

PERFORMANCE PREPARATION UNIT

ROCK 101: FROM THE PAPER TO THE "SHREDDER"

AUTHENTICITY:

- ★ This unit is going to give you as "real" of an experience as possible.
- ★ You are now members of a actual bands at the beginning of the journey.
- ★ You will be challenged and tested, and the only way to reach your goals is to work together.
- ★ Each individual must carry his or her own weight. It is almost certain that disagreements will occur. This is reality. It's like a relationship. No matter the case, respect the other members in your band. Work through the problems and move on!
- ★ **ALL ASSIGNMENT'S ARE TO BE COMPLETED & HANDED IN AS A BAND!!!**
- ★ You will perform a 15-minute or max. 3 song set on MARCH 18th, 19th, or 22nd.
- ★ You will be graded with your band. Each person in the band will receive the same grade.
- ★ Work hard, have fun, and ASK QUESTIONS!!

PERFORMANCE PREP UNIT OUTLINE:

1. VISUAL SONG STRUCTURING
2. AURAL SONG STRUCTURING
3. INDEPENDENT PRACTICING TECHNIQUES
4. REHEARSAL ROUTINE
5. REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE
6. PERFORMANCE

WHAT IS SONG STRUCTURE?

A SONG IS LIKE A "BUILDING"

- ★ Walls and beams are to a building as verses and choruses are to a song.
- ★ *Nobody wants to live in a partially finished building, just as nobody wants to listen to an incomplete song. Buildings with missing parts don't LOOK right, just as songs with missing parts don't SOUND right.*
- ★ Buildings that aren't assembled in the right order just don't make the cut, just as songs that are assembled poorly never make it to radio.

VISUAL SONG STRUCTURING

WRITING THE STRUCTURE OF A SONG
WITHOUT LISTENING TO IT

- ★ Identify the **VERSES** and **CHORUSES** only by analyzing the **LYRICS** and the **WRITTEN MUSIC** of a song.
- ★ This is the first part of the structuring process and the **FIRST THING YOU SHOULD DO WHEN YOU BEGIN A NEW SONG.**
- ★ Identify the **CHORUS** first, the **VERSES** second, the **PRE-CHORUS** third (if there is one), and the **BRIDGE** last.

VISUAL SONG STRUCTURING TERMINOLOGY:

CHORUS

- >> ONE OF 2 PRIMARY ELEMENTS OF A SONG (THE PART THAT MOST PEOPLE REMEMBER).
- >> USUALLY REPEATS ITSELF THROUGHOUT THE SONG WITH THE SAME LYRICS AND BACKGROUND MUSIC.
- >> OCCURS MOSTLY IN THE SECOND HALF OF A SONG.

VERSE

- >> ONE OF TWO PRIMARY ELEMENTS OF A SONG.
- >> THE VERSE OCCURS PRIMARILY IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE SONG.
- >> THE VERSE OCCURS MANY TIMES IN A SONG. THE BACKGROUND MUSIC STAYS THE SAME, BUT A WHOLE NEW SET OF LYRICS ARE USED EACH TIME.
- >> THE LYRICS DO NOT USUALLY REPEAT WORD FOR WORD LATER IN THE SONG.
- >> OFTEN STARTS AND FINISHES A MAIN. IT IS COMMON FOR A VERSE TO HAVE ITS OWN THEME or STORY.

PRE-CHORUS

- >> ACTS AS A BUILDING POINT JUST BEFORE A CHORUS.
- >> OFTEN CONNECTS A VERSE WITH A CHORUS.
- >> OFTEN VERY SHORT (1 - 2 phrases) "usually made of less phrases than the chorus"

BRIDGE OR MIDDLE EIGHT

- >> A SECTION THAT UTILIZES A DIFFERENT CHORD PROGRESSION AND MAYBE EVEN A DIFFERENT KEY THAN ANY OTHER SECTION IN THE SONG.
- >> OFTEN OCCUR IS THE PLACE WHERE THE "THIRD" VERSE WOULD BE FOUND. USUALLY RIGHT BEFORE THE FINAL CHORUS (S)
- >> USED TO GIVE THE LISTENER AN UNEXPECTED SURPRISE IN ORDER TO KEEP THEIR ATTENTION.

HOW CAN WRITING OUT THE STRUCTURE OF A SONG BE BENEFICIAL TO YOU AND/OR YOUR BAND?

EXAMPLE 1:

IT'S HARD TO WAKE UP, WHEN THE SHADES HAVE BEEN PULLED SHUT
THIS HOUSE IS HAUNTED, IT'S SO PATHETIC, IT MAKES NO SENSE AT ALL
I'M RIPE WITH THINGS TO SAY, THE WORDS ROT AND FALL AWAY
WHAT STUPID POEM COULD FIX THIS HOME, I'D READ IT EVERY DAY

SO HERE'S YOUR HOLIDAY,
HOPE YOU ENJOY IT THIS TIME, YOU GAVE IT ALL AWAY.
IT WAS MINE, SO WHEN YOU'RE DEAD AND GONE,
WILL YOU REMEMBER THIS NIGHT? TWENTY YEARS NOW LOST.
IT'S NOT RIGHT.

