

PINK FLOYD - THE WALL



BAND INFO

PINK FLOYD IS A ROCK BAND THAT FORMED IN LONDON IN 1965. THEY WERE CONSIDERED ONE OF THE FIRST BRITISH PSYCHEDELIC GROUPS AND ONE OF THE LEADING BANDS FOR PROGRESSIVE ROCK. THE BAND WAS FOUNDED BY SYD BARRET, NICK MASON, ROGER WATERS, AND RICHARD WRIGHT. IN 1967, DAVID GILMORE JOINED, AND SYD BARRET LEFT IN 1968. PINK FLOYD WERE WELL KNOWN FOR THEIR OVER-THE-TOP AND ELABORATE LIVE SHOWS. THEY ALSO HAVE A MULTITUDE OF CONCEPT ALBUMS.

ALBUM INFO

THIS ALBUM IS A DOUBLE ALBUM, WITH THE CONCEPT BEHIND IT BEING THE ISOLATION, ABANDONMENT, AND ALIENATION ROGER WATERS FELT TOWARDS HIS AUDIENCE AT THE TIME. THE AUDIENCE WOULD IDEALIZE THE BAND BASED ON THEIR FAME AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS NOT THEIR ART. THE STORY FOLLOWS THE MAIN CHARACTER, NAMED PINK, REMINISCING HIS LIFE AND HIS TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCES, WHICH HE VIEWS AS METAPHORICAL BRICKS IN A WALL. HE USES THESE "BRICKS" TO BUILD A "WALL" BETWEEN HIMSELF AND THE OUTSIDE WORLD. BY THE END OF THE MOVIE, PINK'S WALL IS COMPLETE. INSIDE THE WALL, PINK LOSES HIS MIND, SHAVES ALL HIS HAIR AND WATCHES TV. LATER, PINK HALLUCINATES HIMSELF AS A DICTATOR AND THE LEADER OF NEO-NAZIS, AND THEN PINK STOPS HALLUCINATING, YELLING STOP AS HE NO LONGER WANTS TO BE IN THE WALL. BY THE END, HIS WALL IS TORN DOWN, BUT WE DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT HAPPENS TO PINK AT THE END.



AWARDS

THIS ALBUM HAS WON TWO BAFTA AWARDS: ONE FOR BEST ORIGINAL SONG FOR ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL, AND ANOTHER FOR BEST SOUND.

BERLIN WALL

THE WALL-LIVE IN BERLIN WAS HELD SIX MONTHS AFTER THE FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL. THIS WAS A SPECIAL CONCERT TO CELEBRATE THE FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL. THE STAGE FEATURED A 170M BY 25M WALL THAT GOT KNOCKED DOWN AT THE END OF THE PERFORMANCE. THEY ALSO FEATURED MANY OTHER POPULAR ARTISTS, SUCH AS CYNDI LAUPER, BRYAN ADAMS, TIM CURRY, AND MORE, ALL SINGING SONGS OR PARTS OF SONGS FROM THE ALBUM.



IN THE FLESH?

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/iLFWTQDSUXW?SI=FBJSZ_DUKAYO_HBI](https://youtu.be/iLFWTQDSUXW?si=FBJSZ_DUKAYO_HBI)

"IN THE FLESH?" IS THE FIRST SONG IN THE ALBUM, INTRODUCING US TO THE CHARACTER PINK. THE ARRANGEMENT OF THE INSTRUMENTS ARE DRAMATIC AND DYNAMIC. AT FIRST, THE SONG STARTS OUT QUIET, FEATURING THE MELODY OF THE LAST SONG, "OUTSIDE THE WALL," THEN SUDDENLY THE MAIN SONG BURSTS IN WITH A SUCCESSION OF POWER CHORDS FROM AN ORGAN AND DISTORTED GUITAR, AND THEN IS JOINED BY A SNARE DRUM. THIS IS THE FIRST OCCASION WE SEE LEITMOTIFS (SHORT

RECURRING MUSICAL PHRASES) HEARD IN THE ALBUM. AT THE END, THE SONG FADES OUT, AND WE HEAR A BABY CRYING, CONNECTING TO THE NEXT SONG IN THE ALBUM, "THIN ICE". PERFECTLY INTRODUCING THE ALBUM.

