

Trading Stories with the Leaves



VS

Issue 2

Trading Stories with the Leaves

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Trading Stories with the Leaves is a PJ Fanzine, compiled volunteer staff and artists/writers, which ultimately will be presented as a gift to Pearl Jam, and will be posted for all, on the internet, as a pdf. The subject focus per issue will be a Pearl Jam album. Visual and verbal art, current event commentaries, reviews, and feature interviews will be included in each issue, but they all relate back at least broadly to the album theme songs/ lyrics/music/message in some way.



Album Theme for Issue #2: Vs

In My Tree Section:

Editorial page – FinsburyParkCarrots

Feature #1:

Poll of Vs Songs - Paul Martinez [walkunfraid]

Immortality Section:

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Release Section:

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Untitled by Marion (“shootenanny”)

Decomposed Psyche by Michael Freitag

Daughter by Jimmy ‘Jamal’ Symoens

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Lisbon, Portugal - September 5, 2006 interview
with Ross (||Release_Me||) by Ms. Haiku

Dublin, Ireland - August 23, 2006 interview with
Buru by Ms. Haiku, and Spanish translation by Buru

Big Wave Section:

Guest Judge: Dunkman

September 18, 1968, Christchurch by knitted

September 7, 1974 by mammasan

This is not sanctioned by Pearl Jam, but inspired by them.

All submissions included with permission of artist/writer.

All band photos provided courtesy of Jason Stumpf and Allen O'Donoghue

IN MY TREE

There are many perennial thread topics on the more-than-one forum dedicated to Pearl Jam, across the Internet. Pictures where Ed looks like Mr Leatherback was a curious recent variation on an otherwise popular theme, familiar to readers of the Pearl Jam Message Pit. Another genre of recurrent thread, which many of you will know, runs along the lines of, “What was the Old School live PJ experience like?”

Such threads are naturally started by relative newcomers to the band’s catalogue, and they sometimes precipitate rambling anecdotal mini- fanviews from old goats such as yours truly, a supporter of the group since ...er, since the days when no-one, not even Dave A, had contemplated the notion of getting a Stickman tattoo. My first live experience of Pearl Jam was at Southend Esplanade in February 1992. Yet, I think it meet and in fact, meaty beaty big and bouncy to present to you, in this editorial of an edition of TSWTL dedicated to Vs, my personal reminiscence of PJ’s July 11th 1993 gig at Finsbury Park, London, England, where, once upon on a mucky, rainy Sunday teatime, five men took to the stage as main support for the mighty Uncle Neil, whereupon they delivered their first UK live delivery of material to feature on their as-yet untitled second album.

We’ll skip token mention of Neil’s other support acts (though Teenage Fanclub’s impromptu cover of “The Ballad of John and Yoko”, delivered while techies salvaged the band’s sound amidst appalling rain, deserves an honorary mention). Right up at the front of the rainbattered throng that day, I saw Pearl Jam arrive on stage after some delay, Stoney sucking terrified on a ciggie and Dave A waving and smiling at anyone and everyone in remote proximity, as usual.

The band slammed into Animal, and in those days, Jeff would leap Michael Jordan-style off the stage as if the heavy weight of the band’s riffs had an opposite effect on his physical gravity. I remember knowing that the band weren’t planning to ease into this show, with Mr Ament leaping about like that. Go (then known to the press and bootleggers as Nemesis) was played superfast, with Ed nearly biting the mic with his screaming mouth. Once was sung right at me, and, when I responded with a good bit of eyerolling, teeth-gnashing and rocking out right-backatcha. Ah, those were the days.

Their version of Blood was among the most intense they’ve done. I’ve never seen a VHS clip of this gig, and would love to see if it matches up with my memory of Dave A smashing and pounding that kit and Ed whirling around manically with his mic stand like the devil’s spinning top. Even Flow, like the previous year’s Finsbury Park gig (which I attended also), was dedicated to the drummer of L7, who, as one of the performers back on the day of The Cult’s festival in 1992 had a little, er, issue of physical urgency to worry about. In those days Mikey’s solos for that song were rather short, and the tune was played quite a bit slower than it is nowadays.



