



Poison

Seven Days Live (DVD)

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When it comes to going to a concert and having a great time, Poison is one of the most trusted names in the rock and roll business. For the last 20 years the band has delivered some of the most energetic live shows known to man. In the early/mid 90's however the band went through some turbulence (which they would recover nicely from in the late 90's) that resulted in the departure of guitarist C.C. Deville. Replaced by Ritchie Kotzen the band released the critically acclaimed but poor selling Native Tongue album and launched the then standard world tour. Seven Days Live is one of the few records of this time in the band's career and that alone makes it worth checking out. The DVD was recorded in 1993 in London.

I didn't know what to expect from this since I didn't have the opportunity to see Poison on this tour. During this time in the band's career they had all but abandoned the glam elements of their persona. The neon green logo is replaced by one looking like a wood carving; the band's brightly colored stage gear is toned down a lot, instead themed by leopard skin pieces. Also, considering they were promoting the Native Tongue album, most of the songs here are from that album- featuring a number of songs that you definitely won't hear at a Poison concert these days.

All in all this is a good DVD. It's not great but it's a must have for any Poison fan given what an interesting point this is in their history. The quality of the recording is good but you can tell the band are struggling. Bret Michaels is working very hard to win the fans over at this show, particularly with the Native Tongue material, and they look uninterested for the most part. The band's classic songs sound good but lack the spark that C.C. Deville brings to them, which I'm sure contributed to Kotzen being booted from the band shortly after this. The crowd does know what they want though, going crazy for "Something to Believe In," "Every Rose Has It's Thorn," "Look What the Cat Dragged In" and "Nothin' But a Good Time." If you are looking for the classic Poison live show you won't find it here. Like I said though, this is more than worth checking out as few of us really got to see this incarnation of Poison.

Reviewed by: **Mark Fisher**