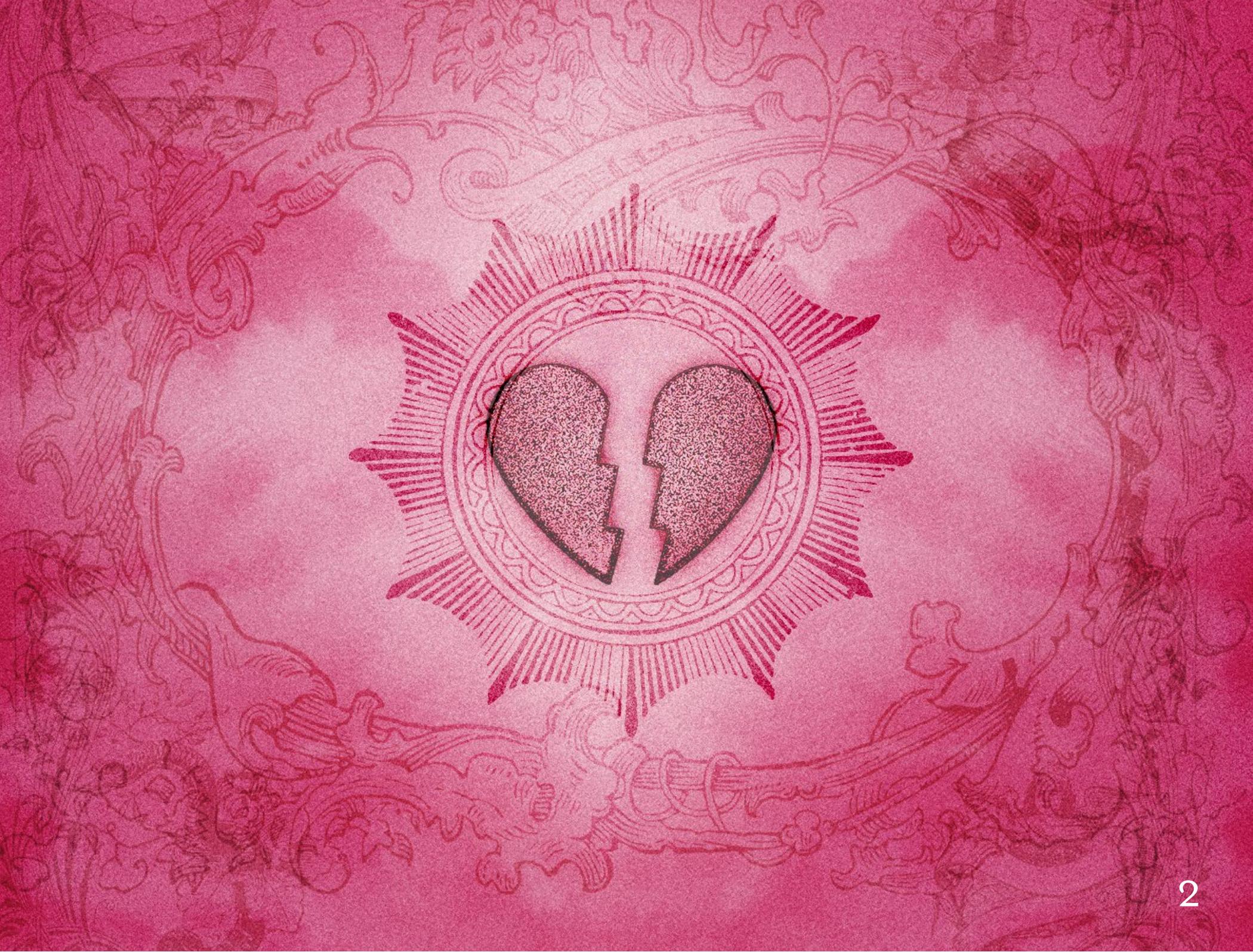




# HELL

RAZORBLADE ROMANCE



001. THE HARDER I TRY THE MORE WE GROW APART THE SWEETER THE KISS THE COLDER GROWS YOUR HEART THE CLOSER I GET THE MORE YOU'RE OUT OF LOVE THE COLDER YOU TOUCH THE MORE IT TURNS ME ON I SEE IT IN YOUR EYES I FEEL IT IN YOUR TOUCH I TASTE IT FROM YOUR LIPS AND BABY MORE I LOVE YOU.

