Slipknot - Vol. 3: The Subliminal Verses (2004)



CD1
01 Slipknot - Prelude 30
02 Slipknot - The blister exists
03 Slipknot - Three nil
04 Slipknot - Duality play
05 Slipknot - Opium of the people
06 Slipknot - Vermilion
07 Slipknot - Pulse of the maggots
08 Slipknot - Welcome
09 Slipknot - Circle
10 Slipknot - Before I forget play
11 Slipknot - The nameless
12 Slipknot - Vermilion pt 2
13 Slipknot - The virus of life
14 Slipknot - Danger - keep away
15 Slipknot - Scream CD2 *1 Don't Get Close 3:47 2 Scream 4:31 3 Vermilion (Terry Date Mix) 5:25 4 Danger - Keep Away (Full-Length Version) 7:55 5 The Blister Exists (Live) 5:21 6 Three Nil (Live) 4:55 7 Disasterpiece (Live) 5:25 8 People = Shit (Live) 3:54*

Personnel:
Corey Taylor – vocals
Mick Thomson – guitars
Jim Root – guitars
Paul Gray – bass, backing vocals
Joey Jordison – drums, mixing
Shawn Crahan – custom percussion, backing vocals, art direction, photography
Chris Fehn – custom percussion, backing vocals
Sid Wilson – turntables
Craig Jones – samples, media, keyboards

Be afraid. Be excited. Slipknot are back. This stunning album proves this band can do anything.

Track two "The Blister Exists" proves that there is no finer metal band on the planet. Brutal rabble rousing chants and ugly riffs are driven to an irresistible climax. Military style drumming is captured in all its shiny terrifying power by Rick Rubin's crystal clear production. It sounds like a conquering army occupying a defeated city. It's the first amazing moment on an album full of amazing moments.

Once Slipknot have proved they are masters of thrash they then show they are masters of everything else. There are hyperactive bass drums, complex, compelling riffs and ridiculously fast fretwork. But there are also acoustic guitars, addictive choruses and bittersweet harmonies. There are more hooks here than in a slaughterhouse. Everything is marshalled for maximum excitement and emotional impact. "Duality" is a metal pop classic. "Circle" is acoustic and beautiful, with cellos and a lovely tear-jerking chorus: 'The deep sadness behind the anger and defiance'.

"Vermillion" is the key track. It's a song about love, possession and despair. It switches in an instant from a note of pure beauty to a twisted howl of rage. It takes the awe-struck listener on an emotional, melodramatic, utterly convincing rollercoaster ride.

By the time you get to the bruising punch of "The Virus Of Life", all you can do is surrender completely to Slipknot's musical vision. Like Metallica on the "black album" they have found an ideal balance between aggression and melody. But Metallica haven't sounded this fired up in years.

This is a fascinating, moving, beautiful record. If Slipknot carry on making albums as good as this they will be the biggest, as well as the best, band in rock. --- Nick Reynolds, BBC Review

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