I recall Jeremy was played too, after which the band launched into their UK premiere of Glorified G. This version was a bit ropey, but they got through it, albeit the band seemed a bit distracted by the weather and all the crowdsurfing/people needing to be pulled over the top of the security to escape crushes. The mosh was a bit fierce, but not too extreme, thankfully.

Hearing Daughter for the very first time was a devastating experience for me. It must rival any PJ moment I've heard. Imagine those chordal turns being unfamiliar; imagine the melody and lyrical content being new. Hearing that song in 1993, perfect and tagless, airing to a crowd and getting cheers even from the odd PJ detractor there for the other acts, was a kapow moment for rock music.

The band did Alive, which of course had everybody jumping around and singing like mad fookers, but then they did a little improv that went along the lines of "What would you do if you woke up in my shoes?/You'd fuckin' kill yourself, man." Ed lost one of his shoes somehow, and the crowd saw he had white socks. It was a tense moment....

Sock and Awe now achieved, PJ did a bit of a perfunctory version of Why Go? Sometime around this point (?) Ed went offstage to get some carrots. I really don't recall at what point in the gig he did this. I'm not saying that, when Ed threw these ocularly enhancing weapons of mass illumintion out to the crowd to help us see Neil better in the rainy approaching dark, it knocked me out or gave me concussion or anything like that. Still, one of these carrots managed in the scramble to hit me right on the nose and might have distracted me from recalling in future the precise moment of the origin of my username. They played Leash, I should say, but Ed sent his mic crashing to the floor before Mikey could start his solo, and buggered off (forcing this song to an abrupt end) only to return with his t-shirt over his head as the band burned into a white-knuckle Porch/Tearing. I'm sure it rained the whole time, but the intensity of the Vs-era Pearl Jam was incendiary to say the very least.

Fourteen years later, I was with many of your readers at Wembley, up in the nosebleed section this time but treated to a much more laid back, contented and wiser Pearl Jam delivering their songs not with the sense that something was going to explode in the torrent and maelstrom of performance or celebrity, but with the keen urge to provide the band and its audience with emotional and spiritual shelter. I wish someone could do something about that fookin' roof at Wembley, though, I was fookin' soaked...

Please enjoy the many Vs related themes in this issue, and see you again in Issue #3, where I'll be doing similar editorial ranting and blather.

Love
Fins

FEATURE

by paul martinez (walkunafraid)

VS SURVIVOR

The Survivor thread is a fun way to look back at each of Pearl Jam's albums to date. The competition is simple: an album is selected, and each day message pit users cast a vote for the one song on the album that they want to eliminate from the competition. At the end of each round, the song with the most votes is eliminated, and the next round begins with one less song to vote off. Eventually, the competition is whittled down to the two songs that have survived the longest; at that point, users vote for the song they want to win the competition. Eventually, one song emerges with the honor of being named the ultimate survivor among all others on its record.

There were a record number of votes in the final round, with Pit members chiming in a whopping 222 times. In the end, the result was a blowout.

Before we get to the winner, let's recap the round-by-round results:

