

SICKO

I (Frank FOE) got to talk to Sicko (actually just Josh) on the phone before they left for their current tour, which will be the first time the power pop, melodic punk rockin' band will hit the East Coast...

FOE The Sicko lineup isn't your typical lineup...

JOSH No, I play drums, while Denny & Ean (sp?) both play guitar and bass and sing. The way it works is the songs they write, they sing and play guitar. Ean is more of a poppier, goofy writer and Denny is more serious, more punk, though the band does maintain it's sound for both.

FOE How do you feel about all of this being the drummer?

JOSH That's fine, I sometimes regret not having a medium, but I help with arrangements.

FOE But I bet neither one of them can play drums, so you can't rotate...

JOSH Not very well. There is one song, "What's On", where I play bass and Ean plays the drums.

FOE As far as the computer geek stuff, who are the geeks of the band.

JOSH Ean and I are. I do the web page. Denny is the only illiterate. He doesn't even have a cd player. He is still under the impression that it is cool to be ignorant.

FOE Approximately how many naked photos have you downloaded off of the internet.

JOSH Probably in the low tens. Of course when you first get on there you are curious, and you look around and you do find out that there are in fact pictures of children having sex, but after the novelty wears off, you just stop.

FOE So where do you spend your time on the internet now that the novelty of naked people via computer lines has worn off?

JOSH We have a group of friends who will find some sort of disgusting web site with some nasty pictures and they'll be like hey check this out. There's this one called Crimelinks and it has like crime of the day and it has evidence photos and cool stuff like that. Serial murder web sites. It'll walk you through a person going into a post office and offing all of the people. Ean found this one, it's someone's gallery of the grotesque.. of course they have Cobain's autopsy photo, and you know that politician who, five or ten years ago who shot himself in front of the television camera, and they show Nicole Brown-Simpson lying in her own pool of blood.

FOE I'll have to check that one out.

JOSH The really grotesque ones are the one's I like to check out.

FOE So is that why you named the band Sicko?

JOSH Ean and Denny were friends in college and there was this one girl there who used to call them sickos. So we were just like, "Let's call ourselves Sicko", and four years later, it's not as funny or descriptive,

but people remember the name... If there is a Pearl Jam and Soundgarden out there then Sicko isn't that bad.

FOE All you all still dateless losers? (Referring to a song on their new disc where they have a song and club for dateless losers.)

JOSH Actually none of us are dateless at this point. It is a point of contention between us. It was always Ean's thing. He was definitely a dateless loser at the time. But we all have steadies right now.

FOE Did having the song on the new disc have anything with Ean getting a date?

JOSH Well you know, sex, drugs, & rock and roll. They are all tied. Maybe his status as an indie rocker has gotten him a girlfriend. She's actually above that.

FOE So do you really get people writing to your fan club of dateless losers?

JOSH We do. People will send us pictures of themselves watching television by themselves to prove that they are dateless losers. It's actually pretty funny. I mean a lot of people can relate to it.

FOE So do you feel like a traitor to the club?

JOSH Ean and I have argued about this, and we've sorta come to the conclusion that you either are or aren't a dateless loser, whether or not you have a girlfriend or boyfriend. You might drift in and out of being dateless, but the fact that you are a loser will persist throughout your life. You can be a dateful loser.

FOE Multiple choice question... The members of the band, sickos or just misunderstood...

JOSH Denny misunderstood. Ean sicko, Josh sicko...

FOE And why, we need the proof.

JOSH If you have the first album, that is Ean's ass and those spots, although the picture is black and white, those spots wouldn't be black if it weren't color... enough said on that... Denny, he is misunderstood, he is a surly guy. He is an angry young man, the Elvis Costello of Sicko. And me, we already went into my fascination with grotesque images. I figure if I talk about it I won't do it.

FOE Sickest thing you ever saw on tour?

JOSH We were playing in Vancouver BC once... and Ean has this bad habit of inviting people up on stage to dance. It can be fun but this one time, this guy, I don't know maybe the beer is stronger up there, but he was really drunk and this guy pulled his pants down and started pouring beer down the crack of his ass and then actually put the bottle in his ass while we were playing on stage and then through the bottle into the audience which split the room like you never seen people get out of the way of a bottle before. I mean people were not into getting hit with this bottle. And then during the next set, this same guy broke a bottle over his head. There was blood just streaming down his face. The guy was out of his mind. Then the last time we were there, he came up and was like remember the guy who put the beer bottle up his ass, that was me! He promised that he wasn't going to drink that night...

