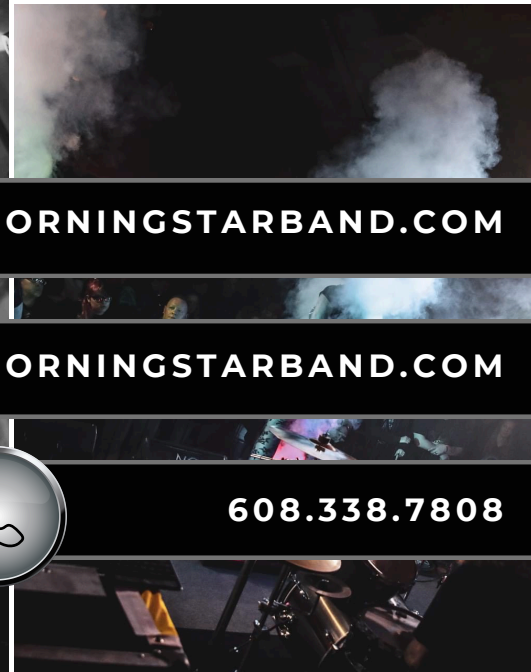


# MORNINGSTAR

## P R E S S   K I T



[BAND@MORNINGSTARBAND.COM](mailto:BAND@MORNINGSTARBAND.COM)

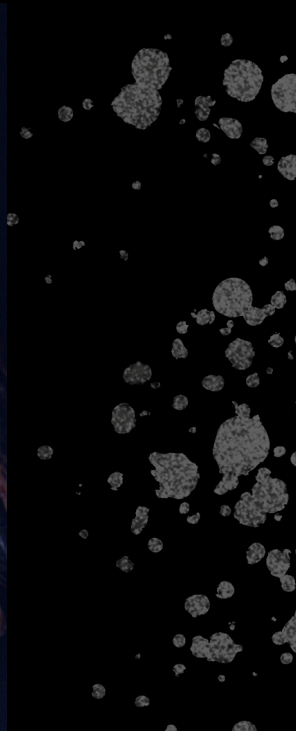


[MORNINGSTARBAND.COM](http://MORNINGSTARBAND.COM)

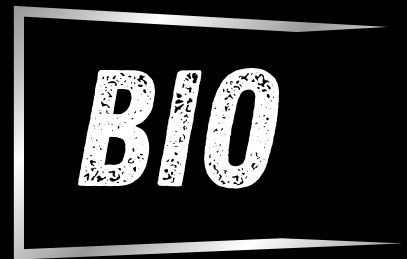


608.338.7808





Morningstar is a hard rock/metal band from Madison, WI, blending thrash metal, classic, and modern hard rock to create a powerful, **symphonic melodic metal sound** uniquely their own. Known for their genre-defying music, Morningstar delivers an **intense fusion** of **progressive emotional rock** with high-energy live performances that audiences eagerly connect with. Initially told they were "too heavy" for rock shows and "too light" for metal, the band persevered and carved out their own niche in the Midwest music scene.



They've performed at prominent venues and festivals like Rock Fest, Brat Fest, Northwoods Rock Rally, Monster Hall Fest and Rock-2-Stop, a charitable event supporting veterans. And they've shared the stage with acts such as Taproot, Smile Empty Soul, Bobaflex, Gemini Syndrome, Royal Bliss, The Black Moods, September Mourning, Stitched Up Heart, Otherwise, KrashKarma, and more, solidifying their reputation as a standout in the region.

Beyond the stage, Morningstar is **known for engaging with fans** in person and online, fostering a fun, interactive community.

Morningstar's sound features heavy riffs, powerful vocals, and emotionally charged lyrics, **blending aggressive energy with melodic progression**. Their music shifts between introspective moments and anthemic choruses, creating a balance that appeals to both rock and metal fans. Visually, their live shows are equally compelling, featuring dramatic lighting, fog effects, and **cinematic theatrics** that create an immersive, unforgettable experience.

In 2022, they released their debut album *Between Your World and Mine*, which won Hard Rock/Metal Album of the Year at the 2023 Madison Area Music Awards. In 2024, Morningstar was named a finalist for several WAMIs and MAMA award categories.



# ORIGINS

The story of Morningstar begins in rural Wisconsin, where vocalist Amber Swenor, a self-taught singer, first discovered metal at the age of 10. She stumbled upon an abandoned Metallica tape in a park, sparking a lifelong passion for the genre.

