

# TESTAMENT



dark roots of earth





*Chuck Billy*  
V O C A L S



# rise up

(music: Peterson / lyrics: Billy)

When I say rise up  
When I say war  
That means the time is now  
To even up the score

The leader speaks  
His plan has failed before  
Enlisted soldiers  
Awaiting orders

It's time for justice  
Just like before  
Our troops protect and serve  
Are they ever coming home

So much regret  
Another killed by war  
Such a tragedy  
Enlisted soldiers  
Obey their orders

When I say rise up  
You say war  
When I say rise up  
You say War!

Rise Up... War!  
Rise Up... War!  
Rise Up... War!  
Rise Up... War!

The smell of death  
Reeks through the air  
The stench of burning bodies  
Bloodshed everywhere  
Scattered remains  
And bullet shells  
Send in the dogs of war  
Unleash the hounds of hell

It's time to rise up!  
It's time to rise for war!  
It's time to rise up!  
Black is death!  
And red is war!

*Alex solo*

Yeah I said rise up  
And you said war....  
All for one and one for all  
The perfect world war

All of the rest  
Will fail just like before  
Such a tragedy  
The fallen soldiers  
They followed orders

When I say rise up  
You say war  
When I say rise up  
You say War!

Rise Up... War!  
Rise Up... War!  
Rise Up... War!  
Rise Up... War!







# native blood

(music: Peterson / lyrics: Billy, \*)

Whenever I stumble, whenever I fall  
Whenever I'm pushed against the wall  
This white man's world won't tell me what to do...

Nowhere to run, my native blood  
I wanna reach and touch the sun  
Blistering my soul but I can't feel

You hear me say, get out of my way  
I'll do it my own way  
Cross my path and get what you deserve

I'm warning this world  
To stay out of my way  
My voice will be heard  
I'm alone...

I won't be afraid  
I got something to say  
My voice will be heard  
SO LOUD!  
Native Blood!

Forever proud, so goddamn loud  
It's me alone against the crowd  
Right or wrong it's the road that I must choose...

There's no excuse, ATTITUDE!  
Got something here that I must prove  
Live to win instead of born to lose

I'm WARNING this world  
To stay out of my way  
My voice will be heard  
So strong...

I won't be afraid  
I got something to say  
My voice will be heard  
SO LOUD!  
Native Blood!

1st solo Alex

*I learned to walk before I could crawl  
Whenever pushed, I push back  
Not afraid to throw the first punch  
I'm never wrong cause I'm always right  
And when I'm wrong I won't admit it  
I'm the person your mother warned you about  
They broke the mold after I came out  
What gives me strength is my beliefs...*

2nd solo Eric

Whenever I stumble, whenever I fall  
I won't be pushed against the wall  
This white man's world won't tell me what to do...

Nowhere to run, native blood  
I wanna reach and touch the sun  
Blistering my soul but I can't feel

I'm WARNING this world  
To stay out of my way  
My voice will be heard  
I'M ALONE...

I won't be afraid  
I got something to say  
My voice will be heard  
So loud!  
Native Blood!

I'm WARNING this world  
To stay out of my way  
My voice will be heard  
SO STRONG!  
I won't be afraid  
I got something to say  
My voice will be heard, so loud!  
Native blood!  
MY NATIVE BLOOD!





*Eric Peterson*

RHYTHM & LEAD GUITARS,  
BACKING VOCALS



# dark roots of earth

(music: Peterson, Skolnick /  
lyrics: Peterson, Billy, \*)

Now that the sun won't shine  
Slow down and take your time  
Don't lose your mind it's all  
Soul destroying lies

I've walked for miles  
Past the sacred halls  
**SACRED HALLS!**  
My fists have bled  
As I smashed the walls  
**SMASH THE WALLS!**

Through this assault,  
A voice says halt,  
Your not supposed to be here

*I saw my grave  
I see no future  
Am I Insane  
Woven by the fabrics of the...*

Dark Roots of the Earth  
Echoes an eternity  
Dark Roots of the Earth  
Will see us home eventually

*Eric solo*

Now that the sun won't shine  
My world was left behind  
All Mankind will rise and fall  
Will anyone survive

*Will we be saved  
Is there a future left  
What will it take  
Woven by the fabrics of the...*

Dark Roots of the Earth  
Echoes an eternity  
Dark Roots of the Earth  
Will see us home eventually  
That's right!

