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(541)344-2263**Skynyrd**

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tomorrow is another day, you have the power to beat the odds and every challenge is just a test to your character; if you can survive, you're a stronger person for it.

The album does get cheesy and surprisingly religious in some parts with tunes that allude to being saved and rising up again.

Johnny Van Zant, lead vocalist, even admitted to PATXI Entertainment Network in an interview for LYNRYDSKYNRYD.COM that the band recorded the basics — drums and bass — at a place that used to be a church, called Ocean Way in Nashville. Naturally, the

vibe of God and Jesus had to have influenced Skynyrd heavily.

"Preacher Man," though, doesn't live up to its title. It's actually the most groovin' track on the album. To quote Van Zant himself, "It really rocks."

The greatest asset of the album is the song order. "Edge of Forever" drives like a well-crafted luxury vehicle — without a hitch.

The Southern blue-collar hard-rock sound Lynryd Skynyrd is famous for operates in full force for the first couple songs, intermingling between a country, folk-rock style and a jazzy, blues flavor.

The one memorable love ballad, titled "Tomorrow's Goodbye," is perfectly situated after "Mean Streets," full of fear and desperation, and "Edge of Forever," which offers motivational lyrics like "... we rise as one and fall together."

But the album lacks something tough to pinpoint. Perhaps sex appeal?

The first 3/4 pumps us up, constantly reassuring us that our meager existence isn't in vain. Finally, the ninth song, titled "Money Back Guarantee," allows us to let loose and get in the mood. Now we're ready to have some

fun.

This feeling comes back, to a lesser degree, during the last song, titled "FLA." It closes the listening experience with a sense that one better just rock out because life's too damn short!

Every summer, Lynryd Skynyrd takes the same greatest-hits package on the road. It hasn't had a hit album in ages, so why is the year's tour suddenly one of the season's hottest tickets?

Charlie Brusco, Skynyrd's manager, told PATXI Entertainment Network that he attributed the newfound success to the attention given the band by VH1. The cable channel aired the Skynyrd biography on "Behind the Music" 29 times and the concert movie "Freebird" 14 times.

"Concert sales are at least 25 percent stronger than last year," Brusco said.

Check the channel out to rekindle your interest or quench your burning desire to find out what the band is all about.

Or you can see them up close and personal at the Rose Garden in Portland on October 27 during their U.S. tour with ZZ Top. Now that's a show not to be missed.

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