



Underground Reissues Galore XIII!!!

The reissues just keep on piling up. I have enough in my trunk to fill about three more of these feature articles. I think I got down a nice variety here, from the brilliant punk of the Subhumans to the experimental metal of Today is the Day and the cult classics of NWOBHM Blind Fury. Read on and spread the word!

Carnivore's second full-length *Retaliation* (Roadrunner, 1987) has one of the nastiest intros I have ever heard. It may be the morning but it made me queasy. Get past that and we have one of the funniest hardcore albums ever. Peter Steele's in your face humor is scribbled all over the lyrics with jabs and mocks about politics, race ('*don't call me your brother, cause I ain't your fucking brother, we fell from different cunts, and your skin's an ugly color*'), and more politics and war and then religion ('*Jesus Hitler, Adolf Christ, is this the second coming or the fourth reich?*') and ignorant nationalism ("USA for USA"). Stylistically, Carnivore had moved onto crossover territory. This digipack from the mighty people from Metal Mind also includes three demo tracks; the first of which "World Wars III & IV" is very melodic and rock and roll for Carnivore standards. Also the guitar is buried in the mix which gives their sound a strange almost post punkish edge.



When I was a kid I was a huge fan of Satan's *Court in the Act*. I always wondered why they never got any recognition. Blind Fury was actually formed in 1983, by two members of Angel Witch. After they recorded a demo, vocalist Lou Taylor deserted to become the vocalist of Satan. There, he turned the band into Blind Fury. *Out of Reach* (Roadrunner, 1985) is the band's only full-length and the fine masters of Metal Mind are reissuing it in a nice digipack that includes an insert with all the lyrics and a detailed family tree outlining the member transgressions into other cult bands like Pariah, Avenger, Atomkraft, Skyclad, Sabbath and D.A.M. Blind Fury belong to the NWOBHM; therefore the musicianship is flawless, especially the guitars of Steve Ramsey and Russ Tippins who play great building melodies together and do it even better when one provides the rhythm and the other solos with gusto. Lou Taylor is a capable vocalist, if there is valid criticism to his high notes is that they don't distinguish themselves from the majority of the heavy metal vocalists of the time. *Out of Reach* is as good of a record as anything the NWOBHM gave us. Unfortunately, Blind Fury did not gain the recognition it deserved mostly because the band didn't last long enough and because Roadrunner was at the time just a tiny indie.