ROUND 1: Rats **ELIMINATED**

ROUND 2: W.M.A. **ELIMINATED**

ROUND 3: Glorified G **ELIMINATED**

ROUND 4: Blood **ELIMINATED**

ROUND 5: Dissident **ELIMINATED**

ROUND 6: Leash **ELIMINATED**

ROUND 7: Elderly Woman Behind the Counter **ELIMINATED**

ROUND 8: Go **ELIMINATED**

ROUND 9: Daughter **ELIMINATED**

ROUND 10: Animal **ELIMINATED**

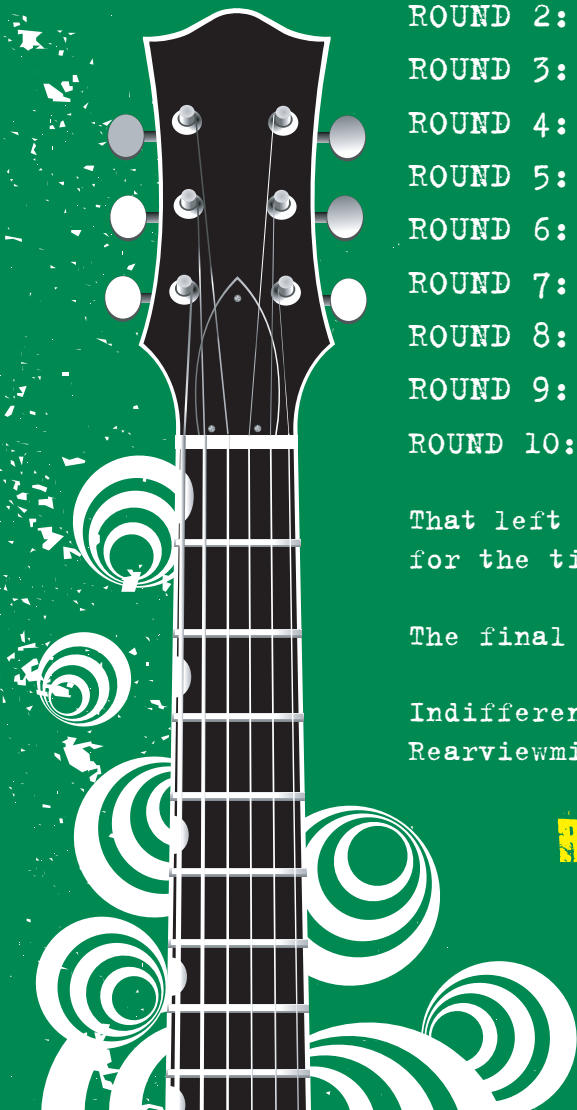
That left us with Rearviewmirror and Indifference going to battle for the title of the ultimate Vs. Survivor.

The final tally was:

Indifference - 69 votes

Rearviewmirror - 153 votes

Rearviewmirror is the winner!



IMMORTALITY

A Good Man?

Saw the face of a man
A family man
A good man
Friends, family and neighbours would say
Always a smile
Always a pleasant hello
Always at church on Sunday
A pillar of the community
He's clean cut
Has a good job
A fine car
A nice home
A lovely wife
And a hauntingly beautiful daughter
Oh yes, a pretty little lady is she
Daddy's little princess
And on Tuesday nights
When Mommy does her duty with the PTA
Daddy shows his little princess just how much he loves her
And insists that she show her love in return
Daddy loves to see his pretty princess cry
The salt of her tears upon her pillow
Just as his salt upon her tender belly
The stuff his sick wet dreams are made of
He shows his love, every inch
She is numbed by his love
She is robbed by his love
She is violated by his love
She is ripped by his love
She is hardened by his love
She is hated by his love
Her innocence lost
Her love warped, distorted, stolen
Her body a shell
Her mind battered, torn, broken
Her skin dirty and not her own
Her insides trying to jump out
But her Daddy is a good man
A pillar of the community
And Mommy doesn't want to believe her

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Indifference

There's another little girl,
lost,
on another corner,
of another street.
You don't see her.
Walk on by her.
Yesterday's paper, blowing in the wind.

Name: A1

How does this composition relate to Vs?

The main character of this piece sees her oppressors look through her, on to their busy days; in their self-absorbed haze... she doesn't feel anger towards them, even though their indifference is killing her. "Don't call me daughter. Not fit to..."

Title: A Good Man? / Indifference



Go

Thank you eHarmony, even though he's shorter than advertised, but there's nothing wrong with short as long as he has a decent personality which he does plus a nice laugh and he's not wearing Birkenstocks so he's already fifty points ahead of the last loser she went out with.

He doesn't order anything stupid like a green apple martini, he orders a beer and she's thinking she might have his children. When he smiles he has the slightest space between his teeth. Sexy, she decides.

There's a band playing on a tiny stage, running through standards, a painful rendition of "One," a slightly better version of "Smells Like Teen Spirit." But then the band seems to relax, they find their rhythm.

He's smiling at her, his eyes are green. Would our children have green eyes, too? She is dancing close to him, their hips touch occasionally. She will write a thank you letter to eHarmony, they could be on one of their TV commercials.

The band launches into "Go." Amazing, she grabs her date's arm.
"Can you believe they're playing that?"
"I hate Pearl Jam," he says.

The space between his teeth grows wider, she feels she can look down his throat, all the way to the black clump of muscle that could be his heart. If he had a heart, which he clearly doesn't.

"What's the name of the song?" he asks.
He probably has hair on his back. Thick black hair, like an animal.
"Go." She means it.

© 2007 RVManiac

Name: RVManiac

How does this composition relate to Vs?

