



Name Surname

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Song Analysis of "Fields of Verdun" by Sabaton

Sabaton is not the most famous band out there. Still, it has garnered a following of a pretty sizable fanbase. And for a good reason. Its tracks are full of energy, power, and catchy motives. But the most important feature of this band is the historical basis of each and every one of its compositions. And all of them have to deal with famous battles and conflicts.

World War I has been one of the bloodiest and most brutal timeframes in human history. Naturally, these events have become a foundation for plenty of Sabaton songs. Some better and some worse. In this case, we will be analyzing their song "Fields of Verdun" and why it stands out from the crowd of the rest of their records.

Let's start with the historical background. The battle of Verdun that took place in 2016 is an outlier even by the standards of World War I. It is also one of the longest battles of human history that grinded soldiers down almost non-stop for nearly a full year. This sort of imagery elicits strong emotions. And it's a perfect choice of an episode to try to depict a band like Sabaton. The electro guitar and the continuous beat do their absolute best to put the listener in the right mood. And the lyrics that depict imagery from the battle focus the attention of the audience and provide a great tying element for the entire composition.

On the topic of lyrics, the wordsmithing displayed here is pretty interesting. Let's focus our attention on the chorus. The endings of every line form a stable chant-like vocal part. It's



easy to follow and can draw the listener in quickly. The rhyme doesn't change, creating the feeling of endlessness that tries to emulate months after months of combat. The brief breaks between voice lines don't really give the audience enough time to recuperate.

"Fields of Verdun" has a very powerful vibe. It focuses on the energy of the battle rather than the tragedy of it. But then again, so do the absolute majority of the band's tracks. All things considered, it might just be one of their best songs. The lead singer is very good at pushing the energy through to the listener. He is definitely the highlight of the band. This is not to say that the rest of the band isn't great. But the effect of the singer's voice can be felt even when you are enjoying a recording. And when the experience is enhanced with a live performance - the effect is simply stunning.

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