

Three Days Grace Concert Review

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Today, I want to review the Three Days Grace Alienation Tour, with supporting acts I Prevail and The Funeral Portrait. The show took place in Fort Wayne, Indiana, at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, and it was the first stop on the tour.

The vibe going into the concert was super intense for me. It was not just because it was Three Days Grace's first major tour in about seven years, or because Alienation was their first album since Explosions in 2022. It was also because this was the first time Adam Gontier had returned since his departure from the band in 2013.

After releasing iconic albums like their self-titled debut in July 2003, which included hits like "Home" and "I Hate Everything About You," One-X in 2006, with "Pain," "Animal I Have Become," "Never Too Late," and "Riot," Life Starts Now in 2009, with songs like "Break," "Lost in You," "World So Cold," and "The Good Life," and 2012's Transit of Venus, with "Chalk Outline" and "The High Road," Adam Gontier left the band due to writing differences.

He would later join Mike Mushok, guitarist of Staind, to form Saint Asonia. Meanwhile, Three Days Grace released three albums: Human in 2015, Outsider in 2018, and Explosions, as mentioned earlier, with songs like "Painkiller" and "So Called Life."

This tour marked a major milestone for the band and the start of a new era. "Apologies" had already reached No. 1 on the mainstream rock charts in the U.S. and Canada, so the concert came with major expectations.

There was a mix of older and younger fans, which makes sense given the fact that Three Days Grace has been a familiar name in the rock scene for two decades. This concert felt even bigger to me because I grew up hearing Three Days Grace, but I had never gotten the chance to see them live.

Traffic was insane on the way to the venue, and we were a little late to the show. When we arrived, we saw just how packed the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum was.

The Funeral Portrait sort of set the stage for the night. From my point of view, it seemed like not many people knew who they were. I had only heard their song "Dark Thoughts," which is about struggles with mental health and anxiety, but I had not heard much of their other music.

I would say they won over people who did not know them. At the same time, their set also felt a little out of place. The band had an active but calm stage presence, and there was not as much flashy production compared to the other bands.

The reason I say they felt out of place is because their set was much shorter than the other bands, and their stage presence was not as energetic. It was more about getting people settled in and making them feel at home. They did a great job welcoming people in, and even though I am not their biggest fan, I would still go see them again.

One of my favorite parts of the night was when I Prevail took the stage. They had a commanding presence. You knew immediately who had just taken the stage, and they made sure you were aware of it. They had a more modern metalcore and hard rock setup, with huge stage arrangements and screaming backing vocals.

Like Three Days Grace, I Prevail has gone through several lineup changes. In 2025, I Prevail parted ways with clean vocalist Brian Burkheiser, the voice behind hits like “Blank Space,” “Scars,” and “Hurricane.” Both the band and Brian described it as an amicable separation.

For years, Brian had struggled with clean singing in a live setting during multiple performances. It got to the point where continuing with him would have been unsustainable.

Instead of bringing in a new member and teaching him the ropes of how I Prevail writes and records, they made one of the smartest band changes I have seen in years. They handed the keys to Eric Vanlerberghe, the former harsh vocalist.

I will admit that I was unsure how this band would sound without Brian. For years, I have been a fan of I Prevail because of Brian’s emotional singing, especially on songs like “Scars,” a song about pushing through your struggles even when life gets hard.

But I Prevail proved me wrong that night. Their newer songs, like “Rain,” and their cover of “Sad But True” ignited the stage with energy. People were moshing and going crazy. They helped us escape what was going on in the world, and they fully embraced us in their new modern direction.

Dillon Bowman helped out with harsh vocals live, and the band played a majority of newer songs from their 2025 album *Violent Nature*. Eric sang the songs with pure emotion, and he has incredible range live.

His vocal power was so intense that you could feel the words in your bones. I was stunned that the band had kept him silent for so long — silent in the sense that he had not been allowed to lead up to this point. I would definitely go see them again.

Now it is time to talk about the best part of the night, which was, without a doubt, Three Days Grace. When they took the stage, they came in aggressively and opened with their song “Dominate.” “Dominate” is the first track off their album *Alienation*, and in my opinion, they could not have picked a better opener.

Their set was emotional, nostalgic, and intense. They had lots of moments where they got the crowd involved, whether people were moshing or singing along.

They played many of their older songs, including “Animal I Have Become,” “So Called Life,” “Break,” “Home,” “The Mountain,” “I Hate Everything About You,” “Pain,” “Riot,” and “Never Too Late.”

Adam Gontier even took time before launching into another part of the set to pay tribute to 3 Doors Down frontman Brad Arnold with “Here Without You.”

They played a heavy set, but there was also a section where they moved into an acoustic setup. During this part, they had a cabana-style stage arrangement. Adam Gontier played guitar and sang, while Matt Walst also sang.

In this setup, they played several deep cuts, including “Wake Up,” “Get Out Alive,” and “Lifetime.” This was amazing because we got to see two sides of the band: a heavy, intense, mosh-heavy set and a more melodic, emotional side.

I have always been a fan of rock music because it brings people together. No matter what battles people are facing, they can come together and forget about life for a while.

The venue felt different for each band, but not because one band was louder than another. It was because of how certain songs connected with longtime fans. For I Prevail, that song was “Hurricane,” and for Three Days Grace, I would say it was “I Hate Everything About You.”

Overall, each band did a great job inviting the crowd in and making people feel a sense of belonging.

I would say the concert was worth the ticket price. This show will stick in my memory as one of the best concerts I have ever attended. I would recommend it to people who barely know the bands, as well as to longtime fans.

If you love live music, you will love this show because the songs are relatable, and there is something for everyone. This show is a perfect example of why live music matters.