This relates to Vs because I wanted to spin a short story around a song title. And "Go" seemed the most appropriate.

Title: Go



A Toast

To all the lightning that ever flashed
To all the flames that ever burned
To all who made the time fly by
Where once the world slowly turned

To all the lights that showed the way
To all the stars that flared and died
To all who revealed the world
To shy unopen eyes

To all who shook and shocked and scared me
The ones I've loved the most
To all the sparks that fires lit
To all of you, a toast

© 2007 Braighni

Name: Braighni

How does this composition relate to Vs?

It's my nod to those who mattered in my life. Some are gone but will always be remembered. I'm trying not to let hearts and thoughts fade away.

Title: A Toast



Inner Struggle

I feel the weight of the world
Upon my hardened shoulders
Try to conform, they say
But to what standard, I ask
I see none that appease
My questions and ideals
For I feel too strongly
About too many things
I cannot become anything
Of which I abhor
Some laugh at me
For my standoffish behavior
Still, others mock me
For refusal of losing myself
Yet, others mimic me
And try to adopt my ideals
You can do any of these
But don't falsely befriend me

© 2007 markymark550

Name: Mark - markymark550

How does this composition relate to Vs?

I have always viewed Vs as Pearl Jam's album where they struggle to find their identity as a band and my poem relates to that theme because it's about my struggle to find my identity in this world.

Title: Inner Struggle

Tied To

Comfortable cozy cave could kick
the thirst, thump, tick
for furious frenzied fun
easily, especially in evening endeavors
perhaps, possibly passing a pictured
ideal?
could the vision be real?
well, real enough to feel
with zeal
it could a p p e a l
to
a few
who
like to do
what they set their minds to
do birds like to coo?
do cows like to moo?
do clocks need to chime coo-coo?
was it all timing that threw
the ship off course?
a horse is a horse, a horse, a horse
i t ' s w o r s e !
to use nonsense bops & bumps to force
my rhymes from their source
but, it's all in aid of my wish
to kiss
that sweet face
I miss

© 2007 Anne Marie

Name: Anne Marie

How does this composition relate to Vs?

Here's a poem I wrote, which can be considered relative to the song Indifference since it's about holding onto an idea.

Title: Tied To



Indiferença (Portuguese version)

A porta fechou-se as chaves tilintaram. Da sala onde ela estava chegavam sons da televisão.

Os passos dele aproximaram-se e ela ouviu um 'olá' enquanto ele já ia pela escada acima.

Será que ela levantou o nariz da televisão ao responder?...não quis saber.

Lá encima a água quente a correr pelas canalizações parecia um eco muito muitodistante. Os passos voltaram a descer, abriram a porta da cozinha, a geleira, os armários.

Na sala a televisão continuava a falar sózinha, ou talvez não...que diferença. Porcaria de televisão.

Ela sentio-o sentar-se atrás dela, comer em silêncio, de costas viradas para ela e para a televisão. Ele comia sempre em silêncio.

A água na cara não lavaria a mágoa, mas ela tentou.

Depois no quarto, sentio o olhar dele. Os olhos dela diriam demais e não se atreveu a devolver o olhar.

Ele não era muito bom em palavras, mas sabia que no seu olhar dizia mais, tentou, mas não deu...paciência.

Adormeceram a pensar nas coisas que gostariam de ter dito mas não disseram. Outro dia talvez...

© 2007 Tchaliz

Indifference (English version)

The door closed and his keys tinkled. TV mumble came from the living room. His steps came closer and she heard "hello" while he rushed upstairs. Did she take her eyes off the TV when she answered...?

He didn't want to know.

Water ran through the pipes into the bath tube like a very distant echo. The steps came down, opened the kitchen door, the fridge, the closets. In the living room the TV program kept talking alone...for all he cared...bloody TV.

She felt his presence behind her, turning his back on her and the TV. He always ate in silence.

Water on her face couldn't wash down her pain, but she tried. In the bedroom, she felt his eyes on her. Her own eyes would have said too much and she didn't dare to look back.

He was not good for words...his eyes spoke for him and she understood, she used to, before.

They fell asleep thinking about the things they would have liked to say but did not say.

Some other day maybe.

