

The Good Album

✖ By All Star United | E! Entertainment

The Grammy-nominated rock band All Star United (ASU) has had to curtail their touring a bit recently because of lead man Ian Eskelin's demand as a writer/producer. But the group is still dedicated to making good, fun music. And their sixth project, *The Good Album*, proves it.

"We keep making All Star records because it keeps us sane," Eskelin explains. "Writing and producing for other artists is a very different thing from saying what you personally really want to say in the way you really want to say it. Making an ASU record means we don't have to hold anything back. That means a lot of guitars and a lot of satire, and a whole lot of fun."

The rocking opener "Surface of the Sun" tells us to "turn up the love," and in order to do that we have to abide in the source—Jesus. "The Blame" ballad is a reminder of what Christ did for us, taking our guilt, shame and pain and offering us grace. "Crashing Cars" has a fun melody yet a sobering message about offering forgiveness and love even in the midst of hurt and disappointment.

The band doesn't shy away from tough topics. And sometimes they take a bit more humorous approach. "Good Luck With the Girls" points out that "love is more than we thought in junior high." True love is self-less, faithful and dedicated.

"It's called *The Good Album*," Eskelin explains, "because the word 'good' kept showing up in song titles, and we thought there was something funny about calling it that. But the truth is, this really feels like the best ASU album we've ever turned out. Not that I'm biased or anything."

Perhaps the best "good" of *The Good Album* (and ASU in general)

is the fact that you can understand the vocals even on the hardest rock-out song. Longtime fans will enjoy another collection of great songs from their favorite group. And audiences of all ages should appreciate the direct and faith-building messages.

This album also features the bonus track, "Beautiful Way," as well as a Bible study guide for each of the songs (available at [this link](#)). Click here to purchase this CD.