

The Rolling Stone Magazines 500 Greatest Songs Of All Time 001-085

Written by bluesever

Monday, 06 October 2014 15:30 - Last Updated Saturday, 09 February 2019 20:43

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001 - Bob Dylan - Like A Rolling Stone.mp3 002 - Rolling Stones - (I Can't Get No) Satisfaction.mp3 003 - John Lennon - Imagine.mp3 004 - Marvin Gaye - Whats Going On.mp3 005 - Aretha Franklin - Respect.mp3 006 - The Beach Boys - Good Vibrations.mp3 007 - Chuck Berry - Johnny B. Goode.mp3 008 - The Beatles - Hey Jude.mp3 009 - Nirvana - Smells Like Teen Spirit.mp3 010 - Ray Charles - What'd I Say Parts I & II.mp3 011 - The Who - My Generation.mp3 012 - Sam Cooke - A Change Is Gonna Come.mp3 013 - The Beatles - Yesterday.mp3 014 - Bob Dylan - Blowin' In The Wind.mp3 015 - Clash - London Calling.mp3 016 - The Beatles - I Want To Hold Your Hand.mp3 017 - Jimi Hendrix - Purple Haze.mp3 018 - Chuck Berry - Maybellene.mp3 019 - Elvis Presley - Hound Dog.mp3 020 - The Beatles - Let It Be.mp3 021 - Bruce Springsteen - Born To Run.mp3 022 - The Ronettes - Be My Baby.mp3 023 - The Beatles - In My Life.mp3 024 - The Impressions - People Get Ready.mp3 025 - The Beach Boys - God Only Knows.mp3 026 - The Beatles - A Day In The Life.mp3 027 - Derek And The Dominos - Layla.mp3 028 - Otis Redding - (Sittin' On) The Dock Of The Bay.mp3 029 - The Beatles - Help.mp3 030 - Johnny Cash - I Walk The Line.mp3 031 - Led Zeppelin - Stairway To Heaven.mp3 032 - Rolling Stones - Sympathy For The Devil.mp3 033 - Ike And Tina Turner - River Deep Mountain High.mp3 034 - Righteous Brothers - You've Lost That Lovin' Feelin'.mp3 035 - The Doors - Light My Fire.mp3 036 - U2 - One.mp3 037 - Bob Marley - No Woman No Cry.mp3 038 - The Rolling Stones - Gimme Shelter.mp3 039 - Buddy Holly And The Crickets - That'll Be The Day.mp3 040 - Martha Reeves And The Vandellas - Dancing In The Streets.mp3 041 - The Band - The Weight.mp3 042 - The Kinks - Waterloo Sunset.mp3 043 - Little Richard - Tutti Frutti.mp3 044 - Ray Charles - Georgia On My Mind.mp3 045 - Elvis Presley - Heartbreak Hotel.mp3 046 - David Bowie - Heroes.mp3 047 - Simon & Garfunkel - Bridge Over Troubled Water.mp3 048 - The Jimi Hendrix Experience - All Along The Watchtower.mp3 049 - The Eagles - Hotel California.mp3 050 - Smokey Robinson & The Miracles - The Tracks Of My Tears.mp3 051 - Grandmaster Flash And The Furious Five - The Message.mp3 052 - Prince - When Doves Cry.mp3 053 - Sex Pistols - Anarchy In The U.K.mp3 054 - Percy Sledge - When A Man Loves A Woman.mp3 055 - The Kingsmen - Louie Louie.mp3 056 - Little Richard - Long Tall Sally.mp3 057 - Procol Harum - A Whiter Shade Of Pale.mp3 058 - Michael Jackson - Billie Jean.mp3 059 - Bob Dylan - The Times They Are A-Changin'.mp3 060 - Al Green - Let's Stay Together.mp3 061 - Jerry Lee Lewis - Whole Lotta Shakin' Going On.mp3 062 - Bo Diddley - Bo Diddley.mp3 063 - Buffalo Springfield - For What It's Worth.mp3 064 - The Beatles - She Loves You.mp3 065 - Cream - Sunshine Of Your Love.mp3 066 - Bob Marley And The Wailers - Redemption Song.mp3 067 - Elvis Presley - Jailhouse Rock.mp3 068 - Bob Dylan - Tangled Up In Blue.mp3 069 - Roy Orbison -

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Crying.mp3 070 - Dionne Warwick - Walk On By.mp3 071 - The Beach Boys - California Girls.mp3 072 - James Brown - Papa's Got A Brand New Bag.mp3 073 - Eddie Cochran - Summertime Blues.mp3 074 - Stevie Wonder - Superstition.mp3 075 - Led Zeppelin - Whole Lotta Love.mp3 076 - The Beatles - Strawberry Fields Forever.mp3 077 - Elvis Presley - Mystery Train.mp3 078 - James Brown - I Got You (I Feel Good).mp3 079 - The Byrds - Mr Tambourine Man.mp3 080 - Marvin Gaye - I Heard It Through The Grapevine.mp3 081 - Fats Domino - Blueberry Hill.mp3 082 - The Kinks - You Really Got Me.mp3 083 - The Beatles - Norwegian Wood (This Bird Has Flown).mp3 084 - The Police - Every Breath You Take.mp3 085 - Patsy Cline - Crazy.mp3

As I was on a ferry several days back, I was looking through their magazine section in the gift shop and stumbled across the Rolling Stone's "500 Greatest Songs of All Time" recent print. At the chance that this list would likely be an interesting, if not controversial one, I decided to purchase the magazine for the \$11.99 charge.