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT THIS SONG IS HOW IT IS CONNECTED TO THE LAST SONG, MAKING IT SOUND LIKE THE ALBUM IS A LOOP. THEY ALSO DID THIS FOR THEIR ALBUM, DARK SIDE OF THE MOON, WITH A HEARTBEAT SOUND. I ALSO LIKE HOW SMOOTHLY THE SONG TRANSITIONS INTO THE NEXT SONG, MAKING THE ALBUM FEEL CONNECTED.

ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL PARTS 1, 2, AND 3 THE HAPPIEST DAYS OF OUR LIVES AND GOODBYE CRUEL WORLD

https://youtu.be/TJRFVDAELI0?si=9JV2L_7E9SSAPYRH

ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL PARTS 1, 2, AND 3 ARE MAJOR PLOT POINTS IN PINK'S STORY BUILDING HIS WALL. ALL THREE PARTS CONSIST OF ONE VERSE, ONLY PART 2 HAVING A REPEAT OF THE SAME VERSE BUT SUNG BY CHILDREN IN A CHOIR. PART ONE IS ABOUT PINK'S FATHER AND HIS DEATH IN THE WAR. THE SECOND PART IS CONNECTED TO "HAPPIEST DAYS OF OUR LIVES" WHICH PERFECTLY SEGUES INTO "ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL



PART 2." "HAPPIEST DAYS OF OUR LIVES" OPENS WITH HELICOPTER NOISE AND A GUY YELLING, "YOU! YES YOU! STAND STILL, LADDIE" THEN THE LYRICS START. THIS SONG IS ABOUT TEACHERS IN BOARDING SCHOOLS WHO WOULD BEAT THE CHILDREN AS A WAY TO LET OUT THEIR PENT-UP RAGE AGAINST THEIR WIVES. THE SONG THEN SEAMLESSLY TRANSITIONS TO "ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL PART 2." PART TWO OF ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL IS ABOUT PINK'S TRAUMAS



WITH THE SCHOOL SYSTEMS ABUSING THE CHILDREN TO FIT IN WITH SOCIETY AND TAKING AWAY THE CHILDREN'S PERSONALITIES. THE SONG IS CONSIDERED A PROTEST SONG AND ALSO FEATURES A CHOIR OF KIDS SINGING. "ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL PART 3": PINK DECIDES THAT EVERYONE IS JUST A BRICK IN THE WALL, BUILDING HIS WALL HIGHER AND CLOSING SOCIETY OUT AS IT TRANSITIONS TO THE NEXT SONG, "GOODBYE CRUEL WORLD," WHERE HE FINISHES THE WALL.

I PERSONALLY THINK THAT ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL PART 2 IS THE BEST, FOLLOWED BY THE THIRD AND THEN FINALLY PART 1. I THINK PART 2 HAS MORE SUBSTANCE IN THE SONG WITH THE CHOIR OF CHILDREN AND THE SCREAMING SCHOOL TEACHERS. PART THREE IS MORE WILD THAN PART ONE, AND I LIKE HOW THE LYRICS FLOW. PART ONE IS THE WEAKEST BUT STILL GOOD, AS IT IS SLOW, PERFECTLY SHOWING THAT IT IS THE START OF HIS WALL.

MOTHER

<https://youtu.be/xESNUKCNZPY?si=G2SURZBKHYVYDFPN>

"MOTHER" IS ABOUT PINK'S OVERPROTECTIVE MOTHER ENCOURAGING HIM TO BUILD THE WALL AND ALIENATE HIMSELF FROM SOCIETY. PINK'S MOM IS OVERPROTECTIVE, AS SHE IS A SINGLE MOTHER WHO HAS LOST HER HUSBAND IN THE WAR. THIS SONG PORTRAYS A CONVERSATION BETWEEN PINK AND HIS MOTHER, WITH PINK ASKING FOR CONFIRMATION ON THINGS CONVEYING THAT HIS MOM IS A VERY IMPORTANT PERSON IN HIS LIFE, AS SHE HAS FORCED HERSELF SO DEEPLY INTO IT THAT HE HAS TO MAKE SURE EVERYTHING IS OKAY WITH HER. THE SONG STARTS WITH ROGER WATERS SINGING AS PINK THEN DAVID GILMORE COMES IN AS PINK'S MOTHER AND THEY GO BACK AND FORTH SINGING.



