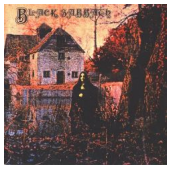
Black Sabbath – Black Sabbath (1970)



1. Black Sabbath 2. The Wizard 3. Behind The Wall Of Sleep 4. N.I.B. 5. Evil Woman 6. Sleeping Village 7. Warning 8. Wicked World Musicians: Ozzy Osbourne – vocals, harmonica on "The Wizard" Tony Iommi – guitar, slide guitar on "The Wizard" Geezer Butler – bass Bill Ward – drums

Some might claim that this 1970 debut is the definitive Black Sabbath record. While the gothic overtones of the opening track, "Black Sabbath" (thunderstorms and foreboding church bells introduce Ozzy Osbourne's howl and Tony Iommi's sludgy guitar), and the raucous defiling of Cream on "N.I.B." were thrilling then (and remain so now), there is too much wanking here to really qualify the collection as the must-have Black Sabbath record. (That prize would have to go to Paranoid.) But the blues-heavy riffs of "The Wizard," the soon-to-be-famous chord-progression stylings on "Wasp," and the grunge-boogie of "Wicked World" allow it to stand as a solid testament to the deep and lasting influence the band has had over the years. --Lorry Fleming, Editorial Reviews

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