

Brainwashed - X-TG, "Faet Narok"

Written by John Kealy

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The final part of the X-TG story is *Faet Narok*, a bonus "dark" version of *Desertshore* that comes as a download with the special edition of

Desertshore/The Final Report

. It is quite different from

Desertshore

even though it follows the same layout as the main album. The bonus album's title roughly translates from Thai into "double hell," but the music is far from hellish, indeed it may be darker but it is nicely soporific and ambient. The vocals are treated and pushed into the music, becoming part of the sound rather than becoming background detail. Antony's voice becomes a plaintive call from behind the veil, Bargeld's a polyglot babble of madness. Even Grey and Noé sound much better here as disembodied forms than they do in the "proper" versions.

[Industrial Records](#)

The pieces that feature Cosey come out best in this way, "Faet Norak Five" (the reworking of "All That Is My Own") is especially good. The lyrics are still barely audible and the music moves at a slow, almost subconscious pace; together it feels like the song has slipped from my normal perception into some dream-like state. "Faet Norak Eight" (a version of "My Only Child") sounds like a hymn, albeit one that has drifted in via Tangerine Dream rather than a church. It reminds me of the sort of vibes that Andrew McKenzie of The Hafler Trio got out of his remixes for Fovea Hex a few years ago; stretched sounds and remarkable reverberation coalescing in the air around me.

While *Faet Norak* is a nice addition to this final collection, it seems strange to tag it on only as a download. It would have made more sense to me to include it and

Desertshore

as a proper release and give

The Final Report

its own individual release. However, having it at all is better than nothing so beggars cannot be choosers.

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samples:

- [Faet Narok Two](#)
- [Faet Narok Four](#)
- [Faet Narok Eight](#)