WHAT I LOVE ABOUT THIS SONG IS THE CONTRAST BETWEEN THE VOICES, GOING FROM A ROUGH ROGER WALTER VOICE TO A SMOOTH DAVID GILMORE VOICE. I ALSO LIKE HOW WELL THE SINGERS SUIT WHO THEY ARE TRYING TO PORTRAY. DAVID GILMORE'S VOICE IS SUPER SMOOTH AND SWEET, PERFECTLY DEPICTING A MOTHER. ROGER WATER'S VOICE IS PERFECT FOR PINK AS HE SOUNDS YOUTHFUL AND UNSURE OF HIMSELF. I LOVE HOW THEY DELIVER THE LYRICS, AS IT MAKES YOU FEEL LIKE YOU ARE A PART OF THE STORY AND THE EMOTIONS THEY ARE FEELING.



GOODBYE BLUE SKY

<https://youtu.be/BNGYNUTYVUK?si=UHVUWHMGAZ8DXMDIR>

"GOODBYE BLUE SKY" OPENS WITH A LITTLE BOY, WHO HAPPENS TO BE ROGER WALTER'S SON, TELLING HIS MOM THAT THERE IS AN AIRPLANE IN THE SKY, WHICH IS SOON FOLLOWED BY DEEPER INSTRUMENTS CONTRASTING THE INNOCENCE OF THE LITTLE BOY. THIS SONG IS ABOUT WAR, THE BOMBINGS IN ENGLAND, AND THE EFFECTS ON PEOPLE.

I LIKE THE IMAGERY IN THIS SONG AND THE CONTRAST BETWEEN THE LITTLE BOY AND THE AIRPLANE AND THE DARKER THEME OF THE SONG.

DON'T LEAVE ME NOW

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"DON'T LEAVE ME NOW" PINK HAS FOUND OUT HIS WIFE HAS CHEATED ON HIM, LEADING HIM INTO DEPRESSION. EVEN THOUGH HIS MARRIAGE WAS NOT THE GREATEST, HE STILL BEGS HIS WIFE TO TAKE HIM BACK. THIS MOMENT ADDS GREATLY TO HIS WALL, AS HE FEELS BETRAYED BY THE WOMEN HE FELT CLOSE TO. THIS SONG TAKES PLACE RIGHT BEFORE "ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL PART 3" SUGGESTING THIS MOMENT WAS THE LAST BRICK IN THE WALL.



ROGER WATER'S VOICE IS PERFECT FOR THIS SONG, AS PINK IS AT ONE OF HIS LOWEST POINTS IN THE STORY. HIS RASPY VOICE IS PERFECT FOR SOMEONE WHO IS PLEADING FOR SOMETHING, AND YOU CAN FEEL THE EMOTIONS OF THE CHARACTER IN HIS VOICE.



HEY YOU

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/50L8JK6KALC?SI=1-07YXLSQR_SXXI](https://youtu.be/50L8JK6KALC?si=1-07YXLSQR_SXXI)

"HEY YOU" IS THE FIRST TRACK OF SIDE B OF THIS ALBUM. AT THIS POINT IN THE SONG, PINK REALIZES THAT IT WAS A MISTAKE TO CLOSE HIMSELF OFF FROM SOCIETY AND TRIES TO RECONNECT WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD, BUT HE CANNOT HEAR OUTSIDE THE WALL. PINK THEN BECOMES MORE DESPERATE AS HE COMES TO GRASP THAT THERE MIGHT NOT BE AN ESCAPE.

