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The thrilling story of American black metal coming soon in Czech translation

The Bible of the American black metal. Such can be said, without exaggeration, about the book *USBM: A Revolution of Identity in American Black Metal*, the Czech edition of which shall be published mid-January by the Prague-based label and publisher MetalGate.

This mighty opus of more than 500 pages long was penned by Daniel Lake, a long-time contributor to the iconic Decibel Magazine, as well as to the Chronicles of Chaos webzine. The high school teacher by trade and native to Maryland delved deep into the bewildering history of black metal, while focusing (obviously inferred by the title) exclusively on the U.S. scene that spawned such notable bands as Von, Black Funeral, Leviathan or Nachtmystium.

"USBM is my attempt to tell the most compelling histories that shelter underneath this broad stylistic umbrella," states the author in the book's introduction. *"It is far from exhaustive; no cohesive volume could possibly pack in all the variants, undercurrents and flash-in-the-pan inspirations that have populated more than 30 years of music, especially given black metal's porous nature with other subgenres. Instead, each of the stories offered here represents dozens of other efforts by rabidly individualistic musicians with their own demons to summon or exorcise."*

Furthermore, the foreword to the book was penned by Tom G. Warrior, the legendary frontman of Celtic Frost, Hellhammer and Triptikon, who among other things muses as to how the European scene regarded its American counterpart.

USBM: A Revolution of Identity in American Black Metal is something all fans of extreme metal should have in their collections. It is also a fitting addition to MetalGate's catalogue that already includes four books on black metal by Dayal Patterson.

This year, MetalGate also plans to publish more books about extreme metal, so watch out for more treats!