THEIR ANGER HURTS MY EARS, BEEN RUNNING STRONG FOR SEVEN YEARS
RATHER THAN FIX THE PROBLEMS, THEY NEVER SOLVE THEM, IT MAKES NO SENSE AT ALL
I SEE THEM EVERYDAY, WE GET ALONG SO WHY CAN'T THEY?
IF THIS IS WHAT HE WANTS, AND IT'S WHAT SHE WANTS, THEN WHY IS THERE SO MUCH
PAIN?

SO HERE'S YOUR HOLIDAY,
HOPE YOU ENJOY IT THIS TIME, YOU GAVE IT ALL AWAY.
IT WAS MINE, SO WHEN YOU'RE DEAD AND GONE,
WILL YOU REMEMBER THIS NIGHT? TWENTY YEARS NOW LOST
IT'S NOT RIGHT.

SO HERE'S YOUR HOLIDAY,
HOPE YOU ENJOY IT THIS TIME, YOU GAVE IT ALL AWAY.
IT WAS MINE, SO WHEN YOU'RE DEAD AND GONE,
WILL YOU REMEMBER THIS NIGHT? TWENTY YEARS NOW LOST.
IT'S NOT RIGHT
IT'S NOT RIGHT
IT'S NOT RIGHT
IT'S NOT RIGHT

VISUAL STRUCTURE:

EXAMPLE 2:

*In with the early dawn
Moving right along
I couldn't buy an eye-ful of sleep
And in the aching night
Under satellite
I was not received*

*With the stolen parts
A telephone in my heart
Someone get me a priest
To put my mind to bed
This ringing in my head
Is this a cure or is this a disease*

*Nail in my hand from my creator
You gave me life now
Show me how to live
Nail in my hand from my creator
You gave me life now
Show me how to live*

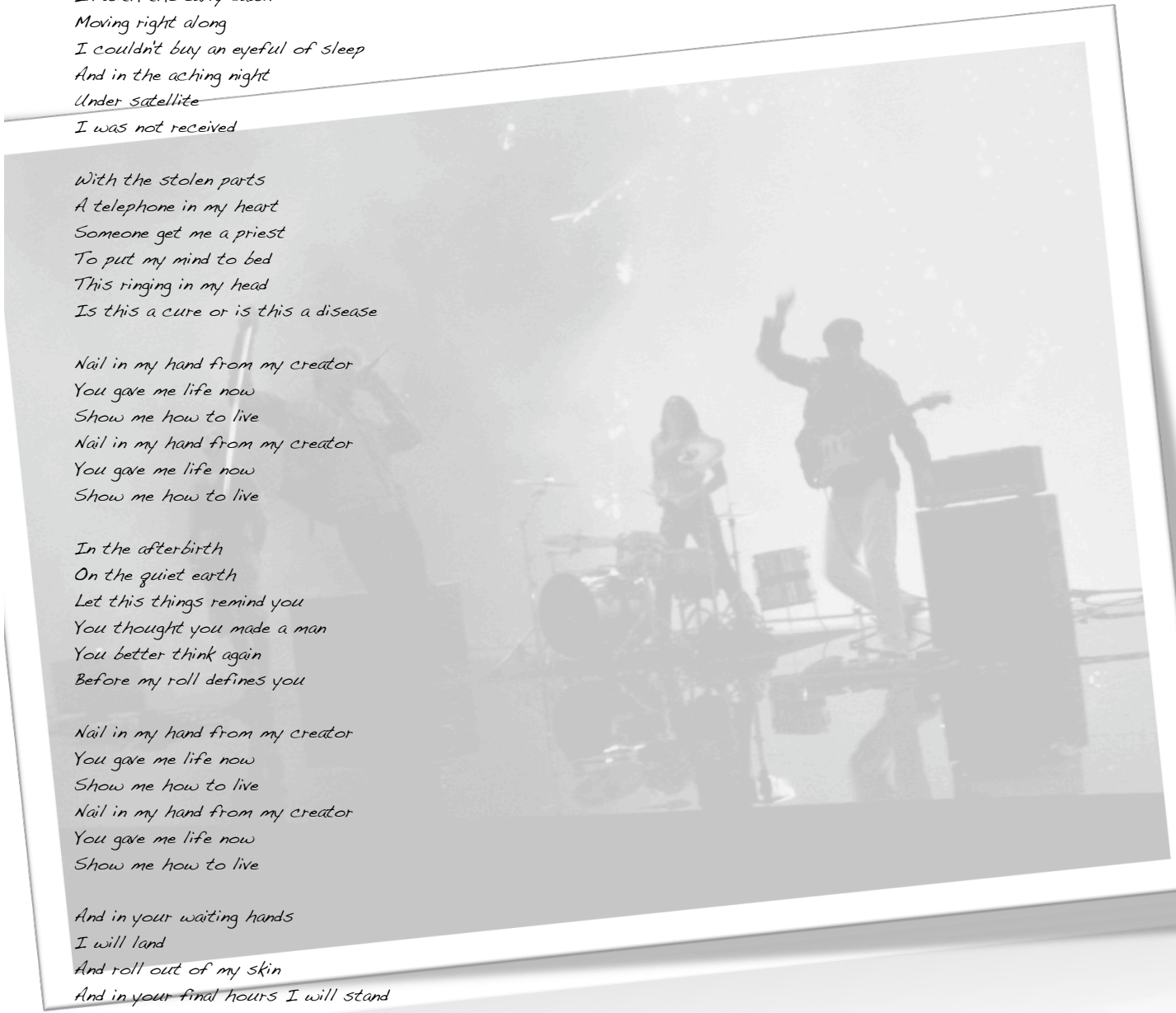
*In the afterbirth
On the quiet earth
Let this things remind you
You thought you made a man
You better think again
Before my roll defines you*

