

BTS

Love

Yourself:

Tear

Throughout the past year or so, K-Pop group; BTS has been blown up like crazy. If you haven't heard their name at least once,

then I'm assuming you don't keep up with the internet much. BTS has had so much worldwide success over the past year, that it's hard to believe that they started off by advertising themselves with posters on the streets just 5 years ago. Their stage presence makes fans go wild, and have an amazing global following. They soon had become the most successful K-Pop act in U.S. history.



Members from left to right:

J-Hope, Jungkook, V (Taehyung), Jin, RM, Suga, Jimin

If you are not familiar with K-Pop already, it is a genre of music that has originated in Korea. Korean Pop music has been popular internationally for a good few years, it's not limited to just people in Korea. Every fan has their reason for liking the genre, maybe it's the language, the sound, the style, or all of those things. Some people misinterpret fans as being 'Koreaboos,' which is internet slang for people who appropriate Korean culture and fetishize Koreans. Not all K-Pop fans are like that, many international fans respect Korean culture, and many are in fact against this kind of behaviour.

Biography

As for BTS fans, ARMY's is the official fandom name, every K-Pop group or artist comes up with a name for their fans. BTS originally stood for 'Bulletproof Boy Scouts,' however throughout the years they have become comfortable with it standing for 'Beyond

The Scene.' They debuted in 2013 along with their first album '2 Cool 4 Skool,' simultaneously with the lead single in it, '[No More Dream](#).' The album was a big hit as it sold over 145,000 copies. However, none of the singles that were released at this time were very successful.



Throughout 2010 or so they started to gain a lot more recognition, as their single '[I Need U](#)' had hit top five on the weekly Gaon Digital Chart in South Korea. This single also got BTS their first ever music show win on SBS MTV's, The Show.

The International Breakthrough

In early 2017, BTS had come out with their Wings Tour, as well as in February released a repackaged edition of Wings, You Never Walk Alone had reached over 700,000 copies. The lead single '[Spring Day](#)' had topped eight of South Korea's major online music charts. Which had lead to the crash of Melon's digital chart, due to the high user traffic. This had soon lead to it entering the US Billboard's 'Bubbling Hot Under 100' singles chart at number 15.

When they had released their fifth EP, Love Yourself: Her in September, one of their tracks 'Best of Me' had featured The Chainsmokers, Andrew Taggart. The same EP had contained one of their biggest hits '[DNA](#).' This peaked number 2 on the weekly Gaon chart, and their MV on YouTube had reached 20 million views, which broke the record for most viewed K-Pop group MV within the first 24 hours.

Now it is 2018, and BTS has already performed at the AMA's and so much more. So much that I have to list what they have done over the past year.

- 2017 + '18, nominated for Top Social Artist at the Billboard Music Awards
- Love Yourself: Tear had made number one on US Billboard 200
- Appeared on Jimmy Kimmel
- Appeared on The Ellen Degeneres Show, twice
- Performed at the AMA's, twice
- Sept 2018, RM spoke at the United Nations, UNICEF event



Album

Overview

1. Intro: Singularity
2. Fake Love
3. The Truth Untold (ft. Steve Aoki)
4. 134340 (Pluto)
5. 낙원 (Paradise)
6. Love Maze



7. Magic Shop
8. Airplane pt.2
9. Apanman
10. So What
11. Outro: Tear

Love Yourself:

Tear

Fake Love: 5/5

[Fake Love](#)

A darker side to their music, Fake Love is about a person realizing their love and what they thought was fate, which turned out to be ‘fake love.’ The lyrics were written by RM, and the song is a combination of pop, grunge, hip-hop, etc. This track was extremely successful and soon had worldwide recognition. I personally love the song, the dark sound of it contrasts a lot with their previous work, such as ‘DNA.’ It’s different and definitely deserved the recognition it was given. It has a catchy chorus and very clear rhythm and flow that I very much enjoy. All of the members fit the concept very well, as well as the [choreography](#) for the song is phenomenal. There are a lot of aspects to the song (in my opinion) that make the song very incredible, including the rapping, singing, instrumental, etc. *“If you don’t truly love yourself then it’s never going to last. It can be between a person and a person but it could be between me and myself” -RM*

Love Maze: 4/5

[Love Maze](#)

Unlike ‘Fake Love,’ Love Maze is a more lighthearted song that RM, Suga, and J-Hope all collaborated on. Love Maze is about how BTS does not want to lose a hold of ARMY. Their fans, they are the ones who consistently give them so much love in the maze called ‘life.’ This song focuses on BTS’ relationship with their fans, and how love is a difficult thing that can tend to get complicated. But as long

as BTS and ARMY are together, they can forget the haters and continue to support each other. This song is very much a favourite of RM's, and mine as well. This song is more sweet and heartwarming, considering me as a fan of them since their debut year, I am definitely proud of how great they have been doing recently. I will continue to support them for as long as I can. This song also has a different sound to it that I have never really heard before, but I am always open to new things, and I don't regret listening to this song.

Outro: Tear; 5/5

Outro: Tear

If you are a sucker for rap like me, then you will love this song. Tear only features the rappers of BTS; RM, Suga, and J-Hope. The album comes to a conclusion, as this song reminds the listener of what the message behind the album is. The hard-hitting rap song is definitely another favourite of mine from the album. The eerie sounds portray sadness, distress, and overall make a very cool sounding track. It stands out to me, and shows the individual rap styles each member has. I'm a big fan of the way Suga raps in this, I always anticipate his verse and fall in love with it over and over again. The way the sound goes down and transitions into his rap, is my favourite part. The exaggerated breathing at the end of the track brings the album to an end, as it represents how tired the person is of falling in love with a person for it only to result in fake love.



Suga

Summary/My Opinion

This album is not only so successful, but BTS as a whole have definitely paved a way for other K-Pop artists to maybe join in on the Western side of music. For the

past few years people have looked down on the genre and have not given it much attention, when most of the artist actually have talent that's worth seeing. BTS is one of those artists, the amount of success they've had over the past few years is shocking and baffles me.

Some songs on this album have definitely made an impact on the Western scene, as well as others from previous albums as well. It shows that music does not have borders, and different languages do not matter. In the end, it is all music with it's own twist.