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• Word of the Day



poignant [discuss](#)


Definition: (adjective) Arousing affect.


Synonyms: [affecting](#), [touching](#)

Usage: How can I see so noble a creature destroyed by misery without feeling the most poignant grief?

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• This Day in History







Empress Dowager Cixi Ends Hundred Days of Reform in China (1898)

The de facto ruler of the Manchu Qing Dynasty, Cixi ruled China for much of the period between 1861 and 1908. Following the death of Emperor Xianfeng, as well as that of his only heir, Empress Dowager Cixi violated normal succession order and named her nephew, 3-year-old Guangxu, to the throne. In 1898, after Guangxu attempted to institute political reforms against her wishes, Cixi staged a coup and effectively took political control. Who were the "Six Gentlemen"? [More...](#) [Discuss](#)

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• Article of the Day







Nubian Pyramids

In the 8th century BCE, Egypt was conquered by Kushites from Napata—a city located to the south of Egypt in the area known today as Sudan. Although Napatan pharaohs ruled Egypt, it was Egypt that had an enormous cultural impact on Napata, prompting a period of vigorous pyramid-building that continued even in Napata's successor kingdom, Meroë. Approximately 220 pyramids were eventually built as tombs for Kushite kings and queens. These pyramids differ from their Egyptian counterparts in what way? [More...](#) [Discuss](#)

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• Today's Birthday





Stephen King (1947)

King is a popular American author of horror stories and one of the best-selling writers worldwide. His work bears the mark of the 19th-century Gothic tradition, often taking everyday situations and revealing their macabre and horrific potential. He is noted for his cinematic style, and several of his novels and stories have been made into successful movies, including *The Shining*, *Stand by Me*, and *The Shawshank Redemption*. What pen names has King used? [More...](#) [Discuss](#)

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• Quotation of the Day



Have courage for the great sorrows of life and patience for the small ones; and when you have laboriously accomplished your daily task, go to sleep in peace. God is awake.



[Victor Hugo](#)
(1802-1885) [Discuss](#)

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• In the News



Spanking Toddlers Makes Them More Aggressive



For decades, parents and psychologists have debated the merits of [spanking](#) children. While many say that an occasional swat is harmless in the long run, experts now say meting out the punishment early in a child's life can have lasting effects. A new study of more than 2,500 toddlers from low-income families found that those who were spanked as 1-year-olds tended to behave more [aggressively](#) at age 2 and performed worse on cognitive tests at the age of 3 than children who were spared the [punishment](#).

Verbal punishment, on the other hand, did not appear to have the same detrimental effects as spanking. [More ... Discuss](#)

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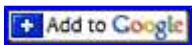
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RIOT FEST!
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DAS KAPITAL
at Beat Kitchen 6:30 pm

FRI. Oct 9
RIOT FEST!
NAKED RAYGUN
RIGHTS OF THE ACCUSED
NO EMPATHY
at Metro 6pm

SAT. Oct 10
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COCK SPARRER
88 FINGERS LOUIE
at Congress Theater 4pm

SUN. Oct 11
RIOT FEST!
SCREECHING WEASEL
ALKALINE TRIO
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at Congress Theatre 5:30pm


MON. Oct 12
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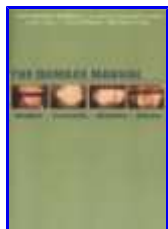


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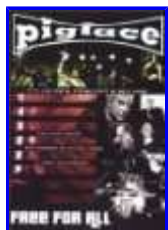
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Flipper – Fight

Posted by: MXV

Under: [Reviews](#)

10 Sep 2009



Flipper – Fight CD

[MVD Audio](#)

Flipper was one of the earliest San Francisco punk rock bands and practically invented the genre of “noise rock”. While most bands of the time were playing faster, harder and shorter songs, Flipper played slower, noisier, and longer than just about everyone. Many people didn’t really get it and thought Flipper were perhaps the worst band in punk rock (which if you ask me the actual worst band in punk was The Exploited) and just dismissed them as a joke. The band was definitely an acquired taste and it took awhile before I “got it” when I was a teenage punker, but as I got a little older I finally understood the charm.

To celebrate the band's 30th anniversary, they have decided to release a new studio album (their first in 14 years) and a new live album (their first in probably 20 years). This album, *Fight*, is the live one. This album was recorded over the span of two shows in 2007 with 3/4 of the original members and Krist Novoselic (some may remember him from some obscure band called Nirvana) taking over the bass duties of the late Will Shatter who died of a heroin overdose in 1987.

The album contains nine songs, five of them Flipper classics and the other four brand new songs, the first new Flipper songs in well over a decade. If you don't pay attention to the track listing, you'd be hard pressed to pick out the new material from the old, it all just sounds like the Flipper you either know and love, or know and hate. The songs are mostly long, slow, and plodding and the music sounds as abrasive and dirgey as it did three decades ago.

The sound quality ranks very high on the list of live albums I've heard in my life. The mix is very good, though a little light on the guitars and the vocals sound great with just the right amount of volume, which is a nice change from the usual vocal-heavy mixes on live albums. The performance was very solid too and it is proof that even in old age Flipper still have that spark that made them what they were back in the day.

If you are a die-hard Flipper fan you will definitely want to add this to your collection and you'll find yourself playing it regularly. The new songs make me curious about the new studio album (which I'll be reviewing next) and I hope they take this act on the road and make it to Chicago sometime before calling it quits again.

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