

INTERVIEW TO RICARDO RODRIGUEZ AUTHOR MEXICO

Interview by Tiziana Hurd - November 2024

D: Hello Ricardo, I'm very glad you allowed this interview as The Black Academy's fan.

First of all, I thank you for supporting the band with "likes" and spreading their music. I suppose you are excited, right?

```
A:
Yes, I'm very excited.
```

D: I read you are an Author, how beautiful; I especially like to read books of stories that really happened or books always about history but connected to politics.

Tell me about your writing style, and if soon we will have the pleasure of reading your new book.

**A:** 

Oh yes, I am a writer of science fiction books. I have completed 7 books so far. And right now I'm writing 3 more. The stories I write share the same world, it is known as the UTEOTT! Universe. D: It's been a long time that I've been seeing your "likes" on Facebook and comments on YouTube, which are always nice to read.

How many years have you been listening to The Black Academy and also Gregory Crimson solo Artist? How and when did it all start?

**A**:

I met Gregory Crimson many years ago, when I heard a cover he did of My Chemical Romance. Some time later I heard the premiere of his single "Wake Up" and I felt a connection with that song ever since. I became a fan of him since then and was always aware of his music, until the day The Black Academy was formed. When they released their single "The Vampire" for their album "Dead Of Superheros", I was about to present my first printed book "VAER Sobrevivientes" at the "AFIL de Monterrey 2016", the lyrics of the song reminded me a lot of the experiences that the main character of my book goes through his first adventure, that motivated me to establish a closer relationship with them. D: Music expresses what we feel at that precise moment, so depending on our mood we decide what to listen to. Does the same thing happen when you write a book? Do music and writing have the same feeling?

## **A**:

Yes, I believe in that relationship. In fact, there are times when I can have a creative block because I don't have the right emotion and music with or without lyrics helps me overcome it. Gregory's music as a solo artist and with The Black Academy has helped me overcome several of these blocks, which is why I get excited every time there is something new. D: I'm sure you know The Black Academy's music very well. What is your favorite song and why?

## **A:**

Wow, the most difficult question. All the songs seem beautiful to me, this is where I have to name one per album, "The Vampire" is definitely my favorite song from the first album, today it is nostalgic to listen to it, because I relate it a lot to the whole odyssey that was fulfilling my dream of publishing my first printed book. For the second "Queens and Daggers" when I heard it for the first time, it made me imagine a whole plot of intrigue and betrayal, far from the literary genre that I usually write and personally, I like to have that type of bursts of inspiration. D: What do you love most and what do you expect in the future from the band? A:

What I love most is that they make me feel strong when I listen to them, the music provokes an explosion of emotions in me that make me move my head or my limbs, no matter where I am. For the future I hope they have greater dissemination, they are great, I know they will go far.

D: We hope to play in Mexico soon and in the meantime, we will open a worldwide Fanclub. Would you like to be part of it? What would you like the Fanclub to do for its fans?

**A:** 

Yes, I would love to be part of the global fan club. And I dream of meeting you in person, if one day you come to Mexico, remember "Monterrey is the letter of introduction for the country." As a fan I would like to see a videography of the members, it would be good to start, like those that some bands used to release on DVD in the 2000s made you connect more with the members. I would also love to see some acoustic performances of some of their songs. D: The interview ends here. Thank you for your time and for loving the band. As soon as the Fanclub is ready, I will call you.
I leave it to you to finish our meeting by leaving you the space to say everything you want to the band and to those who will read you'.

For the band: guys, thank you for being part of my life, I know we haven't met in person (yet) but you are always in my day to day, you accompany me in my best moments and in my worst too, while I rest at home, on the way to work and during work and even when I need to escape the world. My wife, my daughters and I, we send you a hug from Mexico and we wish you all the success you deserve.

For the fans: Thank you for the support, we are facing one of the best bands of the time, we must spread the word.

For new fans: Thank you for joining our community, I hope you enjoy this for your entire life.

To Gregory: Thank you for your friendship, I hope you will always be as creative and restless as you have been until now. And if one day you feel bad, read these words again and remember that despite the distance, you have changed my life.