002. A PREY SHE WAS FOR THE CRUELTY OF LOVE WHILE ITS SERPENT INSIDE CRAWLED STRAIGHT TOWARDS HER HEART THE <sup>5</sup>RE IN HER EYES GREW DIM AND THEN DIED AS THE POISON INSIDE REACHED HER HEART THE COLDEST KISS LOVE CEASED TO EXIST THE COLDEST BLISS FAITH CEASED TO EXIST AS WE GREW APART LIKE NEVER BEFORE I DID IT ALL JUST FOR HER LOVE WANTS US DEAD LOVE'S HEART IS DEATH FOR ME AND MY POISON GIRL THE TASTE OF THE POISON ON HER LIPS IS OF A TOMB.

003. WE ARE SO YOUNG OUR LIVES HAVE JUST BEGUN BUT ALREADY WE ARE CONSIDERING ESCAPE FROM THIS WORLD WE'VE HAD TO WAIT FOR SO LONG FOR THIS MOMENT TO COME SO ANXIOUS TO BE TOGETHER IN DEATH WON'T YOU DIE TONIGHT FOR LOVE THIS WORLD IS A CRUEL PLACE WE'RE HERE ONLY TO LOSE BEFORE LIFE TEARS US APART LET DEATH BLESS ME WITH YOU THIS LIFE AIN'T WORTH LIVING.

004. SHE'S SMILING LIKE HEAVEN IS DOWN ON EARTH SUN IS SHINING SO BRIGHT IT HURTS ALL HER WISHES HAVE <sup>5</sup>NALLY COME TRUE HER HEART IS WEEPING HAPPINESS IS KILLING HER SHE'LL BE RIGHT HERE IN MY ARMS SO IN LOVE RIGHT HERE IN THESE ARMS SHE CAN'T LET GO HARD SHE IS TRYING BUT HER HEART WON'T TURN TO STONE SHE KEEPS ON CRYING BUT I WON'T LEAVE HER ALONE.

005. I LOVE YOUR SKIN SO WHITE I LOVE YOUR TOUCH COLD AS ICE AND I LOVE EVERY SINGLE TEAR YOU CRY I JUST LOVE THE WAY YOU'RE LOSING YOUR LIFE I ADORE THE DESPAIR IN YOUR EYES I WORSHIP YOUR LIPS ONCE RED AS WINE I CRAVE FOR YOUR SCENT SENDING SHIVERS DOWN MY SPINE I JUST LOVE THE WAY YOU'RE RUNNING OUT OF LIFE SO BEAUTIFUL YOU ARE COMPLETE TORN APART YOU'RE GONE WITH THE SIN MY DARLING.

006. I TASTE DEATH IN EVERY KISS WE SHARE EVERY SUNDOWN SEEMS TO BE THE LAST WE HAVE YOUR BREATH ON MY SKIN HAS THE SCENT OF OUR END I'M DRUNK ON YOUR TEARS CAN'T YOU SEE IT'S HURTING EVERY TIME WE TOUCH WE GET CLOSER TO HEAVEN AT EVERY SUNRISE OUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN LOVE ME IS TO HURT ME AGAIN & AGAIN YOUR LOVE IS A RAZORBLADE KISS THE SWEETEST IS THE TASTE FROM YOUR LIPS.

