



DEATH FEAST OPEN AIR 2009 - PARTY... THE BRUTAL WAY

Stemm - Blood Scent

85%

Every once in a while you come across a band that makes reviewing really worthwhile.

Stemm from Niagara Falls,

New York is such a band. They signed a license deal with the Ultimate Fighting Championship in 2002. They branded the band as *The Soundtrack to the UFC*. The band is now armed with their own national distribution deal which led to their own label called **Catch 22**.

Although '*Fight The Pain*', which was the song they wrote for UFC, isn't really what the band stands for today musically, they still get their piece of the pie. On the other hand it's good to hear the band has evolved because with that song influences of Machine Head and Flaw are clearly too present. The band has clearly evolved from the nu metal/ rapcore genre into a monster of its own. On several occasions they made me think of Machine Head, Pantera and maybe even some Stone Sour, but overall still with a face of its own.

In the words of vocalist **Joe Carafella** 'This is our Vulgar Display Of Power'. He obviously isn't saying they copied that masterpiece. According to **Carafella** this album should give you the same raw energy and feeling as that masterpiece. Well to be honest *Blood Scent* doesn't have the same effect on me as that album. On the other hand I do have to admit that **Stemm** did a nice job creating this album.

It's balanced, it has a killer production and most of all it triggers something inside me. Something that makes me drive faster, mosh harder and listen intenser. Maybe **Carafella** was right after all with this album. I'm curious about my opinion on this album in a month or two.

∴ Reactions

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An advertisement for the album 'Placebo: Battle for the Sun'. The background is a dark, reddish-brown gradient. The text 'PLACEBO BATTLE FOR THE SUN' is in large, white, bold letters. Below it, 'AVAILABLE NOW' is written in a smaller font. Further down, 'FEATURING THE SINGLE "FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH"' and 'CLICK TO LISTEN' are displayed. On the right side, there is a small image of a solar eclipse. At the bottom left, there is a link 'myspace.com/Placebo' and at the bottom right, 'Feedback - Ads by Google' and the 'AVAGRANT' logo.