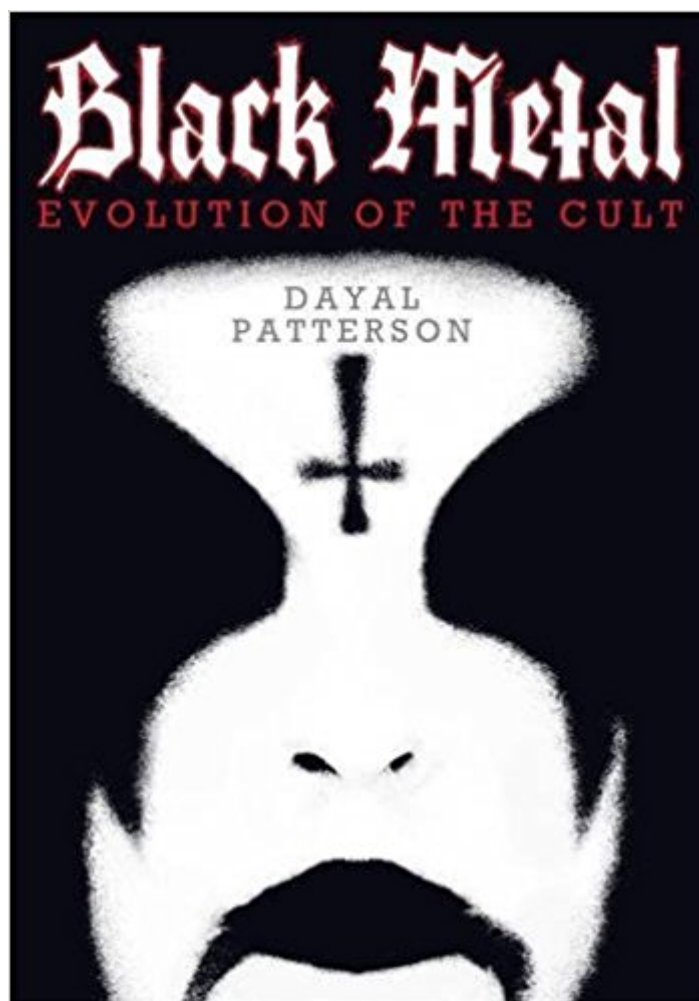


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# Black Metal: Evolution Of The Cult



## Synopsis

Black Metal: Evolution of the Cult features over one hundred exclusive new and archival interviews with the genre's most central figures. It is the most comprehensive guide yet to this fascinating and controversial form of extreme metal. It is encyclopaedic in length and breadth. From the early 1980s pioneers to its fiery rebirth in Scandinavia through to today's increasingly diverse groups, this epic tome captures the movement's development in unparalleled detail and images through such bands and personalities as Dimmu Borgir, Mayhem, Behemoth, Tormentor, Emperor, Darkthrone, Samael, Gorgoroth, and many dozens of others. Increasingly influential, black metal continues to grow and expand as a musical form as well as the subject of serious and satirical, animated, documentary, and narrative feature films. Publisher Feral House has already published the most famous and award-winning book about this subculture, Lords of Chaos, soon to become a narrative feature film directed by Jonas Ackerlund, an ex-black metal musician who has directed feature films and award-winning videos for the likes of Madonna and Lady Gaga.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Dayal's knack for a riveting, conscientious narrative is combined with a lifelong knowledge of the scene and a rare level of trust from all involved. He leaves behind the sensationalism and various agendas so many authors and documentary makers have brought to bear on black metal, and treats it instead as the still vibrant and turbulent artform all genuine fans will recognise first and foremost, while still providing revelatory insights for fans both old and new."

