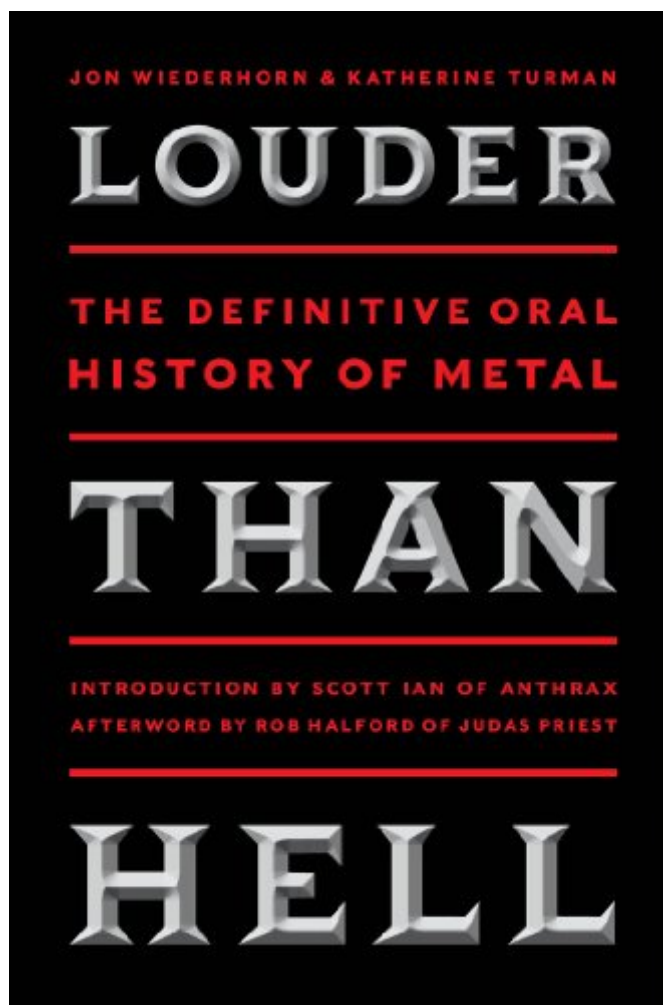


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# Louder Than Hell: The Definitive Oral History Of Metal



## Synopsis

The definitive oral history of heavy metal, *Louder Than Hell* by renowned music journalists Jon Wiederhorn and Katherine Turman includes hundreds of interviews with the giants of the movement, conducted over the past 25 years. Unlike many forms of popular music, metalheads tend to embrace their favorite bands and follow them over decades. Metal is not only a pastime for the true aficionados; it's a lifestyle and obsession that permeates every aspect of their being. *Louder Than Hell* is an examination of that cultural phenomenon and the much-maligned genre of music that has stood the test of time. *Louder than Hell* features more than 250 interviews with some of the biggest bands in metal, including Black Sabbath, Metallica, Megadeth, Anthrax, Slayer, Iron Maiden, Judas Priest, Spinal Tap, Pantera, White Zombie, Slipknot, and Twisted Sister; insights from industry insiders, family members, friends, scenesters, groupies, and journalists; and 48 pages of full-color photographs.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Having worked in the music business for almost 40 years and having actually worked with a number

of folks profiled in this book, I found this a fascinating read and consistent with my experiences. The overview given by the book tended to confirm a number of my opinions of these folks and their music. This music has never been "fashionable" and yet the artists/players in this book are some of the most influential musicians in rock music. In some parts of the book, it tended to focus a bit too much on the things we all know, ie: that these guys got laid a lot, but given the excessive nature of this lifestyle and music, I guess it was a needed "device" for the purposes of the book. If you have ever "banged your head" or given the Dio "horns", you should read this book, you will enjoy it...

I bought this book as a source for my research paper and I can honestly say that I loved it. The book is super informative and set up in an easy to follow pattern. The vast majority of the book is a compilation of interview answers from big names in the Metal music industry so the information is coming directly from the source. It's a great read for research papers or just casual reading, I'd highly recommend it.

Very well written history of heavy metal bands. If you get too serious about remembering which band a person started out in and which band they ended up in, it could drive you crazy. But I liked the order the author kept the book from beginning of heavy metal, to how styles changed over the years to present day. Some of the tricks the guys played on each other are hysterical. And just about all of them admit they got in a band for the chicks. As of right now I am 3/4 of the way through the book and still not bored. Pretty good read, better than I thought. Thank the guys on, "That Metal Show."

Simply put, the book starts out good (nothing the Metal fan doesn't already know though) and gets weaker as it goes along. Much like Heavy Metal itself. The last section on "Nu Metal" is particularly bad, just like Nu Metal itself. Just stories about "I did this many drugs/drank this much and had this much sex". I found the Death Metal section interesting, even though I am not a big fan of the genre. Because it talked about the music.

This book is really strong on the earlier bands and the height of metal. The stories and characters are amazing and interesting. The ending is weak as it focuses on the later metal scenes and trends and the bands that were part of that era. I don't know if that is because the bands are smaller or just the energy and effort of the writers had run out by the time they reached the end. I'm going to say it is that the bands are smaller and pale imitations of what has come before. Even the decadence was

third hand and after the first 10 groupie stories they start to sound pathetic. Overall a fascinating read into some wild characters and wild times in a changing industry. If you like music and want to pull the curtain aside you could do way worse.

Great Stories and insights from your favorite Metal Gods. The book is sectioned by types of metal and some of the predominant musicians accredited for starting and the musicians that carry on. Would recommend this HIGHLY. Again, great behind the scenes stories...

I say assembled, because the authors have taken a ton of interviews, and creatively broken them down into context. So it reads as though there are a handful of musicians, roadies, managers, label executives etc... having a conversation about a specific topic as it relates to a specific band, scene at a specific point in time. The transition between these topics is smooth, and flows well. The book takes a chronological path and is fairly thorough. Sure, it isn't going to mention every band, or person involved, but that would be an unreal task. This is a must read for any metal heads out there!

Bought for head bangin' son; he seems to like it. Did not read it so I cannot attest to it personally. One thing he said is that this book uses some interviews taken from other sources so if you have read many books on the history of metal, some of the material might be repetitive to you.

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