

SPOTLIGHTS

MOVIES/TV

// [The Adventures of Young Indiana Jones Volume One - Disc One DVD Review](#)

MUSIC

// [Carrie Underwood - Carnival Ride Review](#)

WRESTLING

// [The Shimmy: October Road](#)

POLITICS

// [The Political Universe: Bush Wants More Money For War, and Walker Texas Ranger Endorses Mike Huckabee](#)

MMA

// [411's M-1 Press Conference Coverage: Fedor, More](#)

SPORTS

// [Covenant of the Gridiron: NFL Week 7 Breakdown](#)

GAMES

// [\[CONTEST\] Win HALO 3: LEGENDARY EDITION From 411!](#)

411mania » Music » Album Reviews

Détente – *Recognize No Authority* Review

Posted by Jesse Coy on 08.02.2007

*An out-of-print, formerly high-priced thrash gem is reissued. Welcome to the foundation of Dawn Crosby's musical legacy, the tough metal chick who tragically passed away in '96.*

Détente  
*Recognize No Authority*  
Cognitive/Roadrunner Records  
2007 (Reissue)

Long since a collector's item that on ebay sold for big bucks, this sole Détente release has been reissued. This band is the foundation for what would later become Fear of God, and is the beginning of a story of misdirection in what could and should have been a great career. But something just went wrong, and on December of '96, lead vocalist and songwriter Dawn Crosby died of acute liver failure after years of alcohol and drug abuse.

Advertisement



The shame of it is that here was a lead singer whose sometimes banshee and sometimes buzzsaw, often hauntingly echoing vocals should have pegged her as high priestess of metal. Talk about balls, too... one story has her pegging full beers at [Megadeth](#), because the two Dave's slumped at her and drummer Dennis Butler's pad in the mid-80's, running up a high phone bill, and then split and stiffed Dawn and Dennis. I think born-again Dave should atone for that one. But at least Dawn got a couple good beer can throws in, which went on to incite a riot and resulted in Détente get banned from performing for a time.

In the end, all you're going to hear from Dawn Crosby are three [albums](#). The first is this reissued Détente release, and the other two are Fear of God's two albums, *Within the Veil* (a metal masterpiece) and *Toxic Voodoo* (which virtually crossed over into death metal, with its intense musical direction). And make no mistake, all indications are that this ballsy vocalist led a very turbulent life, a number of the problems being of her own creation. When Fear of God was formed, she developed a [relationship](#) with new guitarist Mike Carlino, which led to her divorce with drummer Dennis Butler. She struggled with addiction, and there are many stories of professional difficulties.

Yet that's all irrelevant. It's the material that matters. Many an artist leading a less-than-stable lifestyle makes up for so much by producing excellent work. Personally, I'd contend that *Within the Veil* is one of the best [metal albums](#) ever, despite being little known. And unlike this Détente release, which has happily been reissued, both *Within the Veil* (under Warner Brothers) and *Toxic Voodoo* (under Pavement Records) are both out of print, *Within the Veil* quite rare, selling for \$35 or more if you can find it.



So what's the story with D tente, which serves as the foundation of Dawn Crosby's musical output? I was entirely unaware of the band, having only stumbled upon them within the last three months, at which point I discovered that the [album](#) was being reissued in July. Needless to say, I was very curious. After listening to it a couple times, I can say without hesitation that it's an excellent thrash/speed metal album. This wasn't a copycat band, because the band formed in '84, and the original release was '86, which was when Bay Area thrashers were all mixing it up, doing their thing.

It's also an era of thrash [music](#) that I wholly miss, which was when [songs](#) were about something. Long before Mr. No Pay Phone Bill Mustaine and company did "Holy War," D tente had already written an excellent song of the same title. Dawn's chorus refrain, "holy war... you keep dying, you don't know who it's for" is a perfect example of some of the issue driven yet judgement absent material that I've always found compelling in thrash. "Russian Roulette" is a superb time capsule of the fear of a clash between the two Superpowers that permeated the early to mid-80's, while songs like "It's Your Fate" and "Shattered Illusion" have the punk sensibilities of pointing out social hypocrisy (a hall mark of the thrash genre). The album ends with a personal favorite, "Vultures in the Sky," indicating an ambiguous threat overhead.

Dawn wrote all the lyrics on this release, and while I don't have the two Fear of God CD's in front of me at the moment, I believe the same was the case for them, too. She was a very good lyricist, and one tough metal chick. And while it's been a while since I've listened to some of my thrash albums, which was what really got me deeper into music in the first place, this formerly out-of-print reissue amounts to pleasant and intense nostalgia.



## ■ CD REVIEWS

// [Carrie Underwood - Carnival Ride Review](#)

// [Pale Moon Gang - Pale Moon Gang Review](#)

// [Gary Allan - Living Hard Review](#)

// [J. Holiday - Back Of My Lac' Review](#)

// [Aeon - Rise to Dominate Review](#)

// [Puddle of Mudd - Famous Review](#)

## ■ HOT ARTISTS

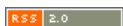
// [Bloc Party](#)

// [Guns N Roses](#)

// [Gwen Stefani](#)

// [Britney Spears](#)

## ■ SYNDICATE



**The 411:** I have a feeling that had I heard it close to when it was originally released, when I was thrash inundated, it'd rank higher than my end score. With Dawn Crosby alone, the very solid and well-performed thrash and speed metal material is elevated to a higher level. For those of you out there who know thrash, bands like Hallow's Eve, Powermad, Meliah Rage, and Faith or Fear have all issued a classic thrash album... just as short-lived as some of those bands were, I add D tente to that list. It's an excellent album of the genre that I missed when it first appeared, but which has been happily reissued.

**Final Score: 7.5** [ Good ] [legend](#)

[Send Feedback to Jesse Coy](#) | [View Jesse Coy's 411 Profile](#)  
[Email This Article To Your Friend](#)

--- More Reviews by Jesse Coy ---

--- More Articles by Jesse Coy ---



[Ads by Google](#)

## **Car Insurance: Free Info**

Insurance advice,  
tools, articles &  
quotes. Find what's  
best for you.

[autos.yahoo.com](http://autos.yahoo.com)

[Advertise on this site](#)



Copyright © 2005 411mania.com, LLC. All rights reserved.  
Click here for our [privacy policy](#). Please help us serve you better, fill out our [survey](#).  
Use of this site signifies your agreement to our [terms of use](#).