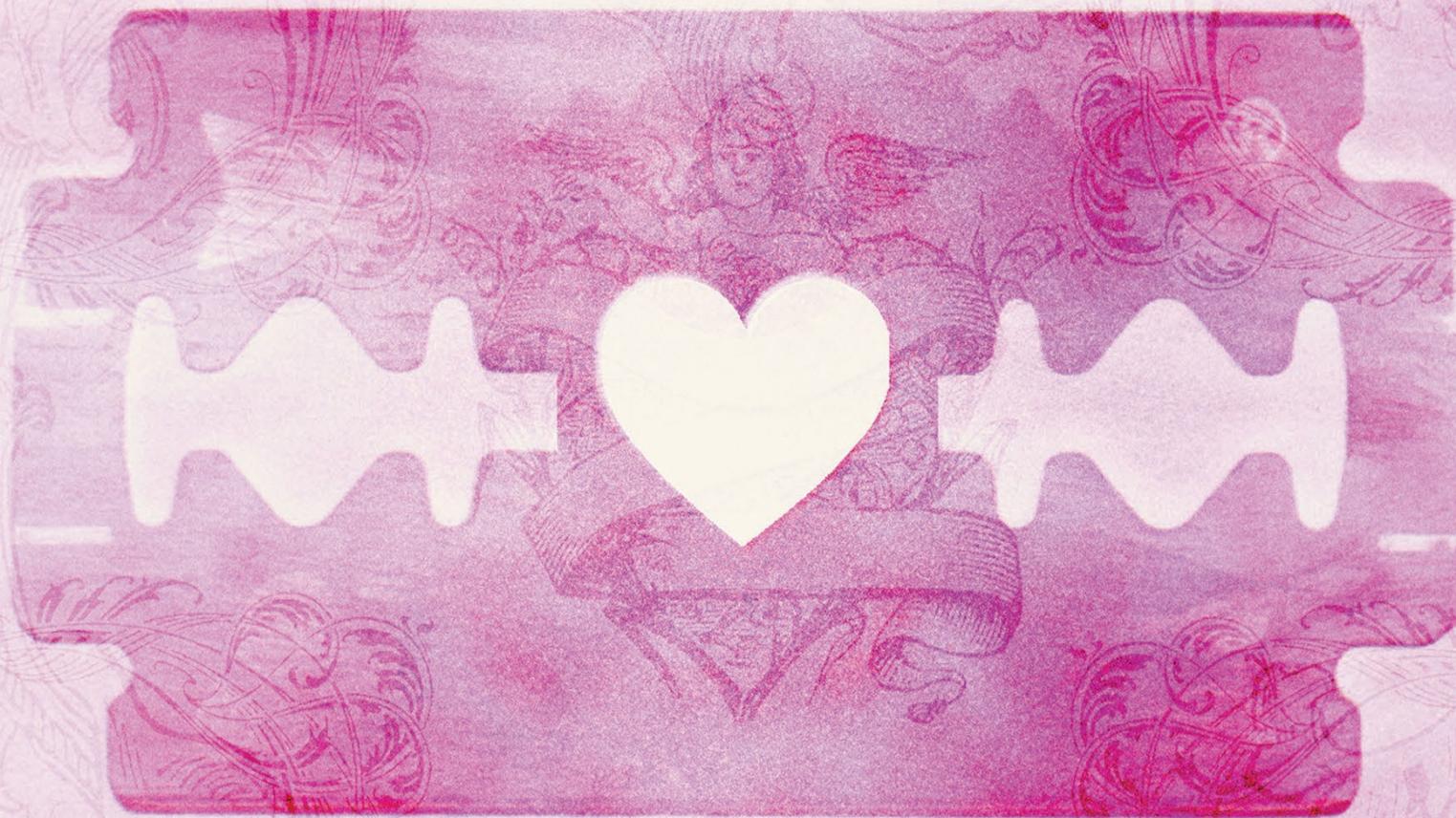
007. LET ME WAKE UP IN YOUR ARMS HEAR YOU SAY IT'S NOT ALRIGHT LET ME NEVER SEE THE SUN NEVER SEE YOU SMILE LET US BE SO DEAD AND GONE SO FAR AWAY FROM LIFE CLOSE MY EYES HOLD ME TIGHT BURY ME DEEP INSIDE YOUR HEART.

