



FASTWAY – EAT DOG EAT – MVD

‘Oh no, another name from yesteryears has reformed,’ one is prone to think. Fastway was last heard from several years ago undergoing a resurrection of sorts, with only Fast Eddie Clarke he of Motörhead remaining, but that itself was not the band’s first return. To make the story short, the band had essentially disbanded in 1992 or so.

Suffice to say, Eat Dog Eat – very clever - is the band’s first album since 1998’s On Target Reworked album and the first all-original full-length since Bad Bad Girls of 1990. Seriously.

This could go badly. It hasn’t. This album is serious, seriously good and chock full of genuine music, better yet genuine hard rock. One cannot find one bad song, but never mind the lowered expectations for the tracks are actually good. One could say fans of AC/DC, Y&T or Motörhead would love this stuff, but never mind that those bands’ fans are not into the music; they are into those specific bands. Let us do better and say fans of Fastway (all 3 of them) and good solid hard rock will really enjoy Eat Dog Eat.

Want particulars? Read on. No? Skip this paragraph. The album begin with the particularly strong Deliver Me. Fade Out has straighter vocals and is an upbeat rocker. The beginning and main riff is Def Leppard 1981. Cool. The bass is high and crisp. Sick As A Dog is reminiscent of Clarke’s work in Motörhead. Those riffs... The vocals are almost soulful, the hard rock is solid and so is the sound. Riffs galore here. Dead And Gone is the right place to mention Jesus. Although when the band mentions “onto higher plain” it probably means “onto higher plane.” Love I Need is, of course, slower , groovier and gutsy. On And On is another winner. It is hard rock song with feeling and catchiness/. The vocals rock and the lead guitar is too short given its feeling. Only If You Want It is almost sleazy, but not quite, and has a different beat. Think AC/DC. Think Dave Meniketti on vocals. It closes the album to a different tune.

Fast Eddie is not so fast anymore, but is surefooted, honest, organic and quality. One hopes this line-up stays together. Hard rock lovers into those adjectives should n.o.t. he-si-ta.teeee! – Ali “The Metallian”

<http://www.metallian.com/fastway.php>