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Roswell Six: Terra Incognita-A Line in the Sand

In 2009 we had the amazing first part of the *Terra Incognita* saga, titled *Beyond the Horizon*, and now, a year later, the second installment from bestselling author Kevin J. Anderson, his wife Rebecca Moesta, Shawn Gordon & the folks at ProgRock Records, and a star studded line-up, better known as Roswell Six, are back with *Terra Incognita: A Line in the Sand*. Here, the story focuses on the generations long war between the continents, and musically things take on a heavier and more aggressive tone compared to the more progressive & symphonic sounds we heard on the first part.



Gone are James LaBrie, Erik Norlander, Lana Lane, John Payne, Gary Wehrkamp, Kurt Barabas, David Ragsdale, Martin Orford, Chris Brown, Chris Quirarte, and Mike Alvarez, replaced here by Frameshift's Henning Pauly (who plays all the instruments and produces), Steve Walsh from Kansas, Sass Jordan, Nick Storr from The Third Ending, Charlie Dominici, Arjen A. Lucassen, and Alex Froese from Frameshift. Returning for a second go around is the incomparable Michael Sadler, former lead singer and founder of Saga. Despite the major upheaval in the line-up and the reliance on some heavier sounds, this still sounds like a Roswell Six album, so chances are if you loved the first album, you'll dig this as well.

From a vocal perspective, there are some killer performances here. Walsh amazes on the crankin' "My Father's Son" and the crushing, symphonic opener "Barricade", both tunes also featuring some great riffs and keyboard work from Pauly. Storr and Sadler team up on the hard rock piece "Whirlwind", and mainstream rock singer Sass Jordan really turns some heads on the bluesy hard rock of "The Crown". She's not only beautiful, but she can also tear it up! Sadler gives one of the CDs most emotional and poignant performances on the lovely "Loyalty", a piano driven ballad that lets the singer remind us all how much of a talent he still is. One of the

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heaviest pieces on the album is the monster "When God Smiled On Us", a brusing metal track complete with massive riffage and a great vocal team up from Storr & Froese. Jordan returns again to give a heart wrenching turn on "Need", and Sadler gets all grandiose on us for the symphonic epic "Victory", a tune that will instantly appeal to all those Saga fans out there. Throw in a killer instrumental from Pauly called "Battleground", and you have a highly enjoyable concept album filled with plenty of metal, hard rock, and prog bombast.

OK, so it's safe to say that Roswell Six delivered another winner here, but the question is, how long do we have to wait for the next part? Time will tell I guess. In the meantime, time to spin this one again...

Track Listing

1. Barricade
2. Whirlwind
3. The Crown
4. Loyalty
5. My Father's Son
6. When God Smiled on Us
7. Need
8. Spiral
9. Battleground
10. Victory

Added: June 7th 2010**Reviewer:** Pete Pardo**Score:** ★★★★★**Related Link:** [ProgRock Records](#)**Hits:** 287**Language:** english[ **Printer Friendly Page**][ **Send to a Friend**][[Back to the Reviews Index](#) | [Post Comment](#)]


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