© 2007 Tchaliz

Name: Tchaliz

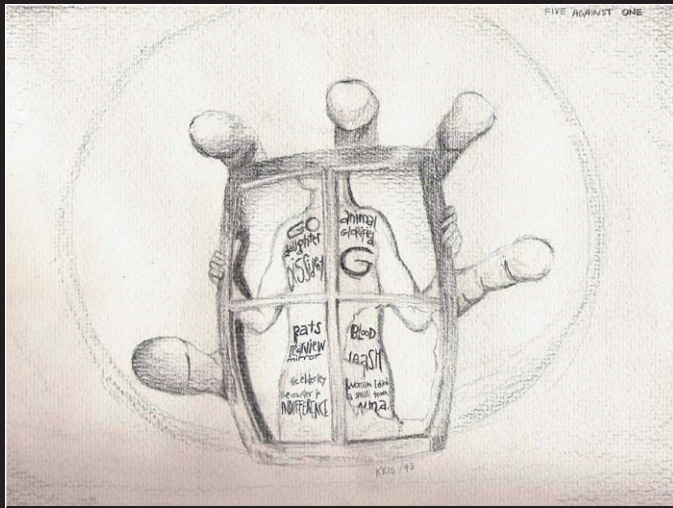
How does this composition relate to Vs?

This relates to the line from Indifference:
"I'll swallow poison until I grow immune"

Title: Indifference



5against1



Name: civ_eng_girl

How does this relate to Vs?: well... that's pretty self explanatory, really.... just check the liner notes!