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT THIS SONG ARE THE LYRICS, AS THEY CONTAIN SOME OF THE BEST LYRICS IN THE ALBUM, SUCH AS "TOGETHER WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL" AND "OPEN YOUR HEART, I'M COMING HOME." I ALSO LIKE HOW THE FIRST PART WAS SUNG BY DAVID GILMORE, AS HE WAS MORE SANE, AND AS THE SONG WENT ON AND PINK BECAME MORE INSANE, ROGER WATERS TOOK

OVER I ALSO REALLY LIKE THE BRIDGE, AS IT VIEWS THE SITUATION FROM MORE OF A THIRD-PERSON PERSPECTIVE LIKE IT IS TELLING A STORY.

COMFORTABLY NUMB

<https://youtu.be/x-xTtTtMCNK?si=DQVBCG4KTYCZGfTE>

"COMFORTABLY NUMB" WAS BASED ON A TRUE EVENT ROGER WATERS EXPERIENCED BEFORE A SHOW, WHERE HE WAS INJECTED WITH TRANQUILIZERS BEFORE A SHOW. WHEN MAKING THIS SONG, GILMORE AND WATERS ARGUED ABOUT HOW THE SONG WAS GOING TO BE MADE. WATERS WANTED A MORE ORCHESTRAL VERSION, AND GILMORE WANTED A MORE STRIPPED-DOWN VERSION, BUT THEY FINALLY COMPROMISED AND DECIDED TO COMBINE BOTH VERSIONS.

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT THIS SONG IS THE CONTRAST BETWEEN THE VERSES AND THE CHORUS, WITH THE VERSES BEING THE DOCTOR WHO IS CREEPY, AND SEEMS LIKE THEY HAVE ULTERIOR MOTIVES, AND THE CHORUS AND PRE-CHORUS BEING PINK, WHO IS HAVING TROUBLE UNDERSTANDING WHAT IS GOING ON.



THE TRIAL

<https://youtu.be/ADZHBpxZwVM?si=SQEMWFP9E6RDWRUP>

"THE TRIAL" IS THE SECOND-TO-LAST SONG ON THE ALBUM. AT THIS POINT PINK HAS REACHED THE END AND HAS HAD A PSYCHOTIC BREAK. THIS SONG IS PRESENTED LIKE A TRIAL IN HIS BRAIN. THROUGHOUT THIS TRIAL, HE IS CONFRONTED BY HIS SCHOOL TEACHER, HIS WIFE, AND HIS MOTHER, ALL OF WHOM PLAYED A MAJOR PART IN BUILDING HIS WALL. THEN A NEW CHARACTER COMES IN, THE JUDGE, WHO OVERSEES THE TRIAL, AND AT THE END, THE JUDGE FINDS PINK GUILTY AND "SENTENCES HIM TO BE EXPOSED BEFORE [HIS] PEERS," MAKING PINK "TEAR DOWN THE WALL."

I LIKE HOW YOU CAN TELL WHEN A DIFFERENT CHARACTER IS SINGING FROM THE WAY THE LYRICS ARE EXPRESSED. I ALSO HAVE A CONNECTION TO THIS SONG AS IT WAS MY FAVOURITE PINK FLOYD SONG GROWING UP. I LIKED HOW THE SONG WAS LIKE A STORY AND, IT DEFINITELY IS ONE OF THE REASONS I LIKE MUSICALS.

FINAL THOUGHTS

OVERALL, I LIKED THE ALBUM. THERE WERE A FEW FORGETTABLE SONGS, BUT THE GOOD SONGS MAKE UP FOR THEM. I PERSONALLY LIKED HOW EACH SONG WAS CONNECTED ALMOST SEAMLESSLY, MAKING IT FEEL LIKE THE ALBUM IS A LOOP. THIS ALSO HAPPENED TO BE THE FIRST PINK FLOYD ALBUM I LISTENED TO WHEN I WAS A KID. BY FAR MY FAVOURITE SONGS WERE "THE TRIAL", "YOUNG LUST", "IS THERE ANYBODY OUT THERE", AND "MOTHER".