*Alex solo*

Now that the sun won't shine  
Slow down and take some time  
The sands of time will fall  
Left to our demise

You hear the cries  
Through the sacred halls  
**SACRED HALLS!**  
The people pray  
To their god they call  
**GOD THEY CALL!**

To save the Earth  
For it's rebirth  
Are we supposed to be here...

*I saw my grave  
I see no future here  
Am I insane  
Woven by the fabrics of the...*

Dark Roots of the Earth  
Echoes an eternity  
Dark Roots of the Earth  
Will see us home eventually







# true american hate

*(music: Peterson, Skolnick /  
lyrics: Billy, \*\*)*

Fear nothing, say nothing  
Pledge allegiance to what's right  
The future in question  
Revolution overnite  
For all the disservice  
Into peril we fell  
My instinct ticking like a time bomb  
The human race implodes

Some choose to celebrate  
Some choose to hate  
Some choose to live their life  
Through someone else's pain  
All those who follow  
All those with faith  
Show us your colors American hate!  
TRUE AMERICAN HATE (3X)

Stand up and be counted  
Stand up for what's right  
Fall to resurgence  
Intuition overnite  
The final plot in question  
Evil mind overturned  
So many flags of hate  
So many nations scorned

Some choose to celebrate  
Some choose to hate  
Some choose to live their life  
Through someone else's pain

All those who follow  
All those with faith  
Show us your colors American hate!  
TRUE AMERICAN HATE (3X)

*1st solo Alex  
2nd solo Eric*

Stand tall and be proud  
Is there an end in sight  
Ever since conception  
Always fighting for your life  
Underneath the surface  
There toils your hell  
I'm ticking like a time bomb  
Watch the world explode!

Some choose to celebrate  
Some choose to hate  
Some choose to live their life  
Through someone else's pain  
All those who follow  
All those with faith  
Show us your colors American hate!  
TRUE AMERICAN HATE (5X)





*Alger Shelnick*

LEAD & RHYTHM GUITARS



# a day in the death

(music: Skolnick, Peterson /  
lyrics: Billy, Skolnick, \*\*)

Reanimate!  
Opinions of the masses  
Revolution's calling  
Wreaking havoc in the streets  
Aggravated aggression  
Is sold for all our own freedoms  
Occupy the system  
And release the grip on us

*Eric solo*

Military forces  
Are called in for reinforcements  
Blue and gold failures  
Denied to keep control and order  
Not another hostage  
Will be taken under  
March to defy!  
Stand up and be counted...

All the innocent and free  
All those who can see  
*My back is against the wall*  
Freedom for nothing, freedom for speech  
Freedom to believe  
*My back is against the wall*  
All of the hypocrisy  
Damn your government  
*My back is against the wall*  
All of the corruption now  
It doesn't make any sense  
*My back is against the wall*  
A day in the death  
A broken creed  
Your so called life in which we lead  
Forgotten dreams left behind  
Is all I'll find...

Just a day in the death  
A day in the death  
A day in the death of mankind

Something inside of me says  
The balance of life is at hand  
Thousands of protesting mothers  
Come here to rally in hordes  
*Together, Forever*  
*Together, For ever and ever...*  
Just a day in the death of mankind!

*Alex solo*

Reanimate!  
Opinions of the masses  
Revolution's calling  
Wreaking havoc in the streets  
Aggravated aggression  
Is sold for all our own freedom  
Occupy the system  
And release the grip on us

All the innocent and free  
All those who can see  
*My back is against the wall*  
Freedom for nothing, freedom for speech  
Freedom to believe  
*My back is against the wall*  
All of the hypocrisy  
Damn your government  
*My back is against the wall*  
All of the corruption now  
It doesn't make any sense  
*My back is against the wall*  
A day in the death  
A broken creed  
Your so called life in which we lead  
*My back is against the wall*  
Forgotten dreams left behind  
Is all I'll find!  
Just a day in the death  
A day in the death  
A day in the death of mankind







# cold embrace

(music: Peterson, Skolnick /  
lyrics: Billy, \*)

*Eric intro & theme solo*

There was a sign on an ancient veil,  
A dream that never really was  
She only ever seemed to hope for a world  
So surreal to the touch  
She doesn't want to wake  
She only wants to sleep  
Afraid of what they seek and where she's been  
When she awakes, she bends her knees to pray  
Praying for the secret to be safe...