© 2007 civ_eng_girl

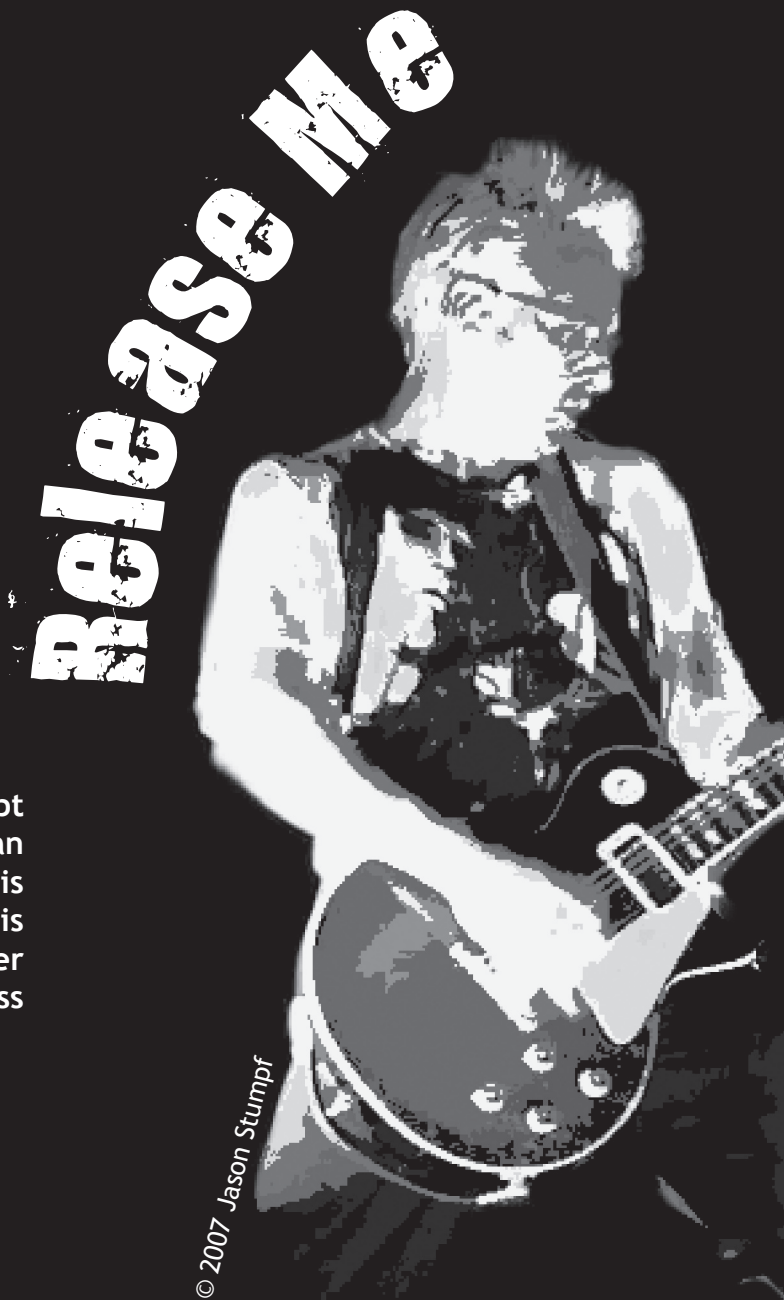
Daughter



Name: Jimmy 'Jamal' Symoens

How does this relate to Vs?: The picture kept will remind me not to call her 'daughter'. In an otherwise empty room, her breakfast table is filled with even emptier beer bottles. This is her dorm-room, where she tries to make her mother proud none the less. Despite the mess in her life, her studies help her rise above.

© 2007 Jimmy Symoens



Untitled



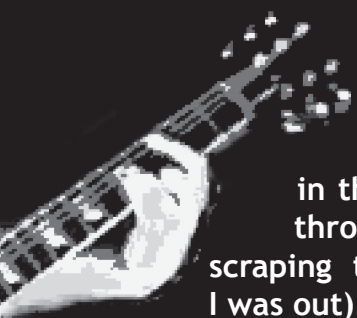
Name: Francisca Vugts (Kushikushun)

How does this relate to Vs ? : After a long day of studying and the darkness setting in I saw the reflection of me and the lamp in a window. The whole image I saw just seemed to have the feel of some of the songs on Vs. I took out the camera, moved some things about and shot different pictures. This one seemed to capture it; contemplative, dark, lonely, a bit surreal, moody and at the same time warm, at ease, still hopeful.

To view more of Francisca's work please visit <http://reducetosilence.blogspot.com>

© 2007 Francisca Vugts

Untitled



Name: Marion (shootenanny!)

How does this relate to Vs ? :
I annoyed my housemates
no end by listening to Vs on
repeat while painting it, resulting
in the CD getting all scratched (either
through overplay or my housemates
scraping their keys across the disk while
I was out).

© 2007 Marion - shootenanny



Decomposed Psyche



Name: Michael Freitag

How does this relate to Vs ? : This work is inspired by Hard To Imagine (from the original Vs sessions). It is a self portrait I did. I took a photo of myself then edited and enhanced the image to its current state. Shortly after my father passed away, I created this. I was depressed and grieving. I felt like my world was crumbling. Literally life after he died was "Hard To Imagine". This work displays my stress, how I was at a breaking point, crumbling, almost deconstructing myself and trying to put it all back together.

To view more of Michael's work please visit www.michaelfreitag.com

© 2007 Michael Freitag

Shock and Awe



Name: burtschips

How does this relate to Vs ? : Because of the songs W.M.A, Glorified G and Rats. Rumsfeld is the W.M.A. in this case, wielding his Glorified G with the media lapping it up. The concept of 'Shock and Awe' was not new but the extent to which this strike was conceived and packaged as popular entertainment was. This could also be called pass the popcorn.

© 2007 burtschips



MANKIND

Name: Lizard

How does this relate to Vs ? : You know how you could not get enough of Vs the first time you heard it? How you STILL love it? It is timeless....just like this scrumptious dip recipe!! More like a main-course actually. Here ya go, and don't say you were not warned about its addicting qualities!!

Title: Hot Wings Dip

©2007 Lizard



Hot Wings Dip

Ingredients:

8 oz. cream cheese, softened
Frank's Red Hot Sauce
3 boneless chicken breasts
½ bottle Bob's Bleu Cheese dressing (or any brand)
Grated cheddar cheese

Cook chicken & shred (I like to boil it – keeps it moist).
Marinate shredded chicken in Frank's Hot Sauce (smother it)
for at least 4 hours. In an 8x8" pan, rub the cream cheese
around bottom and sides of pan. Pour in the marinated chicken,
then pour on the blue cheese dressing and top with grated cheese.
Bake at 425 for 15–20 min and serve with tortilla chips.

LEASH

Interviews with niner,
||Release_Me|| and Buru



Name: niner

How does this relate to Vs?: Just read . . .