-Metal Hammer"Anyone who has picked up any UK metal mags over the past few years would recognise Dayal's writing. And anyone who has ran into him at a gig over the past few years will recognise the burden of putting together a phone-book sized history of a metal subgenre that has thrived on half-truths, legend and scandal. Said burden could have been should have turned Dayal all shades of Senator Palpatine, but it looks like it has gone to press just in time." - Decibel Magazine"Offering an unparalleled level of detail, and spanning 600 pages, Black Metal: Evolution Of The Cult captures the progress of one of metal's most dangerous and exciting genres." -Terrorizer"Author Patterson has pulled off the remarkable trick of covering 30 years' worth of extreme heavy metal, from its garage beginnings to the murderous second wave and finally to the disparate chaos of today.To his credit, Patterson doesn't repeat other book's mistakes by focussing solely on the Oslo scene of the early 90s, though those events (murders, church-burnings and grave desecrations) get their own in-depth chapters. His book adds plenty of previously unread interviews with the main culprits, leading to new perspectives on the original shortlist of innovators (Venom, Bathory, Mercyful Fate, Hellhammer) as much as the modern and frankly confusing wave of bands. It's easy to recommend this book: it's the most ambitious work on black metal so far attempted." - Joel McIver, Record Collector MagazineUnlike other books and documentaries on the subject, Patterson approaches the genre from an insider's perspective, providing an exciting account of nearly 30 years' worth of black metal history, two decades of which he found himself firmly rooted; a purposeful tome meant to enrich, enlighten and "examine the artistic, musical, and spiritual development of the genre and the creative work, ideologies and often colourful lives of some of its most significant bands. - Zero Tolerance MagazineWith the arrival of British music writer Dayal Patterson's excellent book, we have a collection of the best journalism and photo archival work of the lot. It completes the "unholy trinity" of BM books. It is an extremely diligent and well-informed publication that leaves almost nothing out of the history of the genre, containing many previously unreported facts and stories. This is no lazy collection of old interviews thrown together in haste. It is a modern masterpiece of the declining art of music journalism. - Vice MagazineIt's a fascinating overview of Black Metal written by a seriously otaku expert on the genre. At nearly 500 pages, it's instantly the defining book on Black Metal, even a kind of minor masterpiece of the rock book form, featuring dozens of interviews with the luminaries (would that be the right word?) of the Black Metal scene. I got totally lost in it. - Dangerous Minds"Dayal's knack for a riveting, conscientious narrative &#150; combined with a lifelong knowledge of the scene and a rare level of trust from all involved &#150; leaves behind the

sensationalism and various agendas so many authors and documentary makers have brought to bear on black metal, and treats it instead as the still vibrant and turbulent artform all genuine fans will recognise first and foremost, while still providing revelatory insights for fans both old and new." -Metal Hammer"Anyone who has picked up any UK metal mags over the past few years would recognise Dayal's writing. And anyone who has ran into him at a gig over the past few years will recognise the burden of putting together a phone-book sized history of a metal subgenre that has thrived on half-truths, legend and scandal. Said burden could have should have turned Dayal all shades of Senator Palpatine, but it looks like it has gone to press just in time." - Decibel Magazine"Offering an unparalleled level of detail, and spanning 600 pages, Black Metal: Evolution Of The Cult captures the progress of one of metal's most dangerous and exciting genres." -Terrorizer"Author Patterson has pulled off the remarkable trick of covering 30 years' worth of extreme heavy metal, from its garage beginnings to the murderous second wave and finally to the disparate chaos of today.To his credit, Patterson doesn't repeat other book's mistakes by focussing solely on the Oslo scene of the early 90s, though those events (murders, church-burnings and grave desecrations) get their own in-depth chapters. His book adds plenty of previously unread interviews with the main culprits, leading to new perspectives on the original shortlist of innovators (Venom, Bathory, Mercyful Fate, Hellhammer) as much as the modern and frankly confusing wave of bands. It's easy to recommend this book: it's the most ambitious work on black metal so far attempted." - Joel McIver, Record Collector MagazineUnlike other books and documentaries on the subject, Patterson approaches the genre from an insider's perspective, providing an exciting account of nearly 30 years' worth of black metal history, two decades of which he found himself firmly rooted; a purposeful tome meant to enrich, enlighten and examine the artistic, musical, and spiritual development of the genre and the creative work, ideologies and often colourful lives of some of its most significant bands. - Zero Tolerance MagazineWith the arrival of British music writer Dayal Patterson's excellent book, we have a collection of the best journalism and photo archival work of the lot. It completes the unholy trinity of BM books. It is an extremely diligent and well-informed publication that leaves almost nothing out of the history of the genre, containing many previously unreported facts and stories. This is no lazy collection of old interviews thrown together in haste. It is a modern masterpiece of the declining art of music journalism. - Vice MagazineIt's a fascinating overview of Black Metal written by a seriously otaku expert on the genre. At nearly 500 pages, it's instantly the defining book on Black Metal, even a kind of minor masterpiece of the rock book form, featuring dozens of interviews with the luminaries (would that be the right word?) of the

Black Metal scene. I got totally lost in it. - Dangerous Minds

Dayal began writing professionally in 2005, having previously created a self-published music journal entitled Crypt Magazine. Since that time he has contributed regularly to the likes of Record Collector, The Quietus, Terrorizer, Decibel, Classic Rock Presents... and, most prominently, Metal Hammer magazine, whom he has written for since 2006, providing numerous lead and cover story features. He has also written liner notes for releases by high profile bands including the post-punk pioneers Killing Joke and black metal legends Marduk. As well as working with the written word he has also conducted onscreen interviews for magazines, web sites and DVD release. He has conducted interviews with hundreds of bands of various styles from Rammstein, to Public Enemy to Gorgoroth to Alice in Chains to Machine Head as well as actors, directors and visual artists.

