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13, 2023 by [Matthias Mineur \(https://www.metal-hammer.de/autoren/matthias-mineur/\)](https://www.metal-hammer.de/autoren/matthias-mineur/)



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On their third album, LIFE FORCE, the duo Garry King/Gina Bafle, aka Darkyra, employs a rather pompous and anthemic hard rock style, pushing the stylistic boundaries of symphonic metal. This is primarily due to Ms. Bafle, whose bell-like voice oscillates between Kate Bush and Tarja Turunen (ex-Nightwish), yet also possesses narrative skills. True to the album title, she tells of life's adventures, of good and evil, joy and suffering, happiness and sorrow—in short, of the great challenge of having to constantly face different emotional surges as a human being.

[LIFE FORCE on Amazon \(https://www.amazon.de/Life-Force-Darkyra/dp/B0F7B45YH2tag=metahamm-21\)](https://www.amazon.de/Life-Force-Darkyra/dp/B0F7B45YH2tag=metahamm-21)

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Her congenial partner Garry King, who has worked with Jeff Beck and Joe Lynn Turner, among others, took care of the production standards of the Bafle compositions, but opted for a gruff, quite complex sound and, instead of warm analog sounds and delicate instrumental contributions, favored a bit too much today's, digitally connoted listening habits. While this may be contemporary, it doesn't always do justice to Darkyra's emotional voice.

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