



The band's sophomore album Nevermind features three of Nirvana's members at the time: Kurt Cobain (guitar and vocals) Krist Novoselic (bass and minor vocals) Dave Grohl (drums and vocals). Spending just over a month at sound city studios in Van Nuys California recording the album. Members of the band may have not wanted it to but this album changed music.



The album follows a consistent song “Style”: by this i do not mean similar tone or aggression but instead similar subject matter and playing. The color pallet chosen for the album cover(s) works very well with all of the songs on nevermind. The naming of the album says a lot about the band and foretells a very tragic end, i.e. the name “nevermind” would suggest it wants to be forgotten, left behind.



(In utero tour circa 1993)



(MTV unplugged circa 1993)

Breed: (3:04)

The fourth track on this album by far the heaviest relying on a drive riff and loud drums and does not slow down until the ending. I have read from various sources that the song is about being trapped in middle class America but the lyrics mean something very to me. The chorus as I see it represents loving someone but just wanting to be around them, and not having to rely on sexual intercourse for a connection.

[Nirvana - Breed \(Audio\) - YouTube](#)

www.youtube.com > [watch](#)

Polly: (2:53)

The lyrics to "Polly" are based on the disturbing story of Gerald Friend, a serial rapist and kidnapper who was caught after abducting a 14 year old girl in Tacoma, Washington in 1987. Friend had kidnapped the girl at knifepoint and repeatedly beat her, tortured her with a blow torch(which is referred to in the song), and raped her. The instrumental on this track is very melodic and fits the subject matter in an almost sarcastic way, with very soft vocals and only a guitar and a few cymbal hits.

[Nirvana - Polly \(Audio\) - YouTube](#)

www.youtube.com > [watch](#)

Territorial Pissings: (2:22)

This song is quite blatantly about everyone trying to mark their spot and view in the social world. What I feel is more significant is the way Kurt blew his voice out at the end of the song. It's been said by many people that Kurt was known to cough blood after shows, his aggressive vocal style is to blame. It was very dangerous for singers and very one of a kind.

[Nirvana - Territorial Pissings \(Audio\) - YouTube](#)

www.youtube.com > [watch](#)

Drain You: (3:43)

Many sources say that this song is about heroin, but this is not my interpretation. I believe that the lyrics of this song represent a negative relationship that is unable to die. The lyric "one baby says to another i'm glad to have met you " not "i'm glad that i know you" implying a long faded connection between two people. The line "you taught me everything about the poison apple" brings to mind the idea of Cinderella and that the significant other "poisoned" them but no one came to wake them up. Finally, the chorus has the line "I like you" at the end, the tone sounds almost sad or defeated as in "i still care about you but i don't love you anymore".

[Nirvana - Drain You \(Audio\) - YouTube](#)

www.youtube.com > [watch](#)

Lounge Act: (2:36)

The song was entitled "Lounge Act" after the band thought the bass intro sounded like a cheesy lounge band. The subject matter of the song was written about Cobain's ex-girlfriend Tobi Vail and general relationship struggles. The lyrics "I can't let you smother me, I'd like to but it couldn't work" bring to mind the idea of people who love each other but their lives are incompatible.

[Nirvana - Lounge Act \(Audio\) - YouTube](#)

www.youtube.com > [watch](#)

The album as a whole is a great listening experience which includes mega hits (not previously mentioned) "Smells Like Teen Spirit", "In Bloom" and "Come As You Are" which blew the album into legendary status. The final product is very well constructed in spite of the band members complaining about the record sounding "too polished", the music is clearly honest which means a lot more in terms of longevity. Overall I would give this album a 8/10. It is by no means perfect but it gets close.