Title: June 1, 2006, E. Rutherford, New Jersey

Set list: Severed Hand, Corduroy, World Wide Suicide, Do The Evolution, Marker In The Sand, Given To Fly, Dissident, Even Flow, Army Reserve, Immortality, Green Disease, Not For You/ (Modern Girl), Alone, Jeremy, Why Go, Life Wasted, Rearviewmirror/Wasted Reprise, Man Of The Hour, Come Back, Footsteps, Once, Alive/Last Exit, Comatose, Leatherman, Glorified G, Leash, Baba O' Riley, Indifference

June 1, 2006 at East Rutherford, New Jersey was my first Pearl Jam concert and my 11 year old daughter's first concert ever.

At one point in the show, while we're well into "Rearviewmirror" and having a great time, this odd guy next to me starts smoking. Well I smoke, but you can't smoke inside the area (no big deal really). So we're standing and jumping, and we have our arms raised in the air. My daughter looks at me weirdly; she puts her fingers to her nose to close her nostrils like something smells bad. She gets my attention again and tells me to stop raising my arms up because she smells B.O. I look at her like she is crazy. She pulls me closer and tells me I smell. I'm lifting my arms, sniffing my pits, I don't smell anything out of the usual and then it hits me. The weird guy next to me is smoking pot! So, I turned to my daughter and said "Sorry, I smell". I couldn't bring myself to tell her this dude is smoking pot. I thought it was funny though.

I was retelling this story later on, to a friend, and happened to glance at a copy of Vs. near the computer. Its song titles hit me as ironic because it was my "Daughter" that night exposed to a pot smoking "Rat" and I felt like an "Animal" for this doofus smoking pot next to a minor, while "Rearviewmirror" was playing.

©2007 niner



Name: Interview with Ross (| |Release_Me | |) by Ms. Haiku

How does this relate to VS: The article includes a question specifically about Vs songs.

Title: September 5, 2006, Lisbon, Portugal

Set List: Severed Hand, Corduroy, Hail Hail, Save You, World Wide Suicide, Dissident, Even Flow, Army Reserve, Whipping, State Of Love And Trust, I Got Id, Garden, Do The Evolution, Sad, Daughter(It's Ok), Insignificance, Black, Rearviewmirror/ Improv, Come Back, I Believe In Miracles, Big Wave, Once, Footsteps, Alive/ Wasted Reprise, Better Man, Smile, Why Go, Rockin' In The Free World, Yellow Ledbetter

You saw Pearl Jam at the Lisbon II 2006 show. Are you originally from there, or did you have to travel to get there?

