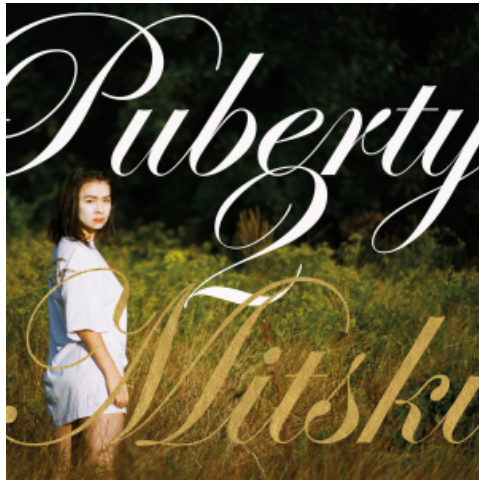


## Album Review - Puberty 2 by Mitski

### By Madison Drinkwalter

Mitski Miyawaki is an American artist who gained insane levels of popularity on social media within the past few years. Her most well known songs being “Washing Machine Heart” (2018) “Nobody” (2018), and “I Bet on Losing Dogs”(2016). If you’re active on the internet chances are you’ve heard a song by her at least once! One of her songs was even covered in an episode of Adventure Time.

It was difficult picking one album by her, as most of my favourite songs made by Mitski are from different albums, like “Brand New City” (2012), or “Townie” (2014). It would be easy to just pick her most popular album, Be the Cowboy, however I like most, if not all songs featured on this album, plus I think they’re pretty iconic.



#### Puberty 2 tracks

1. “Happy”
2. “Dan the Dancer”
3. “Once More to See You”
4. “Fireworks”
5. “Your Best American Girl”
6. “I Bet on Losing Dogs”
7. “My Body’s Made of Crushed Little Stars”
8. “Thursday Girl”
9. “A Loving Feeling”
10. “Crack Baby”
11. “A Burning Hill”

This is Mitski’s 4th album, it was released June 17th 2016. Its complex and emotional themes make it so unique.

### “Happy”

The song “Happy” by itself creates a story about loneliness and a one-sided relationship. The music video is quite different from the song. The speaker is with a man called Happy. At first, Happy brings her cookies and reassurance, however as both the song and music video progress, Happy seems more uninterested in the Speaker, and he seems to visit her less. In the music video the speaker discovers that Happy is cheating, and it takes a dark turn, as Happy is caught murdering the other woman by the speaker, who soon meets the same fate.



▶ Mitski - Happy (Official Audio) -Just the audio

▶ Mitski - Happy (Official Video) -Video

## “Once more to see you” & “A loving feeling”

“Once more to see you” is about how the speaker feels indifferent about a secret relationship, she wants more from this person, she wants to see them more, but they keep pulling away,

*“Then I wouldn’t have to scream your name atop of every roof in the city of my heart”*

She really likes this person, but they don’t want to see her. This song seems to be a reference to “A loving feeling” which comes later on in the album, this song seems to be more upbeat, however the lyrics aren’t all that upbeat. She mentions that they do see other people, but they also see each other a lot, however they hide their relationship, “holding hands under the table”.

*“What do you do with a loving feeling, when they only love you when you’re all alone.”*

▶ Mitski - Once More to See You (Official Audio) - Once more to see you audio

▶ Mitski - A Loving Feeling (Official Audio) - A loving feeling audio

## “Your Best American Girl”

This song has to be my favourite on the album. The speaker and her love interest are really different people from two different worlds. Her and this person are so different, Mitski herself felt that she didn’t belong in so many relationships, she feels helpless, there’s nothing you can do to change the way you were raised, and that’s what she’s talking about through the song.

*“Your mother wouldn’t approve of how my mother raised me, but I do, I think I do”*

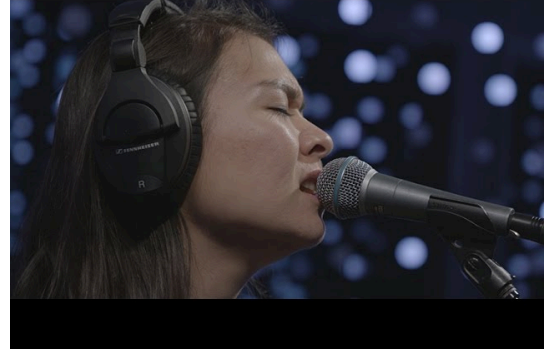


I think how the lyric “*I think I do*” is swapped with “*I finally do*” occasionally, I feel like that shows some acceptance, that the way she was raised is okay, however the final time it’s said, she says “*I think I do*” showing that there’ll always be some uncertainty, but it’s okay.

▶ Mitski - Your Best American Girl (Official Audio) - Audio


## “I Bet on Losing Dogs”

“I Bet on Losing Dogs” Is one of Mitski’s more popular songs, she uses dog racing as a metaphor for a failing relationship, throughout the song she talks about how she bets for the obviously losing dogs, just so she can sit with them and “Lose by their side” I honestly think the analogy of the dog race itself is a nice concept, however she does occasionally hint at this person/relationship, she compares herself to a losing dog, wanting this person to treat her like she treats the dogs in the race



“I always want you when I’m finally fine, how you’d be over me looking in my eyes when I come”

She talks about looking in the dog’s eyes, and now she wants this person to look into her eyes. The “My baby my baby” said throughout the song is thought to be a mention of her partner as well, I think this song is more up to the listeners interpretation as the story can be quite unclear at times, but it doesn’t mean it’s not there.

 Mitski - I Bet on Losing Dogs (Official Audio) - Audio