What I love about Dayal's book is the wide range he covers in this book. It seems like every book or documentary on black metal focuses on Burzum, Mayhem, and Varg Vikernes vs. Euronymous. Dayal touches on this briefly, but more as a side note. It's very refreshing to read a black metal book that starts with the guys who started it all: Mercyful Fate, Venom, Celtic Frost, etc. and how it progressed into what it is today. Dayal's look at modern bands of all subgenres of black metal really put this book over the top and make it the best black metal book out there. Lords of Chaos for years have set the standard, but that book was last revised in 2003, so there is a whole decade of black metal culture and goings on to report on, especially with the thousand different directions black metal has gone since then. Dayal really nailed it with this book and Feral House will continue to be my favorite publisher. Dayal puts every major (and minor) black metal prop for mentioning bands like Ulver, Samael, old Cradle of Filth, Beherit, Fleurety, Dodecahedron, Vlad Tepes, and especially Marduk. Marduk is my all time favorite band and get overlooked constantly, so it is nice to see some representation here. ANother great aspect of this book is the breakdown of scenes from various countries from around the world and the introduction to many of us such great bands like VON, which I had heard the name, but had to check out on Youtube, and am now depressed on missing out on those guys back in the day. This book is not just the best music book I have read this year (honorable mention: Al Jourgensen), but probably the best book of any kind period I have read in 2013. Props to Dayal Patterson and Feral House. This book is an encyclopedia and worth the money.

Evolution of the Cult is a fantastic guide to a massive amount of disparate, intimidating, and often

indispensable extreme music. Order this and then get on YouTube to pull up album after album so you can follow the contents jam-by-jam. It's a great, well-written, and clear-eyed tome, and I can think of no better book to grab if you're looking to head out on a hell-cruise into the heart of the black metal underground. This is the best book on black metal music I've come across, both in terms of length AND depth. Make no mistake; this is not a jaundiced hit piece like the execrable Lords of Chaos. It's about the music first and foremost... and that's why it's so good. How often do you read about the odd group that is Master's Hammer, or about the struggles of a beleaguered post-brains-and-stabbings Mayhem struggling to find their way again before putting out the much-underrated Wolf's Lair Abyss? Exactly! And that's why you should order this thing yesterday.

Great foray into BM. Much \*much\* better than Lords of Chaos. Gives a pretty good overview of the most important bands and takes a neutral stance on controversial issues, both within the BM scene and pop culture. I read this book with YouTube pulled up and just listened to album after album that the author goes through. As long as the book is, it's only a start, as the author acknowledges. I hope to see more from the author in the future.

After reading "Lords of Chaos," I was left with the impression that Black Metal was defined solely by Varg Vikernes' criminal racist battiness and the genre extended no further the bounds of Scandinavia. How wrong I was! "Black Metal: Evolution of the Cult" unveiled a world of black metal spanning as Canada (Blasphemy), Romania (Master's Hammer) and Italy (Aborym). I acquired many of these albums since reading "Evolution of the Cult" and eagerly delved into the realms created by these acts. I highly recommend this book for those who have listened to Darkthrone's "A Blaze in the Northern Sky" for the 5000th time and are hungry for more!

Great book! It's well researched and well written, with a clear and engaging writing style. The author covers in depth the sound and style of the music, as well as its development over time. He also covers the history of the participants, with fascinating interviews and historical perspective. This book also alerted me to some bands I hadn't heard before, and I've enjoyed tracking down their cds and checking them out. I appreciate the author's well informed, thoughtful, and objective attitude towards the black metal "scene." He neither condemns nor glorifies the violence associated with the scene, but rather does an admirable job of listening to the participants' explanations for what happened. In addition to writing about the music and the people who make the music, the author goes a step further, by placing both in a historical and artistic context. A great read, and a great

resource!

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