The forward in the magazine is written by Jay-Z. Yippee. Not a good start.

I skipped the forward and moved on to the first page of the list. Lo and behold, instead of counting down from #500 all the way to numero uno, they started with number one: Like A Rolling Stone by Bob Dylan. I wasn't really expecting that, considering I expected Rolling Stone would build up the anticipation of getting to the top 10 songs the further you read into the magazine, eventually discovering the greatest song of all time as selected by their panel of "judges". Dun dun dun!! Oh the suspense!

Like A Rolling Stone is an amazing song. If you have not heard it, you should. If you don't like Bob Dylan, listen to one of the covers of the song. It truly is one of the greatest songs of all time, and has been covered by the likes of Jimi Hendrix, the Rolling Stones, and many other bands. It is the epitome of a rock-n-roll tune, written during the birth of rock-n-roll in 1965, and capturing all that was youthful and promising with this new style of music.

The only thing fishy about this song being chosen as the number one song of all time was the title, "Like A Rolling Stone", in relation to the name of the magazine that published this list. I won't spell it out for you, but it is too much of a coincidence to ignore. Perhaps Rolling Stone Magazine was tooting their own horn a little bit, but attempting to do it a little under the radar,

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like a subliminal message. Choosing 14 Rolling Stone's songs to scatter throughout this list, however, was rather obvious.

Anyway, that's enough with the conspiracy theories. The rest of the list is iffy at best, there are many flaws, in my opinion. The first flaw was omitting Stairway To Heaven from the top 10, even the top 20. One of the most epic rock songs of all time didn't crack this list until #31. Prior to reading this list, I would have placed that song, guaranteed, in the top 10. Clearly, Rolling Stone and their voters had different ideas. Also, another phenomenally epic tune which everybody has head-banged to once in their life is Bohemian Rhapsody by Queen. Another top 20 contender, or so I was foolish enough to think because it failed to even crack the top 100, charting in at #166.

You all remember the song American Pie? The 8-minute tribute to the grandfathers of rock-n-roll, by Don McLean? The song that had so many people wondering and deciphering for decades exactly what all the metaphors and references meant? The song that was covered by the likes of Madonna (very poorly, I might add) and gave Mr. McLean a number one hit on US charts for four weeks straight in 1971? You know, "Bye, bye Miss American Pie"? Yeah, that one! Well, it seems Rolling Stone does not remember this song, for it did not even chart in the top 500. When R. Kelly makes an appearance on this chart for his song Ignition and American Pie does not, I lose most, if not all respect for this "list" and the voters who contributed to it.

Other omissions I felt worthy of charting are Sultans of Swing by Dire Straits, Thunderstruck by AC/DC, ANYTHING from Pearl Jam's Ten album or Smashing Pumpkin's Siamese Dream album, Don't Stop Believing by Journey and of course, this blog's namesake, More Than A Feeling by Boston. None of those songs charted and of all those bands named, only AC/DC had any songs in the top 500.

Because of these omissions, I also feel a little ripped off by Rolling Stone. Again, with Jay-Z having not one, but two songs on this list (Big Pimpin' and 99 Problems), I have a hard time maintaining much respect for the magazine. I suppose it has to cater to the masses of music listeners, and there are people out there who think that Rihanna actually deserves to be at #412 with Umbrella and 50 Cent deserves to be at #448 with In Da Club, but I'm not one of those people. It is the 500 greatest songs of all time, isn't it?

I also feel slighted due to the fact that the Beatles had 23 songs on this list. I know they were amazing and music wouldn't supposedly be where it is today if not for them, yada yada yada,

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but 23 songs??

C'mon.

If Rolling Stone axed even half of those songs, they could have made room for other artists and/or songs that greatly deserved recognition on this list. I could then tolerate having 12 Beatles songs, but not 23. On a side note, the 23 songs do not include John Lennon or Paul McCartney's post-Beatles compositions; each had a song on this list with Imagine at #3 and Maybe I'm Amazed at #347.

All in all, this list is disappointing; however, there are a number of songs that deserve to be on this list and in the spots they're in. There're even a few that I was pleasantly surprised to be included such as M.I.A, Weezer, MGMT, Beck and OutKast. As it is pretty clear, this list is a list of "pop"-ular music without much recognition to anything that strays from the mainstream. It's sad to see, but I suppose that's the way it is. Rolling Stone isn't exactly an indie magazine anyway, as much they may pretend to be. If they were, this list would obviously be quite different. Mind you, who hasn't heard the song Planet Rock by Afrika Bambaataa and the Soul Sonic Force? 'Cause it placed at #240. It ranked "greater" than 260 other songs. 'Nuff said. ---
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