008. I HOLD YOUR HAND IN MINE AND YOU'RE SO LONELY YOUR EYES HAVE LOST THEIR LIFE OH MY GOD YOU'RE SO EMPTY I'M TRYING TO <sup>5</sup>ND THE HEART YOU HIDE IN VAIN YOU ARE MY HAVEN IN LIFE AND DEATH.

009. IT HURTS TOO MUCH YOU'RE SCARED RUNNING OUT OF TRUST WISHING YOU WERE DEAD IN YOUR MISERY YOU'RE NOT ALONE SHARE YOUR TEARS WITH ME WITNESS IT ALL GO WRONG 41+66,6= OUR LOSS BREATHING ONLY TO FADE AWAY RUNNING JUST TO GET CAUGHT WHAT LOVE'S LIES BLESSED LOVE'S LIGHT CURSED FEAR FOR THE BEST AND HOPE FOR THE WORST IT'S NOT OUR FAULT IF THE REAPER HOLDS OUR HEARTS.

010. THERE WAS A TIME WHEN I COULD BREATHE MY LIFE INTO YOU ONE BY ONE YOUR PALE <sup>5</sup>NGERS STARTED TO MOVE YOU KISSED MY LIPS AND WITH THOSE ONCE COLD <sup>5</sup>NGERTIPS REACHED OUT FOR ME AND MISSED YOU TOUCHED MY FACE AND ALL LIFE WAS ERASED YOU SMILED LIKE AN ANGEL FALLEN FROM GRACE WE'VE BEEN SLAVES TO THIS LOVE FROM THE MOMENT WE TOUCHED AND KEEP BEGGING FOR MORE OF THIS RESURRECTION.

011. IS IT SO HARD TO BELIEVE OUR HEARTS ARE MADE TO BE BROKEN BY LOVE IN CONSTANT DYING LIES THE BEAUTY OF IT ALL DON'T YOU FEEL THE SWEET HEAVEN IN OUR ENDLESS CRY EVER AMAZED HOW BRIGHT ARE THE <sup>6</sup>AMES WE'RE BURNING IN EVER SMILED AT THE TRAGEDIES WE HOLD INSIDE WON'T YOU CHERISH THE FEAR OF LIFE THAT KEEPS YOU AND ME ALIVE.



PRODUCED, MIXED AND ENGINEERED BY JOHN FRYER AT ROCK<sup>5</sup>ELD, STRONGROOM AND <sup>5</sup>NNVOX, SPIRITUAL ASSISTANCE BY MICHAEL EROS, SLEEVE DESIGN BY LUCIFER, FATALISTIC GUIDANCE BY HAEMO PHYLE, PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOUKO LEHTOLA, LEAD GUITAR ON RAZORBLADE KISS BY DANIEL LIONEYE, MAKE-UP BY TANJA SAVOLAINEN, TAMBOURINE ON ONE LAST TIME BY MIKE CEER, COMPOSED & WRITTEN BY VALO, ARRANGED BY HIM, PUBLISHED BY OY HEARTAGRAM LTD/HEARTAGRAM, INC., ADMINISTERED BY KOBALT MUSIC GROUP LTD. MASTERED BY JUSTIN SHTURTZ AT STERLING SOUNDS, NYC. HIM EXCLUSIVELY ABUSES FAUST, SHURE, THE S'S, AARNE LEMPIMÄKI, AIKUISTEN LELUKAUPPA, PAISTE, PASI HARA, MUTTI, GIBSON, EPPU AND THE BLUE DRAGON, SFP, ILÉ OLÉ, FENDER, LANEY, ENRICO, TOMMI MANNINEN, I. ALAMÄKI, DANIEL LIONEYE AND THE BLUES EXPLOSION, MARTIN KÖRFER, TT, JOFFA BOND AND HIS ANGELS, MAPEX, ZOMPF, AMPEG, KATHRIN AND JÖRG, STUDIO 66, HIILI, THE LUXURY COLLECTION/HOTEL KÄMP, JANNE VUORI, JUHANI NUUSKAMÄKI, NIDE, RÄPIS, TEPPÖ MÄKI, UDO, BEN GRANFELT, AKI AND KABUKI, INGO, JUHANI MERIMAA, SUHO, ILKKA KUUSIMÄKI.

