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POP EVIL RELEASE 8TH STUDIO ALBUM *WHAT REMAINS* TODAY, MARCH 21, VIA MNRK

BAND SHARES OFFICIAL MUSIC VIDEO FOR "SIDE EFFECTS" — [WATCH](#)

"What Remains is truly an exciting piece of music, from front to back, proving that post-grunge and nu-metal can still sound fresh and exciting in 2025." — **Blabbermouth (9/10 review)**

"A volcanic eruption. It is a cathartic release and could mean Pop Evil will continue along this heavier trajectory, or not... because we all know little is predictable with this band." — **Cryptic Rock**

Modern rock powerhouse **POP EVIL** — vocalist **Leigh Kakaty**, guitarists **Dave Grahs** and **Nick Fuelling**, bassist **Joey "Chicago" Walser**, and drummer **Blake Allison** — have proudly released their eighth album ***WHAT REMAINS***. It arrived today, March 21, via **MNRK**. Get it [here](#).

Pop Evil have also shared the video for "**Side Effects**." Watch the performance clip for the ferocious track, which is loaded with explosive riffs and a tectonic plate-shifting breakdown, [here](#).

The song is an arena-ready juggernaut and boasts rueful lines such as *"The world I built you tried to tear apart"* and *"Why did I try so hard to prove / What's killing you is killing me too,"* serving a powerful, unshielded message for anyone who has found themselves in a toxic situation and seeks the strength to break free for their own happiness and growth.

"Every action causes a reaction, a side effect," says Kakaty. "Toxicity is a virus that spreads and kills, but liberation and healing lies in an antidote you already possess. And now is the time to take it."



The band will also hit the road on a massive Spring 2025 headline tour. They will hit the road on April 8 in Tulsa and the trek runs through May 18 in Bloomington, Indiana. Devour the Day (which features members of Pop Evil), Return to Dust, and Oni will serve as support.

All dates are below. Get tickets and VIP packages [here](#).

POP EVIL ON TOUR:

4/8 — Tulsa, OK — Cains Ballroom
4/10 — Dallas, TX — Echo Soundstage
4/11 — Little Rock, AR — The Hall
4/12 — Columbia, MO — The Blue Note
4/13 — Lincoln, NE — Bourbon Theatre
4/14 — Denver, CO — Oriental
4/15 — Colorado Springs, CO — The Black Sheep
4/17 — Los Angeles, CA — Regent Theater
4/19 — Phoenix, AZ — Marquee Theatre
4/22 — Boise, ID — Knitting Factory
4/23 — Seattle, WA — The Neptune
4/24 — Spokane, WA — Knitting Factory
4/25 — Salem, OR — Elsinore Theatre
4/26 — Reno, NV — Cargo
4/29 — Vancouver, BC — Rickshaw Theatre
5/1 — Calgary, AB — The Palace Theatre
5/2 — Edmonton, AB — Century Show Room+
5/3 — Saskatoon, SK — Louis
5/4 — Winnipeg, MB — Park Theatre
5/6 — Chicago, IL — Bottom Lounge
5/7 — Green Bay, WI — EPIC
5/8 — Des Moines, IA — Wooly's*
5/9 — Grand Rapids, MI — 20 Monroe*
5/10 — Detroit, MI — The Fillmore*

5/12 — Lititz, PA — Mickey's*
5/15 — Charlotte, NC — The Underground*
5/16 — Myrtle Beach, SC — House of Blues*
5/17 — Louisville, KY — Mercury Ballroom*
5/18 — Bloomington, IL — The Castle Theatre*

^Pop Evil Only

*No Return To Dust

+No Devour The Day

For two decades, Pop Evil frontman Leigh Kakaty has needed to mine the deepest of reserves in order to drag the band up from the blue-collar grassroots of his local Michigan scene to stand proud at the top of the modern rock game. Soaring successes, bitter defeats... Leigh Kakaty has survived it all.

What Remains is the culmination and story of this journey with Pop Evil, laid bare like never before. Continuing in the recent vein of 2023's acclaimed ***Skeletons***, the new opus is both sonically and thematically Pop Evil's heaviest ever offering; a thundering collection of arena-ready modern rock and metal hits in which Kakaty opens heart, mind, and soul.

"There are a lot of issues and things that I've dealt with in this journey of Pop Evil that I've buried for a long time," the frontman explains of this document of resilience, perseverance, and accountability.

Pop Evil were born in North Muskegon, Michigan in 2001, Kakaty drawing on the lessons of a youth first shaped not by music, but by high school basketball — leadership, team work, the drive to improve in the lonely hours put in at the gym at 5am, the will to win suppressing any fear — in order to fight tooth and nail for their break-out moment.

"I was hustling and learning every day to make my dreams come true," Kakaty recalls of his time playing local bars and slinging early EPs out of the back of his truck. "Studying never interested me. Neither did getting a regular job. A knee injury wrecked my shot at playing sports. Music was all I wanted to do from that moment, and I didn't give myself a backup plan. Pop Evil gave me a purpose, and a reason to get up every day. It became a crusade."

Lipstick on the Mirror, their 2008 debut, and its follow-up, ***War of Angels***, brought acclaim and global attention; 2013's ***Onyx*** delivered the first of the band's nine No. 1 singles and six RIAA-certified gold and platinum plaques, but also a period of darkness brought on by the grief of Kakaty losing his father. "I was completely lost ... I had just missed the last five years with my dad, chasing this dream when I could have been with him. I didn't know if I wanted or could do Pop Evil any more," he says. The band's 2017 self-titled album, opened by the smash-hit "Waking Lions" was written "pretty much to save my life" — but in turn "reminded me of the fire I have inside, and that God put me here to make music that could help people."

It's a mission statement enshrined in Pop Evil to this day — and which provided the spark for the genesis of *What Remains*.

"You're always chasing that one song that can connect with that one person," Kakaty says. "And that process has to start with yourself. There's a lot of personal healing on this record, a lot of things I wanted to get out for my own mental well-being. I'm finally at a place where I can confront my demons."

Sonically, the album is a riotous explosion of life-affirming noise; a vortex of scything riffs and gut-punch drum beats that regularly give way to Pop Evil's hallmark anthemic choruses.

"We set out to push boundaries," nods Kakaty. "Metal has always been a part of our DNA, but we've never made it such a focal point before. A lot of writing on this record has been about listening to what my soul is saying and letting the songs find their own path, rather than chasing a sound that might fit in on the radio. I think you can really hear the mood and emotion of the album's themes in the music."

WHAT REMAINS TRACK LISTING:

"The Bullet That Missed"

"Deathwalk"

"What Remains"

"Wishful Thinking"

"Side Effects"

"Criminal"

"Enough Is Enough"

"Zero To None"

"Knife For The Butcher"

"Overkill"



ABOUT MNRK MUSIC GROUP:

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