Come take my hand  
Follow the path to infinity  
Come take my hand  
Trapped in the dark for eternity  
Come take my hand...

After all when the kingdom falls  
Her walls are shattered from within  
She tries to flee but she's trapped in this curse  
Waiting the cycle to begin  
She doesn't want to wake from her eternal sleep  
Afraid of what they know and where she is  
She doesn't follow faith she's stuck in her belief  
Sorrow is the color of her dream...

*Long ago...*  
*When she first opened her eyes*  
*There's no tomorrow*  
*The sun will never shine, no...*  
*The sun will never shine*  
*Yeab!*

The sun will never shine on you  
Daylight blinds your way  
The sun will never shine through you  
Now accept this cold embrace

Come take my hand  
Follow the path to infinity  
Come take my hand  
See everything that you want to see  
Come take my hand  
Find everything that you sought to seek  
Come take my hand  
Trading your life for immortality  
Come take my hand...

*Alex solo*

*Long ago...*  
*When she first opened her eyes*  
*There's no tomorrow*  
*The sun will never shine, no...*  
*The sun will never shine*  
*Yeab!*

The sun will never shine on you  
Daylight blinds your way  
The sun will never ever shine on you  
No the sun will never shine...

*Eric theme solo & outro*





Grey Christian  
BASS



# man kills mankind

*(music: Peterson /  
lyrics: Billy, \*)*

Long before the curtain call  
The dregs they had been cast  
Many screams and twisted dreams  
Flames lead to the throne

Winds of change, keeps you searching for the truth  
Sea of rage, slowly drowning wasted youth

Some people live the lie  
Some people don't  
Some people turn their cheek, while others hate!

Don't ask why....

The broken world spins too slow, bitterness tastes sweet  
Many paths, invoking wrath  
The wolves have stole the crown

Winds of change, keeps you searching for the truth  
Sea of rage, slowly drowning wasted youth

Man kills mankind  
Feeding the greed of the overfed swine  
Man kills mankind  
Again and again you choke on the vine  
Man kills mankind  
Feeding the greed of the overfed swine  
Man kills mankind

Again and again you choke on the vine  
Overfed swine, you keep choking and choking...

*Alex solo*

Some people live the lie  
Some people don't  
Some people are born to die  
Some people won't  
Some people are well-to-do  
Some people ain't  
Some people turn their cheek, while others hate!

Don't ask why...

Man kills mankind  
Feeding the greed of the overfed swine  
Man kills mankind  
Again and again you choke on the vine  
Man kills mankind  
Feeding the greed of the overfed swine  
Man kills mankind  
Again and again you choke on the vine  
Man kills mankind

Again and again you choke on the vine, overfed swine,  
You keep choking and choking...

*Eric outro harmony theme*







# throne of thorns

(music: Peterson, Skolnick /  
lyrics: Billy,\*)

Behold now, the power I wield that comes from my soul  
Crimson reign, reign through the fire of bodies I claim

Legions of darkness I call unto thee, decisions I make for I rule  
Blacken thy kingdom of warriors above  
Eager to storm iron gates...

God of war  
Fire born  
Throne of Thorns  
God of war  
No remorse  
Fire born

*"Listen to these words, to what I have said  
From my throne of thorns is where I shall rule  
Keeper of all, bringer of death!  
To challenge me, off with your head!"*

Crimson lust, warlords of torment that do what I please  
Power mad, opposing armies I feed on your death  
The fatally wounded forever forgotten,  
Histories written in blood  
The pillaging forces, blinded by hate  
My kingdom is out of control

God of war  
Fire born  
Throne of Thorns  
God of war  
No remorse  
Fire born

*"I am the master and you are the slave,  
Commanded to do what I say  
Bring down the heavens my legions await...  
Eager to storm iron gates!"*

*Alex solo*

Behold now,  
The power I wield comes straight from my soul  
Crimson reign, reign through the fire of bodies I claim  
Legions of darkness I call unto thee, decisions I make for I rule  
Blacken my kingdom of warriors above  
Eager to storm iron gates...