## RAZORBLADE ROMANCE

WHEN ASKED TO DESCRIBE HIM'S STYLE IN A 2003 INTERVIEW, SINGER VILLE VALO GAVE A TONGUE-IN-CHEEK SUMMARY OF WHAT THE FINNISH HARD ROCK GROUP WAS ALL ABOUT. "IT'S LOOSE. IT'S FUN. IT'S AGGRESSIVE, IN A SENTIMENTAL WAY," HE MUSED. "MELANCHOLIC, AND HAS ALL SIDES OF WHAT POPULAR MUSIC IS ABOUT. IT'S POPPY. IT'S HEAVY. IT'S DUMB. IT'S INTELLIGENT. IT'S BLACK."

BY THE TIME HIM RELEASED RAZORBLADE ROMANCE IN 1999, ITS FANS WERE WELL-VERSED IN THE BAND'S OEUVRE, AS WELL AS ITS LYRICAL FASCINATION WITH LOVE AND DEATH. ITS <sup>5</sup>RST OF<sup>5</sup>CIAL FULL-LENGTH ALBUM, 1997'S GOTHIC-KISSED GREATEST LOVE SONGS: VOL. 666, FOCUSED ON THE AGONY OF PINING AFTER THE OBJECT OF ONE'S DESIRE, A PERSON WHOM VALO FREQUENTLY BECKONED TO JOIN HIS SIDE. THE TIGHTLY INTERTWINED THEMES OF AMOUR AND MORTALITY REMAINS STRONG ON RAZORBLADE ROMANCE. BUT INSTEAD OF LONGING FOR AFFECTION, THE LYRICS ALSO DETAIL THE UNEXPECTED RESULTS OF CAPTURING SOMEONE'S HEART: THE UNION THAT <sup>5</sup>NALLY OCCURS DOESN'T LIVE UP TO THE EXPECTATIONS OF COUNTLESS LOVELORN FANTASIES, AND BEING EMOTIONALLY ABANDONED BY THE PERSON WHO'S LYING IN YOUR ARMS PERPETUATES ANOTHER CYCLE OF MORTAL PAIN.

THE DISILLUSIONMENT HELPS FUEL RAZORBLADE'S BOLD PACE—THE REALIZATION OF DYSFUNCTIONALITY OVERSHADOWS ROMANTIC DAYDREAMING AND HOPEFUL WOOING. OPENING TRACK "I LOVE YOU (PRELUDE TO A TRAGEDY)" PRACTICALLY SAYS IT ALL: "THE SWEETER THE KISS/THE COLDER TURN YOUR ARMS," VALO SINGS AS THE MUSIC BARRELS ONWARD, DRIVEN BY THE FORCE OF DESPERATION AND MIKA "GAS LIPSTICK" KARPPINEN'S CHANTING DRUMS. THICK, TYPE O NEGATIVE-STYLE TONES PROPEL THE CHUGGING "RAZORBLADE KISS," AND "RIGHT HERE IN MY ARMS" ROCKS WITH MIKKO "LINDE" LINDSTRÖM'S ZIPPERING GUITARS, MIKKO "MIGE" PAANANEN'S THUDDING BASS AND A FOOT-STOMPING CHORUS. EVEN WHEN THE PACE IS REINED IN FOR SOFTER TRACKS LIKE "HEAVEN TONIGHT" AND "GONE WITH THE SIN," A THROBBING URGENCY IS STILL EVIDENT.