Years later, Amber saw a newspaper ad that read, "Seeking vocalist to start a band." The ad was placed by a guitarist named Brandon Pockat, and that set the wheels in motion. Early on, they formed an original rock/metal group, that went through several name and lineup changes. Amber's younger brother David joined as drummer, bringing more depth and creative vision to the evolving band.

Amber had once told him, "Learn how to play drums so we can start a band and tour the world together!" And he did. Amber and Brandon remained the core of the band through various evolutions. Finally, in 2018, Morningstar was born as a 3-piece power trio; finally starting to fulfill the dream they'd spoken of years before...

Soon after forming Morningstar, the band released their first single, "Bittersweet Lullaby," a powerful song with an equally powerful message. Amber explains, "The song was written to spark a conversation and reduce the stigma around mental health. For too long, it's been something people just don't talk about, and we hoped to change that, even in a small way."

In 2023, David departed the band to focus on his family. At that time, the band quickly recruited Zach Walton on drums, and longtime friend Ricky Staley joining on bass, rounding out the 4-piece band.

With more shows and new music on the way, Morningstar continues to connect with fans, release new music, and grow their fanbase well into the future.

***"Morningstar is a beautiful  
visual and audio  
experience to behold!"***

*Grande Rock*





# ACCLAIM FOR "FREE"

Single Released June 20, 2025



FIRST 60 DAYS:

**20K+**

STREAMS

**172**

RADIO PLAYS

**39**

PRESS FEATURES

***"USA's Morningstar and latest release 'Free' a piece of modern metal with all the melodic richness of power and symphonic metal and the hard edge of classic metal.***

***With contrasting tones of dark and optimistic, captivating vocal harmonies and powerful vocals from Amber Swenor, it's a tense ride."***

*Loud Enough Magazine*

***"Rarely do I come across a band that moves me in such a way. Morningstar exudes both raw grit and effortless style while maintaining an authentic sound. Their latest release, 'Free,' truly blew me away. It echoes shades of Evanescence but with an added punch and intensity. I couldn't help but listen to this track on repeat, searching for any flaws, only to be left empty-handed."***

*Starshot Rocks*

## CHART SUCCESS:

**Top 5 NACC Chart**

*Week Ending 7/14*

**Top 5 Heavy Ads**

*Metal Contraband Chart, Week Ending 7/15*

**Top 50 Most Played Metal**

*Metal Contraband Chart, Week Ending 7/22*

**Top 20 Most Played Metal**

**5 Weeks Running**

**(#13 on Week Ending 8/19)**

*Metal Contraband Chart, 7/22 to 8/19*





# MUSIC

## SINGLES

*Bittersweet Lullaby*

*Calalini*

*Eternal*

*Free (June 20, 2025)*

## ALBUM

*Between Your World and Mine (2022)*

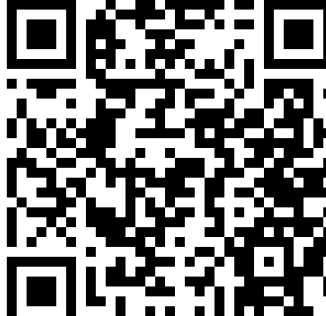
# LISTEN

## YOUTUBE



@MORNINGSTAR  
METALBAND

## APPLE MUSIC



## SPOTIFY VERIFIED ARTIST



@MORNINGSTAR



# SOCIAL



FACEBOOK  
**@MORNINGSTARMETALBAND**



INSTAGRAM  
**@MORNINGSTARMUSICOFFICIAL**



TIK TOK  
**@MORNINGSTARMETALBAND**

## 29K+

**SOCIAL FOLLOWERS**

## 75K+

**ONLINE STREAMS**

## 150K+

**VIDEO VIEWS**





# PRESS & AWARDS

**Winner: 2023 Hard Rock/Metal Album of the Year**  
*Madison Area Music Awards*

**Finalist: 2018, 2019, 2020, 2023, 2024**  
*MAMA Awards*

**Finalist: 2023 and 2024**  
*WAMIs*

***"To compare Morningstar to any other band would be doing them a disservice. However, some fans have said that Morningstar reminds them of Kamelot, In This Moment, September Mourning, Avatar, and Amaranth."***

*Grande Rock*



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