## Music DVD/CD Review: Alter Bridge, Voivod, Pagan Metal, Marillion, and W.A.S.P.

Part of: Marty's Musical Meltdown

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As my pile of review DVDs persist, I thought it might be apt to do another collection for your giving needs. I am sure there is something in this lot to satisfy any hard rocker in your life.

## Pagan Metal: A Documentary

This is a two hour long documentary on the emerging scene that is "pagan metal" with some rather interesting interviews with purveyors of the various types of pagan/folk metal. There are interviews with bands from Finland to Ireland. Some might be fascinated to hear that many people involved in this aren't necessarily keen or understand why they are lumped in with rest of the bands of genre.

The key thing seems to be a band that is metal and includes various folk or "traditional" music elements from their country. Now many outside observers would have a hard time finding the "folk" element to some of these band's music. While others like Flintroll made it fairly obvious. The interviewer asks both daft and clever questions. I especially enjoyed his questions about traditional instruments and whether or not they were used in the studio/on tour. Quite a few of these bands use local musicians to play the harder instruments and then replicate them via keyboards on the road. They do seem to be able to take some, like accordions and fiddles, on road with them.

Generally the interviews are fascinating and there is enough music interspersed to make the film and enjoyable one. You get a bit of sense of the parts of the world these people hail from. With any luck this documentary might get more people interested in the genre. These bands have made an effort to do something different with metal only to be rewarded with success in their native lands and beyond.