

# Maladroit - Weezer

By; Katelyn Hudson



Maladroit is the fourth studio album dropped right after the green album. The band started writing new songs and making appointments at Monster Island Studios in Washington DC. while they were making this album their bassist started going down a bad road of drugs and depression and soon after he killed himself. The band, unsure of his whereabouts, hired another bassist named "Scott Shriner" and he is still the bassist to this day.

While Weezer was on their midget tour in September 2001 the band would fool around in other studios recording some demos that would jokingly be called a part of 'The black album'. Soon in December they went back to cello studios to officially start the process for Maladroit.

Maladroit contains lots of different genres, they include power pop, alternative rock, geek rock, indie rock, and hard rock. In the beginning of a lot of the songs, they start off with a guitar riff that sounds kinda ragged. River was at fan of The Ramones, Nirvana, The pixies and Sonic youth. While incorporating riffs and guitar strategies like nirvana and the Ramones, River is able to go from kinda a roughish story telling like voice to singing loudly. Although river clearly doesn't sing to his fullest potential, I think this band would do good from some actual yelling and screaming here and there. I thought this it was their redo of van Weezer, then I realized this was before van Weezer. Van Weezer is a good album, but I don't know what they were thinking with a lot of the songs...

All track were written by Rivers Cuomo,

★ American Gigalo 2:42

Dope nose - 2:16

★ Keep Fishin - 2:52

★ Take control - 3:05

★ Death and Destruction - 2:38

Slob - 3:08

★ Burndt Jamb - 2:39

Space Rock - 1:53

★ Slave - 2:52

★ Fall Together - 2:02

Possibilities - 2:00

Love explosion - 2:35

December - 3:00

# American Gigolo-

This song starts off with drums and soon an electric guitar riff comes in. River soon comes in and starts singing on how he is a 'loner' and there is a girl that "can't take it from him" He continues to say he's hurting, and he doesn't want to hurt this girl. "I've seen this game before, my love walks to your door, there ain't no hope for me anymore". He sounds like he is leading her on and he knows it. I think this song is really cool, the lyrics are catchy, different guitar style than their previous work. The almost flat story telling singing river does really go along well with the drums. Then in the chorus he goes into an actual singing voice, contrasts really well on how quickly he changes it. Then, as the bridge comes on, his voice goes down into a slope like sound. (The best way I can explain it)



[Weezer - American Gigolo](#)

★8.5/10★

# Keep Fishin-

This song starts with an upbeat guitar riff and then soon after drums come in matching the attitude completely, the intro to this song easily grabs your attention. Rivers comes in and starts singing that you need to leave the world behind to get a better life. In other verses after the chorus, it sounds like he is trying to convince someone to move jobs far away to change their lives. In the chorus river says "It's just the thought of you, in love with someone else, breaks my heart to see you hanging on your shelf" His voice sounds low and emotional/ sad which I find is satisfying to listen to, sounds like he's almost accepting defeat. In the music video, Weezer features The Muppets, which adds a humour element to the somewhat sad story that Rivers tells.

I would like to point out how much Rivers looks like Phil Dumphy from Modern Family in this video.



<https://youtu.be/hOIsYA1QDuk>

★9.7/10 ★

# Take Control-

Take control starts with a strangely guitar riff with drums coming in shortly after, creates a driving and intense vibe from the start. The lyrics, at the start, begin with a vivid description of feeling trapped by other people's expectations. As the song progresses, there is a more assertive tone towards lyrics of empowerment and self-control. This song heavily encourages the listeners to... Take control, dare i say, of their life and their own choice. One of the notable aspects of this sing is the repetitiveness of lyrics, which definitely nudge towards the urgency of taking power even when in doubt.

“Don’t let anyone dim your shine” Is a lyric that stands out to me because i feel it represents the unique quality every person has, this certainly emphasizes the importance of doing what you think is right regardless of what others say. This song encourages self-acceptance and everyone has the right to express themselves.



[Take Control](#)

★8/10★

# Death and Destruction-

This song starts off with faint drumming that slowly comes in with a guitar riff that definitely sounds gloomy. As he strums it is in a low sound with a pause in between every so often, it matches the tune and sets the song off in a gloomy tone. This song talks about feelings of loss, despair and emotional turmoil. It reflects on how somebody's death can have a devastating impact on somebody's life, bringing to light how feelings of helplessness and sorrow can easily overthrow your view on life and how you live.

This song wouldn't be the same without the guitars which adds to the emotional depth and a sad atmosphere with both acoustic and electric instruments. The drums provide steady rhythm that highlight the somber tone of the lyrics.

## [Death And Destruction](#)

★7.8/10★



# Burndt Jamb-

I think this song is intriguing from the start, it starts with drums and repetitive guitar riffs, setting a tone of almost uncertainty. In the opening lines, rivers sings "Gothic flavour, how I miss you, if I only once could kiss you." Sounds like he's talking about and missing a Goth girl, and after snooping around on Reddit, my hunch was somewhat confirmed.

"I'd be happy (do, do-ro-do) for one moment (do, do-ro-do) Of my lifetime (do-do-ro-do) I'd be there" He sounds like he is hardcore missing her, and maybe it's out of reach? Sounds like they can't happen in this lifetime.

The melody and instrumentation is somewhat repetitive but till very catchy, it sets the tone perfectly for the song tune and how rivers delivers the lyrics.

Overall, I think Burndt Jamb is about losing someone you care about and having to cherish every moment you have with someone, even if they aren't meant to be endgame for you.

☆6.7/10☆

[Burndt Jamb](#)

# Fall Together -

The intro for this song is a catchy guitar riff that combines power chords and a melodic lead.

“We go together baby, and if we do, yea, I’ll be your weakness baby and get to you.” sounds like rivers wants companionship and gives the song a sense of vulnerability, Rivers is very good with imagery and somewhat thought-provoking lyrics of emotional struggles.

In the chorus “streamline, main line.” could be talking about a path to something maybe or direct connection to something. This is just another example of imagery rivers uses. I think the background vocals in the chorus really pull it all together.

[Fall Together](#)

★ 7/10 ★