND, AND ITS POWER AND CHEMISTRY ARE AMPLY DISPLAYED IN GRIPPING TRACKS LIKE THE SABBATH-Y "SWEET PANDEMONIUM," THE RAGING "SOUL ON FIRE," THE PLAINTIVE "THIS FORTRESS OF TEARS" AND THE RINGING "ENDLESS DARK". LIKE LAVISH PALACES BUILT FROM THE ⁵NEST OF MATERIALS, EACH SONG IS PERFECTLY REALIZED, BOASTING CLASSIC SOUNDS AND STRUCTURES THAT HANDILY DEFY THE RAVAGES AND SECOND-GUESSES OF TIME.

EVEN THE TRACK SEQUENCING OF LOVE METAL IS ARTFUL, INEXORABLY LEADING THE LISTENER TO "THE PATH" — A GLORIOUSLY EPIC WALTZ THAT HOLDS OUT THE PROMISE OF ULTIMATE REDEMPTION DESPITE OBSTACLES INNUMERABLE AND POSSIBLY EVEN APOCALYPTIC — AND THE ⁵NAL IMMERSION INTO DELICIOUS DESOLATION THAT IS "LOVE'S REQUIEM". "AND NOW THAT WE'RE FREE FROM THE CHAINS OF OUR DEAR LOVE," VILLE SINGS, AS IF SPRAWLED INCONSOLABLY ACROSS A BLACK VELVET FAINTING COUCH. "I'M LOST, SO LOST."

VILLE WOULD LIVE TO LOVE ANOTHER DAY, OF COURSE, AS WELL AS WRITE (AT LEAST) FOUR MORE BRILLIANT H.I.M. ALBUMS. BUT THIS RECORD STILL HOLDS A SACRED PLACE IN THE MINDS, HEARTS AND RECORD COLLECTIONS OF H.I.M. FANS ACROSS THE GLOBE, AND DESERVEDLY SO. BECAUSE ONCE IT ENDS, YOU JUST WANT TO BE BURIED ALIVE BY LOVE METAL ALL OVER AGAIN.

—DAN EPSTEIN, APRIL, 2014

I

BURIED ALIVE BY LOVE
THE FUNERAL OF HEARTS
BEYOND REDEMPTION
SWEET PANDEMONIUM
SOUL ON FIRE
THE SACRAMENT
THIS FORTRESS OF TEARS
CIRCLE OF FEAR
ENDLESS DARK
THE PATH
LOVE'S REQUIEM

II

BURIED ALIVE BY LOVE
(LIVE AT EL TEATRO FLORES BS.AS. MMXIV)
BEYOND REDEMPTION
(VINNFOX RELICS)
CIRCLE OF FEAR
(VINNFOX RELICS)
SOUL ON FIRE
(LIVE AT SEMIFINAL HKI MMIII)
ENDLESS DARK
(VINNFOX RELICS)
THE SACRAMENT
(ACSTC PASCHA MMXIV)
THIS FORTRESS OF TEARS
(VINNFOX RELICS)
THE FUNERAL OF HEARTS
(LIVE AT HELLDONE MMXIII SJK)

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