

BOOK REVIEW >

THE LONG HARD ROAD OUT OF HELL Marilyn Manson with Neil Strauss (Regan Books/ HarperCollins)

Because Marilyn Manson is not yet 30 and has only come to attention in the last few years, it probably seems premature for an autobiography, but the engrossing and frequently hilarious *The Long Hard Road Out Of Hell* reveals an intelligent and very funny man behind the popular perception of him as a monster, and is a wickedly entertaining read.

As Brian Warner, his relatively normal upbringing in Ohio and Florida was full of such All-American joys as discovering his grandfather's personal den of perversions; being pressured into drinking bongwater by the neighbourhood psycho; his recurrent nightmares of the impending apocalypse caused by his Christian schoolteachers and his nagging fear that he may be the Antichrist. Brian grew up well-balanced enough to formulate his own perversions and his own apocalypse, and channel them into Marilyn Manson — a character originally devised for a short-story for

his horror writer ambitions (a career plan buried under a pile of rejection letters).

The sections of the book devoted to the band are as chaotic and ribald as the band's wild reputation suggests; with mammoth drug

consumption, hideous groupie tales and terrible pranks played on anybody unfortunate enough to be in the range of the band's boredom.

However, some of the stories are just too good to have actually happened the way he relates them, even though he by no means always comes out on top or looking good. Tellingly, when Manson says of his meeting with Church Of Satan founder Anton

LaVey that while he "...

was suspicious about some of LaVey's claims, his rhetoric and confidence were convincing", you realize the two have more in common than an uncanny ability to outrage conservative sensibilities.

The Long Hard Road Out Of Hell is a cross between *Hammer Of The Gods*, Nietzsche and *The Addams Family*, and offers a glimpse into the incredible life of Brian.

TROY FERGUSON



TONY BROCKWELL 1976—1998

Tony Brockwell, the young guitarist and singer for popular North Shore punk band Nothing At All! died April 14 after a lengthy battle with cancer.

Although Tony was only 21 when he died, the band Nothing At All! had been visible on the Auckland scene since 1994 and they were the first choice as opening act for many top NZ bands. The secondary school band that was formed in 1991 at Rosmini College, was soon to discover Takaka, Westport and more.

Under the fanatical management of John Baker the band played numerous underage gigs, released an indie cassette, completed several New Zealand tours, released a Frisbee-recorded self-titled album via Festival Records and made several popular videos including 'Busted'.

The final Nothing At All! show in June 1997 was a week before Tony's 21st birthday. By that stage Tony had undergone extensive chemotherapy treatment. He continued to drum

with the Snitches and he drummed on the Rainy Days 'Uh-Huh' single on Flying Nun.

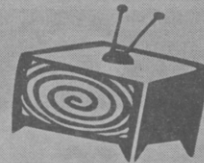
Tony was a popular part of the Frisbee scene and the many musicians who toured with Nothing At All! enjoyed his company. Tony's songwriting talent was only exceeded by his good humour and ever ready wit.

Tony remained positive right to the end. "Last year on the Snitches tour with Gas Huffer," recalls John Baker, "he still managed to drum and party as Tony did, he never wanted to talk about how sick he was."

Tony married Angela, his girlfriend since he was 15 in January.

A large, overflow crowd attended the North Harbour Chapel funeral service and the music played included KISS 'I Was Made For Loving You', a song Tony performed along with as a five year old, wearing a KISS Mask and playing a toy guitar.

MUSIC: ON: TV



MTV

Oasis Unplugged 9pm Sun May 10.
Shirley Manson 6.30pm
Wed May 13.

Garbage Startrax 7pm Wed May 13.
Supergrass Live N Direct
3.30pm Mon May 18.

Smashing Pumpkins Live London
8.30pm Sun May 24

Backstreet Boys The Grind
6pm Tues May 26

Up For It Tues to Sat, 10pm.

Wrekognize hip-hop

Mondays 9pm, Saturdays 2pm.

Toast Havoc's New & Used Vids

Tues 9pm, Fri Midnight.

Squeeze NZ music with Francesca

Rudkin Wed 9pm, Sat 4pm.

Havoc Thursdays 9pm, Sat 10pm.

Startrax NZ celeb vid picks,

Fridays 9pm.

MTV News Weekend Edition

Sat 5.30pm, Sundays 5pm.

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TV2

Video Hits New Releases

10am Saturdays

Video Hits Chart 10am Sundays

Squeeze NZ Music 3pm Sunday

TV4

New Music Tues 11pm,

Sundays 3.30pm

NEW ZEALAND MUSIC VIDEO AWARDS

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE WELLINGTON FRINGE FILM FESTIVAL

Entry is open to anyone who has made a video for a New Zealand band or musician between June 1997 and June 1998. Please write, fax or phone us for details and an entry form for the chance to win a coveted New Zealand Music Video Award.

Award Categories for:

Director, D.O.P., Editor and The Knack Award.

ENTRIES CLOSE ON 19 JUNE 1998

FOR MORE DETAILS AND ENTRY FORMS CONTACT:

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