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Rain - Dad is Dead



A sound all too familiar

Rain are a power metal group from Italy that have been around since the 80s. For a band that has been around for almost thirty years, they sound like they haven't lost any steam. The guitar licks are still wild, yet melodic, and the vocals can still reach high notes without cracking. However, even though Rain has been around since the late eighties, they didn't produce their first album until 1992, followed by a



balanced gap between releases. For those unfamiliar with Rain, think of the melodies of HIM, Iced Earth, and Mercyful Fate combined in a power metal fashion and that's the formula for the group.

On their latest album, *Dad is Dead*, the musical ingenuity seems to have disappeared for a bit. Compared to titles like "Bigditch 4070" and "Red Revolution," *Dad is Dead* seems a bit bland. And not just title-wise, but musically too. Almost every single track following "8 Bar" sounds exactly the same, making it a very limited musical experience. If one is a fan of mid paced guitars soaring away in a melodic fashion mixed with vocals that sound like a cross between Ronnie James Dio (RIP) and Tim Owen of Iced Earth fame, then they won't get tired of this album... at least for the first five tracks. The drums are pretty standard, leaving the guitars and their solos to wow the crowd; that they accomplish without much effort. Then again, power metal is known for its solos in the way that thrash metal is known for its catchy riffs.

However, eventually the repetitive musical structure will wear on the ear hole. There are a few tracks that actually feature something to distinguish them from the others and act as an oasis in a desert. "Swan Tears" features a bit of cowbell and a bit more pace on the music with a rock influenced vibe. "The Reason" involves more bass, but the guitars still don't take a back seat entirely. Finally, "Rain" (a cover by The Cult) sounds a bit more raw, both in musical style and vocals, as Rain tries to keep the song as close to the original as possible in sound while putting their power metal spin on it. Overall, though, these choice selections aren't enough to save *Dad is Dead* from a fate of monotony. Sure the power metal is good, but they should have thrown in a few ballads or slow songs to mix up the

Streetcleaner (2CD Deluxe Edition)



atmosphere and pace of the music. Keep this CD in the same gear for too long and it will probably blow up on the listener.

(Aural Music)

Added: August 20th 2010
Reviewer: [Colin McNamara](#)
Score: ★★★★★★☆☆☆☆
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