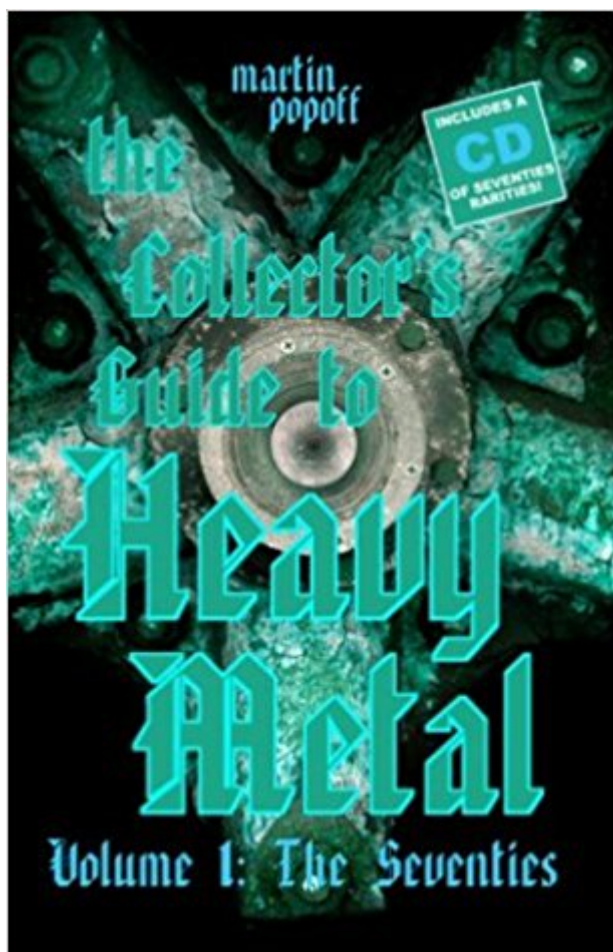




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The Collector's Guide To Heavy Metal: Volume 1: The Seventies



Synopsis

Reviews and recollections of hundreds of '70s heavy metal bands are included in this reference guide to a decade of music.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It's a pretty sick book, really, in my opinion, the best source out there for actually figuring out what really did rock hard in the '70s, what sorta did, and as importantly, just how heavy all those cool name-dropped bands from the rare end of things really were. So yeah, there's a lot of pretty tame stuff included, but like I said, I've given you a grade, a cold single number, to figure out that side of it! And again, the second number looks at sheer quality of the damn record, with the actual review, of course, waxing poetically about all of that, heaviness, history, relative greatness, personnel, trivia; maybe much more info/factual-packed than you might recognize from my reviews. That's it; I think you now know whether you need this thing or not!

Martin Popoff is a freelance music journalist and the author of several books on pop culture, including Riff Kills Man. His articles have appeared in numerous publications and web sites, among them Chart, Guitar World, Lolipop, Goldmine, and HMV.com.

I'm an old rocker... born in the late 50's. Most of the LP's listed in this magnum opus were released during my teenage impressionable years. Not so say that Martin's "Collector Guides" for the '80s,

'90s and '00s aren't good. It's just that the 70's will always hold a special place in my heart for rock n' roll and all things heavy. Therefore, it is with a biased opinion that I deem this the Bible for all things heavy in the '70s. There are soooo many lost treasures in here I don't know where to begin. Thank God for the internet, Martin Popoff, and a few other on-line stores because they have all allowed me to expand my music collection into one revered by all those who love(d) 70's hard rock! Thanks Martin.

I had to order this after owning Poppof's Guide to Heavy Metal 80's guide. I enjoy this and use it as a reference guide to buying hard rock CDs I am curious about. However the 80s guide has longer and better synopsis of the album and artist. Even Popoff admits his writing improved since he wrote many of these reviews. It's still fun to peruse and grab off the shelf when you need to know about an album.

This is by far the worst of three "The Collector's Guide to Heavy Metal" books. Even so, it's good to get a great list of albums from the seventies. This is the worst, in my opinion, simply because Popoff's writing is at its most obnoxious ever. Incredible how the guy improved with the years. Almost each review here is a pain to read, the phrase construction is annoying, the words used so full of rubbish that reading a single entry is a real pain. Get it only for completist reasons. I bought it hoping it was as good as the other two, but I was terribly wrong.

For the aficionado of "traditional" heavy metal and heavy guitar driven music, (I never liked the term "hard rock") amongst whose number I am firmly ensconced, this book is a great read. The author rates a large number of albums from that much underrated decade, musically speaking, on two scales, heaviness, and personal taste. I don't necessarily agree with his rating of some albums on both counts, and given some obvious omissions, I struggle a little with inclusion of some bands. But that's the beauty of criticism, you won't always agree, but it gets you thinking. I must admit I took a punt on several albums I had never heard of before, based on the author's rating, and I have not been disappointed. I am still struggling with the absence of reviews of any Wishbone Ash albums. They rate a mention in one of the many indices, where the author sort of apologises for the absence of what were, and still are, one of the all time great guitar bands. But like I say, you are never going to agree with everything a critic says. All in all I highly recommend this book, which is the first of three enlarged volumes pulled from the original "Collector's Guide to Heavy Metal". The only question is, how much longer 'til we see Volume 2, the 80's?

Martin Popoff is the only kind of writer or reviewer worth a damn -- the kind with a writing style all his own, and opinions out the a\$\$\$. You will either love him or hate him, and I for one think he's one of the best descriptive writers ever produced by the human race. I read his reviews whenever I'm about to do some writing of my own, in the vain hope that he'll rub off on me. He knows more about metal than anyone else alive (although he certainly doesn't know everything about it) and has a distinct, historical authenticity backing up his choices of what's metal and not, and what's good or not, with a heavy dose of personal opinion of course. This is his best book, perhaps, because it's about the decade of his metal love genesis, the time period he knows the most. When you read this book (as you must if you care at all about metal), you will be full of adoration, fury, disgust, surprise, and above all curiosity about the tons of bands you never knew you needed to check out.

Sick book!

Great review of a magic era of heavy metal

A nice idea, fairly well executed, but with inexcusable omissions. A book about 70s metal (or proto-metal) and no mention of Dark?! Perhaps even more conspicuous is the absence of any mention of Wishbone Ash, who pioneered the 'harmony guitar' style that Iron Maiden built a career on. Also, there are bands on the accompanying CD that do not have entries in the actual book. Was this a mistake? And about the CD...why are there bands included on the CD that are given mediocre to poor ratings by Popoff in the book itself?

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