*Nail in my hand from my creator
You gave me life now
Show me how to live
Nail in my hand from my creator
You gave me life now
Show me how to live*

*And in your waiting hands
I will land
And roll out of my skin
And in your final hours I will stand
Ready to begin
Ready to begin
Ready to begin
Ready to begin*

*Nail in my hand from my creator
You gave me life now
Show me how to live*

VISUAL STRUCTURE:



EXAMPLE B:

IN A CROOKED LITTLE TOWN THEY WERE LOST AND NEVER FOUND
FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES ON THE GROUND

I HITCHED A RIDE ONTO THE COAST
TO LEAVE BEHIND ALL OF MY GHOSTS
SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING I COULDN'T FIND AT HOME

CAN'T GET NO JOB CAN YOU SPARE A DIME?
JUST ONE MORE HIT AND I'LL BE FINE
I SWEAR TO GOD THIS'LL BE MY ONE LAST TIME?

IN A CROOKED LITTLE TOWN THEY WERE LOST AND NEVER FOUND
FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES ON THE GROUND
RUN AWAY BEFORE YOU DROWN OR THE STREETS WILL BEAT YOU DOWN
FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES ON THE GROUND

WHEN IT GETS DARK IN PIGEON PARK
VOICE IN MY HEAD WILL SOON BE FED
AROUND THE VULTURES THAT CIRCLE ROUND THE DEAD?

IN A CROOKED LITTLE TOWN THEY WERE LOST AND NEVER FOUND
FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES ON THE GROUND
RUN AWAY BEFORE YOU DROWN OR THE STREETS WILL BEAT YOU DOWN
FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES ON THE GROUND

I NEVER ONCE THOUGHT I'D EVER BE CAUGHT?
STARING AT SIDEWALKS HIDING MY TRACK MARKS?
I LEFT MY BEST FRIENDS OR DID THEY JUST LEAVE ME?

IN A CROOKED LITTLE TOWN THEY WERE LOST AND NEVER FOUND
FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES ON THE GROUND
IN A CROOKED LITTLE TOWN THEY WERE LOST AND NEVER FOUND
FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES ON THE GROUND
RUN AWAY BEFORE YOU DROWN OR THE STREETS WILL BEAT YOU DOWN
FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES ON THE GROUND

RUN AWAY BEFORE YOU DROWN?
FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES ON THE GROUND
RUN AWAY BEFORE YOU DROWN?
FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES FALLEN LEAVES ON THE GROUND

VISUAL STRUCTURE:



EXAMPLE 4:

Hey, hey, hey
Here I go now, here I go into new days
Hey, hey, hey
Here I go now, here I go into new days

I'm pain, I'm hope, I'm suffer
Yeah, hey, hey, hey, yeah, yeah
Here I go into new days

Hey, hey, hey
Ain't no mercy, ain't no mercy there for me
Hey, hey, hey
Ain't no mercy, ain't no mercy there for me

I'm pain, I'm hope, I'm suffer
Yeah, hey, hey, hey
Ain't no mercy, ain't no mercy there for me

Do you bury me when I'm gone?
Do you teach me while I'm here
Just as soon as I belong
Then it's time I disappear

Hey, hey, hey
And I went, and I went on down that road
Hey, hey, hey
And I went on, and I went on down that road

I'm pain, I'm hope, I'm suffer
Hey, hey, hey
Yeah and went on, and I went on down that
road

Do you bury me when I'm gone?
Do you teach me while I'm here?
Just as soon as I belong
Then it's time I disappear

Do you bury me when I'm gone
Do you teach me while I'm here
Just as soon as I belong
Then it's time I disappear

Just like that
I'm gone, I'm gone, I'm gone, oh baby, I'm
gone
I'm gone, I'm gone, baby
I'm gone, I'm gone

Do you bury me when I'm gone?
Do you teach me while I'm here?
Just as soon as I belong
Then it's time I disappear

Do you bury me when I'm gone?
Do you teach me while I'm here?
Just as soon as I belong
Then it's time I disappear, yeah