God of war  
No remorse  
God of war  
Throne of thorns  
Fire born  
Throne of thorns

*Eric outro solo*





Gene Hottel  
DRUMS



# last stand for independence

(music: Peterson /  
lyrics: Billy, \*)

Last chance for independence  
Call to arms to take a stand  
Fully armed, our forces strong  
Against the enemy we dance  
Life lost for liberty,  
Blood shed to protect our homes  
Stand tall, divided we fall  
The conflict takes it's deadly toll

You struggle to breathe  
Don't ever let go  
The less we conceive  
The stronger we grow!

Fight on for independence  
Charge through demolished lands  
Ears ring to the hum of bullets  
A tune a tragedy of man  
Never surrender, blood stains upon thy soul  
Burning flags and body bags  
The price of liberty for all

The last thing you'll see  
Is the last thing you'll know  
The less we conceive  
The stronger we grow!

Facing our death  
Struggle to breathe, choking on fear  
In god we trust  
Oppression for years  
Blood sweat and tears

Will we ever know  
The stillness of the storm...

Can we readjust  
Our failures into trust...

*Eric whammy solo*  
*Alex solo*

Last chance for independence  
The final call to make a stand  
Hold fast, united strong  
Against the enemy at hand  
Never surrender, blood stains upon thy soul  
Burning flags, and body bags  
The price of liberty for all

You struggle to breathe  
Don't ever let go  
The less we conceive  
The stronger we grow!

Facing our death  
Struggle to breathe, choking on fear  
In god we trust  
Oppression for years  
Blood sweat and tears



# TESTAMENT

Chuck Billy: *Vocals*

Eric Peterson: *Rhythm & lead guitars, backing vocals*

Alex Skolnick: *Lead & rhythm guitars*

Greg Christian: *Bass*

Gene Hoglan: *Drums*

## POWERSLAVE

Originally performed by Iron Maiden  
Music & Lyrics by Paul Bruce Dickinson  
Published by Iron Maiden Publishing  
Overseas LTD

## ANIMAL MAGNETISM

Originally performed by Scorpions  
Music by Rudolf Schenker  
Lyrics by Hermann Erbel & Klaus Meine  
Published by Arabella Music Edition  
Munich

## DRAGON ATTACK

Originally performed by Queen  
Music & Lyrics by Brian Harold May  
Published by Queen Music LTD



### *Dark Roots of Earth*

Recorded in the Fall and Winter of 2011  
through 2012

@ Driftwood studios, Oakland, CA  
& Backstage Studios, Derby, UK  
Recorded and Engineered  
by Andy Sneap

Additional recordings by Juan Urteaga  
@ Trident Studios, Martinez, CA.  
Produced, Mixed and Mastered by  
Andy Sneap with TESTAMENT

Cover art and booklet by Eliran Kantor  
Cover art concept by Eric Peterson

All band photos by Gino Carlini  
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#### *Other writers:*

\* Del Fajmes

\*\* Steve Souza

### *Bonus Tracks*

Recorded by Juan Urteaga @ Trident  
Studios, Martinez, CA.

Mixed by Juan Urteaga with  
Chuck Billy & Eric Peterson

With additional recordings @ Spin  
Studios, Long Island City, NY by Nik  
Chinboukas (Dragon Attack) and Paul  
Suarez (Animal Magnetism, Powerslave)

Joseph W. Huston Management And  
Consulting L.L.C.

### *US Bookings*

Scott Sokol

Pinnacle Inc.

scott@pinnacleentertainment.com  
www.pinnacleentertainment.com

### *Europe Bookings*

Adam Saunders

Xray touring

info@xraytouring.com  
xraytouring.com

Legal representation by Elliot Cahn  
cahnman@aol.com

### *testament merchandising*

Hi Fidelity Entertainment  
www.11345.com

### *Band site & info*

www.testamentlegions.com



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**Chuck uses and abuses:** Shure microphones, TC Electronics, Affliction clothing.

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**Eric plays and endorses:** Dean Electric Guitars, EVH amplifiers, EMG pick ups, Dunlop strings & picks & wah pedals, MXR stomp pedals, Gibson Acoustic Guitars, Toon Tracks, TC Electronics, ZOOM, Moog FX, Affliction Jewelry, G-star clothing.

