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Control Denied: *The Fragile Art of Existence*

This is one of those releases that every metal-head of whatever ilk should probably already own, and thus it's hard to devote many words to it that no one has read before. This is technically-progressive, heavy metal at its very best. It is possible to argue that all technical metal, in the various genres, that were cruder in the 80s and early 90s, stemmed from this release.

It was a bit of if Chuck Schuldiner, from the legends Death, can do it why can't I? This release really raised the metal bar from the brain-dead thrash era to the more technical trend that now exists whether you are talking Opeth or Dimmu Borgir.

Alas, there was only one release from this band and there will be no more as Chuck has sadly died of cancer. The list of leading lights of North American metal of all ilks that were in the band at one point or another is too long to list. It would not surprise anyone that power metallers Iced Earth have two members who appeared in this band.

In the end if you want to find the roots of the technical metal explosion of the late 90s and 00s then this is a release that is essential. It's a milestone in the development of metal that is very rare. As important as Iron Maiden's "Piece of Mind" and Queensryche's "Operation Mindcrime" in their respective genres.

Well that is your lot for this week. I do hope you like the more lengthy review format.

As always stay safe and rocking.