White Skull - Forever Fight (2009)



01. We Are Coming (01:30) 02. Escape (05:24) 03. Fell My Rage (05:55) 04. Spy (03:50) 05. Attle And Bleda (06:27) 06. Forever Fight (03:48) 07. Boudicca's Speech (04:12) 08. A Mother's Revenge (05:50) 09. Heavy Metal Axes (03:52) 10. Etzel (04:11) 11. Visions (04:23) 12. Beer, Cheers (Bonus Track) (04:01) Musicians: Elisa "Over" De Palma - Vocals Tony "Mad" Fonto - Guitars Danilo Bar - Guitars Steve Balocco - Bass Alex Mantiero – Drums

Italy's White Skull presses on with their eighth full length release, 'Forever Fight.' More recognized in Europe than the shores of America, White Skull's latest work is a monument to their tradition of producing both solid and epic heavy metal within the power genre. That is to say, on one hand, there is nothing really new on 'Forever Fight;' simply solid heavy metal with thrash, power, and melodic elements fortified with some assertive female vocals and sizzling guitar work. On the other hand, well, there's nothing really new here. I think I said that already. White Skull is another case where we must not confuse redundancy with consistency: they're just doing what the know best and doing it well.

Even with the expectation of consistency, White Skulls excels where the arrangement leans more towards epic melodic heavy and power metal as on 'Feel My Rage' and 'Attle And Bleda.' On both of these the true stars are composition and sterling guitar solos. Honorable mentions also go to the near epic, more expected pieces 'Boudicca's Speech' and 'A Mothers Revenge,' where both benefit from more melodic and dynamic progressions within the arrangements. On the down side, some songs are simply average like the thrashy but bland 'Forever Fight' or the straight up heavy metal of 'Spy.' However, the greatest inconsistency on 'Forever Fight' comes from Elisa 'Over' De Palma vocals which are either dead on (Boudicca's Speech or Spy, for example) or miserably unintelligible (Forever Fight, Etzel).

Overall, White Skull delivers as expected: no more, less. 'Forever Fight' is standard melodic

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heavy power metal which will neither disappointment nor surprise. Recommended. ---Craig Hartranft, dangerdog.com

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