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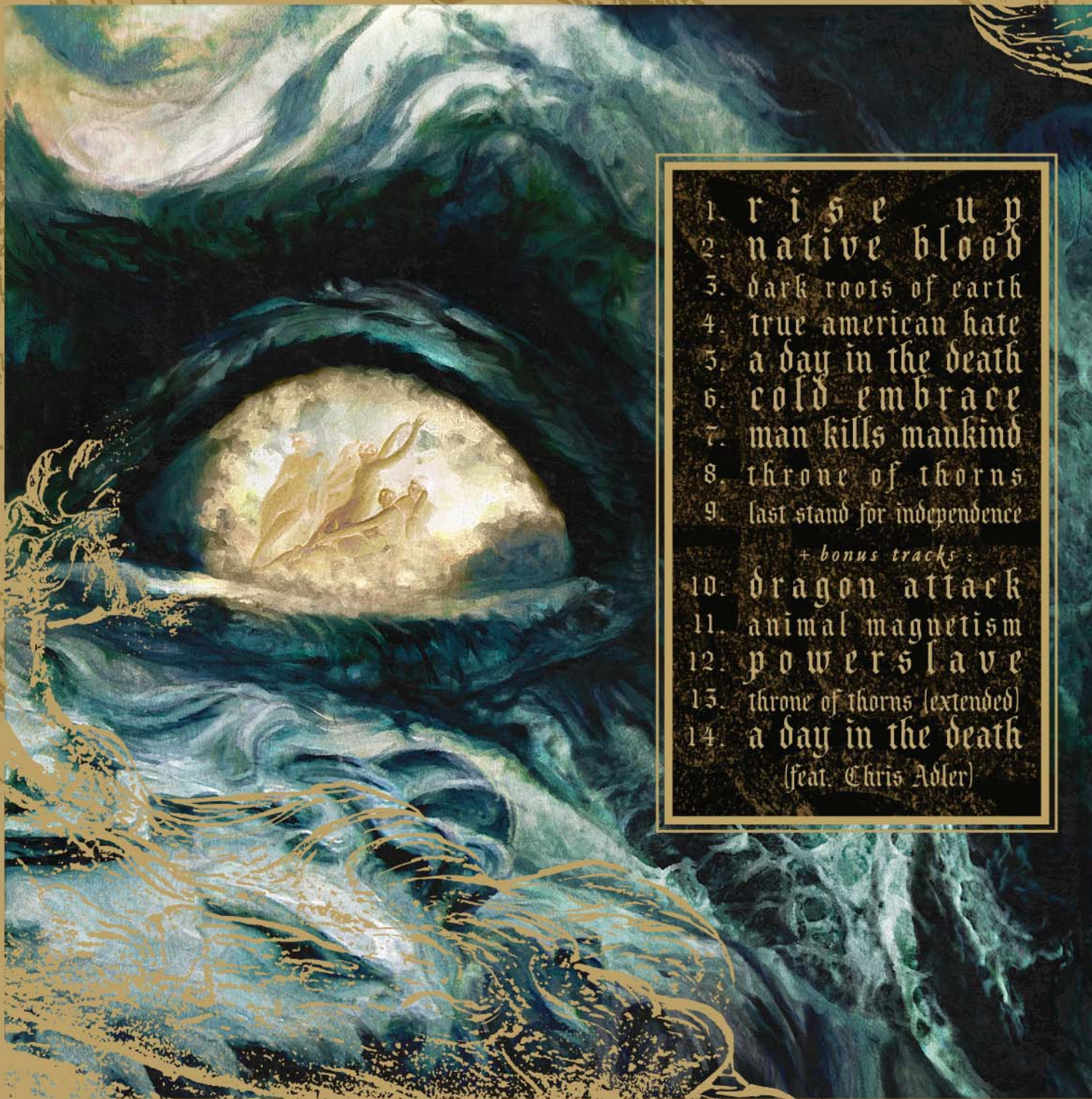
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*This record is dedicated to the life and memory of Peter Plug & Armand Butts Crump the 3rd.*









1. r i s e u p
2. n a t i v e b l o o d
3. d a r k r o o t s o f e a r t h
4. t r u e a m e r i c a n h a t e
5. a d a y i n t h e d e a t h
6. c o l d e m b r a c e
7. m a n k i l l s m a n k i n d
8. t h r o n e o f t h o r n s
9. l a s t s t a n d f o r i n d e p e n d e n c e

*+ bonus tracks :*

10. d r a g o n a t t a c k
11. a n i m a l m a g n e t i s m
12. p o w e r s l a v e
13. t h r o n e o f t h o r n s ( e x t e n d e d )
14. a d a y i n t h e d e a t h

(feat. Chris Adler)