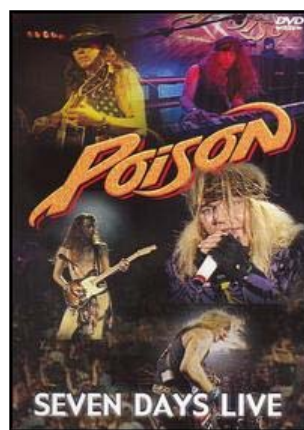


# Sea of Tranquility

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## *Poison: Seven Days Live (DVD)*

It's not Poison's greatest lineup, setlist or even performance. But, by golly, *Seven Days Live* - captured at London's Hammersmith Apollo in April 1993 on the band's *Native Tongue* tour -- packs a nostalgic wallop. Reportedly slated for release by Poison's record label at the time, the video never saw the light of day, probably because no one cared much about Poison or any of its hair-metal brethren after Nirvana and Pearl Jam arrived on the scene. But viewing this well-filmed concert with the benefit of hindsight -- knowing that Poison would not make another record for seven years, that replacement guitarist Richie Kotzen would steal drummer Rikki Rockett's girlfriend and be banished from Poison forever, that frontman Bret Michaels' career would still be relevant enough for me to interview him for a major metropolitan-area newspaper in 2003 and that Poison would be sharing a double bill with Cinderella (!) in 2006 -- *Seven Days Live* presents the band right before the fall.



Tellingly, this performance, which takes place in a venue much smaller than the arenas Poison was used to playing, lacks the stage antics and light acrobatics of previous Poison tours, and it shows the band to be more of a workhorse unit: heavier, dirtier and grittier. Michaels clearly relishes the spotlight and seems pleased with the presence of Kotzen, who is much more of a finesse player than C.C. DeVille could ever hope to be. But it's weird watching a guy who would later play with the likes of Gregg Bissonette and Todd Rundgren handle the solo on "Talk Dirty to Me."

There is no bonus material here, although a present-day interview with band members recalling the *Native Tongue* tour could have been revealing. Nevertheless, the 82-minute *Seven Days Live* stands as a slice of hair-metal history, one recorded near the end of an era. It ain't always pretty, but it's more entertaining than you'd expect. In fact, it's worth

seeking out just to see Poison and a mandolin (played by Kotzen during the intro to “Stand”) on the same stage together.

**Track Listing:**

- 1) The Scream
- 2) Strike Up the Band
- 3) Ride the Wind
- 4) Good Love
- 5) Body Talk
- 6) Something To Believe In
- 7) Stand
- 8) Fallen Angel
- 9) Look What the Cat Dragged In
- 10) Until You Suffer Some (Fire & Ice)
- 11) 7 Days Over You
- 12) Unskinny Bop
- 13) Talk Dirty To Me
- 14) Every Rose Has Its Thorn
- 15) Nothin’ But A Good Time

**Added:** April 20th 2006

**Reviewer:** [Michael Popke](#)

**Score:** ★★★★★

**Related Link:** <http://www.POISONWEB.COM>

**Hits:** 35

**Language:** english

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» **SoT Staff Roundtable Reviews:**

**Poison: Seven Days Live (DVD)**

Posted by Ken Pierce, SoT Staff Writer on 2006-04-24 16:16:03

My Score: ★★★★★

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Warning to all diehard Poison fans: This DVD does NOT feature guitarist C.C. DeVille. Yes, for a few years the group carried on without him and recorded as well as toured and to some fans the music that was created during this period was some of the bands best music ever. It was still Rock and Roll but instead of focusing on the quick and easy formula of their past the band now showed a more mature level of songwriting. Joining Brett, Rikki, and Bobby would be Richie Kotzen who really brought a tasty and bluesy style to the material the band was doing. The album that featured Richie’s debut was “Native Tongue” and the DVD film showcases six songs from this record in the set. These highly musical and interesting tracks are

surrounded by the Poison classics that everyone who follows the group expects to hear in a live setting. Filmed during the "Native Tongue" tour the show is from The Hammersmith Apollo recorded on April 23rd 1993. The concert itself is pretty good and the band who are a few years into their career show a strong command of the stage and how to give their audience the very best. Brett is a very talented front man and he knows what the crowd reacts to most. It was interesting to see how tight the playing was with new guitarist Kotzen also and even more interesting to see his take on the C.C. DeVille material. To be honest he is simply a better guitar player but half of C.C.'s appeal was his showmanship and antics, Richie does not do any of that stuff and simply plays his heart out. There is also a short drum solo from Rikki Rocket that his fans will enjoy as well. Production wise the DVD is fine, but there are no bonus features to enjoy. The live concert shoot is all you get but it is at least presented in it's entirety with no breaks to band commentary. I hate when bands do that as it ruins the performance vibe.

When you consider Kotzen's short tenure with the group you will find that this DVD is great for the supporters of the band as there is not any other means to enjoy his playing of these songs on video that's available. Blues Saraceno also became a part of the band after Richie and it will be great if footage surfaces from his shows as well. The guys need only release something with C.C. to serve their original fan base and give them the Poison of 20 years ago considering their popularity continues to grow with every generation. Strike up the band and grab this DVD it's nothin' but a good time from start to finish.

This article comes from Sea of Tranquility

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