THE ALBUM'S COVER ALSO SIGNALS THE FERVID MUSICAL DIRECTION. INSTEAD OF VALO BEING PHOTOGRAPHED LIKE A RENAISSANCE ANGEL, BATHED IN SOFTLIGHTS AND SURROUNDED BY ROILING AMBER CLOUDS PER GREATEST LOVE SONGS: VOL. 666, HE'S CAST IN A BRIGHTLY LIT PHOTO, LOUNGING AGAINST A CANDY PINK WALL AND <sup>6</sup>AUNTING THE BLACK TATTOO ON HIS LOWER ABDOMEN WITH A CIGARETTE PROTRUDING FROM HIS LIPSTICKED MOUTH. VISUALLY, THE BROODING LOVER HAS MORPHED INTO AN ALOOF PEACOCK.

BUT HE ISN'T COMPLETELY JADED BY ROMANTIC DISAPPOINTMENTS, AS PROVED BY THE INTERNATIONAL HIT "JOIN ME IN DEATH." LED BY A RIPPLING FOUR-NOTE PIANO REFRAIN THAT UNDERScores THE SONG'S DREAMY IDEALISM, THE QUASI-BALLAD ENCAPSULATES LOVE METAL—THE THROWAWAY TAG HIM DUBBED ITS MUSIC IN ITS EARLY DAYS—at THAT MOMENT IN TIME: POLISHED, BLACK SABBATH-IN<sup>6</sup>UENCED ROCK THAT'S AT ONCE BRISTLING AND RESTRAINED, BRIMMING WITH PLEDGES OF ETERNAL DEVOTION. IT DOESN'T GET ANY MORE REBELLIOUS THAN <sup>6</sup>EEING A CRUEL WORLD FOR THE SAKE OF RAPTURE, AND THE ROMEO AND JULIET-INSPIRED SONG SWIFTLY CONNECTED WITH THE BAND'S YOUNG FAN BASE, LEADING IT TO BECOME HIM'S BIGGEST SINGLE BY FAR, AS WELL AS THE <sup>5</sup>RST EVER TRIPLE-PLATINUM SINGLE BY A FINNISH ACT IN THEIR HOME COUNTRY. THANKS TO ITS DARK BEAUTY AND THE PASSIONATE RESPONSE IT CREATED, IT'S THE TRACK THAT HIM WILL LONG BE REMEMBERED BY... MUCH LIKE THE TORTURED LOVE VALO SINGS ABOUT.

—CHRISTA TITUS, BILLBOARD, APRIL 2014

I

I LOVE YOU (PRELUDE TO TRAGEDY)

POISON GIRL

JOIN ME IN DEATH

RIGHT HERE IN MY ARMS

GONE WITH THE SIN

RAZORBLADE KISS

BURY ME DEEP INSIDE YOUR HEART

HEAVEN TONIGHT

DEATH IS IN LOVE WITH US

RESURRECTION

ONE LAST TIME

II

I LOVE YOU

(TRNSFRMTN VERSION)

RESURRECTION

(PRCX VERSION)

RIGHT HERE IN MY ARMS

(LIVE AT EL TEATRO 6 ORES BS.AS.MMXIV)

POISON GIRL

(STRONGROOM SESSIONS)

BURY ME DEEP INSIDE YOUR HEART

(STRONGROOM SESSIONS)

DEATH IS IN LOVE WITH US (FEAT MZ)

(LIVE AT HELLDONE SJK MMXIII)

JOIN ME IN DEATH

(PRCX VERSION)

GONE WITH THE SIN

(STRONGROOM SESSIONS)

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