



Wake Up Screaming

A Vans Warped Tour Documentary

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The Vans Warped Tour has become one of the most successful traveling festivals ever. With over a hundred bands on the bill each summer it's an exhausting day of rock and roll, often in sweltering heat, that teens and twenty somethings travel hours to see their favorite bands perform a twenty minute set. Now, that's dedication! The Warped Tour is also the most inexpensive festival out there, a testament to the fact that you don't need to pay over \$100 to see great music.

I was pretty excited about this DVD as the chance to see the inner workings of the Warped Tour is an interesting prospect. If that's what you are looking for then this DVD is not for you. If you have been to the Warped Tour before then you have probably picked up the free DVD that Peta2 gives you for signing their email list, chock full of videos by the tour's hottest bands. You could consider Wake Up Screaming a companion to that DVD, containing less music and more in your face Peta2 dialogue.

The DVD follows Peta2 head road honcho Jason Bayless as he travels from city to city with the tour. There is footage of him with the bands discussing Peta2 related things, some live footage, some personal footage of his stop home when the tour swings through Texas, and plenty of footage of bands and fans at the Peta2 booth signing petitions and such.

The live footage here is fairly mediocre in quality but the performances themselves are great. You can see amazing performances by Emery (one of whose members appears regularly in the DVD and is obviously friends with Bayless, shattering the idea that all Christians are right wing conservatives), Strike Anywhere, newcomers Street Drum Corps, Hawthorne Heights, Silverstein, and a bunch of others. The energy here more than makes up for the footage itself.

While the bands are the draw here, I would be lying if I said you don't get at least a little sucked into the Peta2 bit. This is good publicity for them and whether you agree or not, there are plenty of "facts" to consider and mull over at the end of the eighty minute documentary. Bayless is a likable guy and it's always cool to check out the things your favorite band is into. Decide for yourself.

Reviewed by: **Mark Fisher**