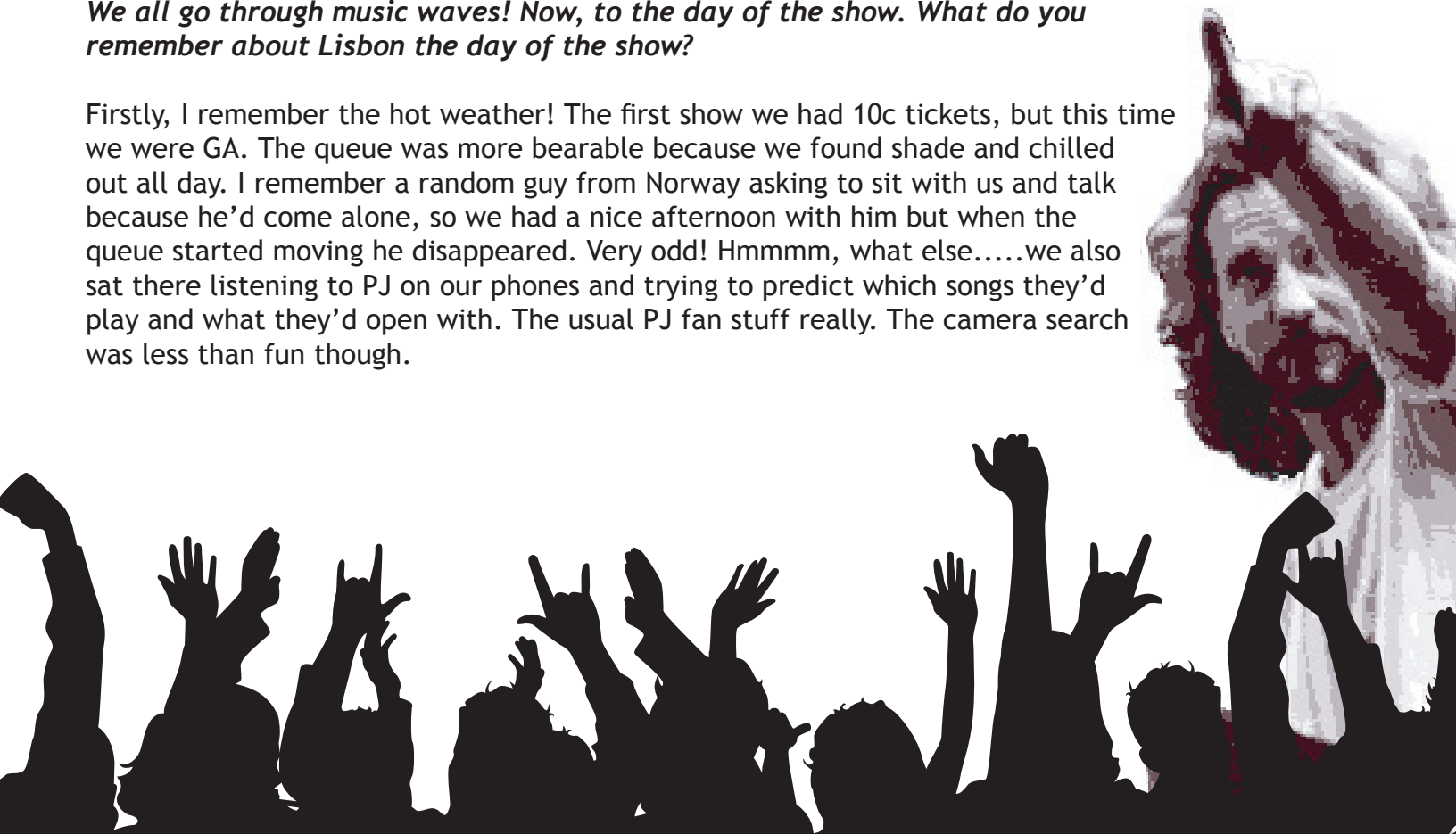
I'm actually from the UK, in a small town called Fleetwood to be exact. So when the tour was announced and I saw Lisbon on the schedule, I knew I had to go. I remember enjoying the Lisbon '00 bootleg because the crowd responded so well and the band noticed it, so I wanted to be part of something like that.

Was this one of your first shows? How long have you been a fan of Pearl Jam?

Lisbon II was my third show, after the Astoria and obviously Lisbon I. I'm not a long-time fan, only about 5 years. I actually admit to being a huge Creed fan back in 2002, always hearing the PJ comparisons and being mocked. I downloaded Alive, Even Flow and an acoustic version of I Am Mine, and it was like my eyes were opened. Creed CDs were either sold or gathered dust, and the rest is history. Looking back, why oh why did I ever listen to Creed?!

We all go through music waves! Now, to the day of the show. What do you remember about Lisbon the day of the show?

Firstly, I remember the hot weather! The first show we had 10c tickets, but this time we were GA. The queue was more bearable because we found shade and chilled out all day. I remember a random guy from Norway asking to sit with us and talk because he'd come alone, so we had a nice afternoon with him but when the queue started moving he disappeared. Very odd! Hmmmm, what else.....we also sat there listening to PJ on our phones and trying to predict which songs they'd play and what they'd open with. The usual PJ fan stuff really. The camera search was less than fun though.



Camera search? You were looking for a cell phone to take pictures or do you mean the security guards were searching your bags?

Sorry, yeah! I meant, security were searching our bags. My girlfriend managed to sneak one past though and we got some pretty cool photos.

So, now you're past security. At what point did you go to your seats? In other words did you see the opening act, did you try to buy a poster . . . what were you doing before you first saw Pearl Jam on stage?

We pretty much went straight to our spot. We were about halfway back on the floor, with that centre dividing rail to hold onto. We saw My Morning Jacket, although I was still a bit tired so didn't enjoy them as much. Although we could always hear an Australian guy named Randall who is friends with Ament_To_That screaming at people to let him through when he'd bought beers. That provided entertainment for us!

You've seen two shows so far that tour, including another one in the same city. What were you expecting from this concert?

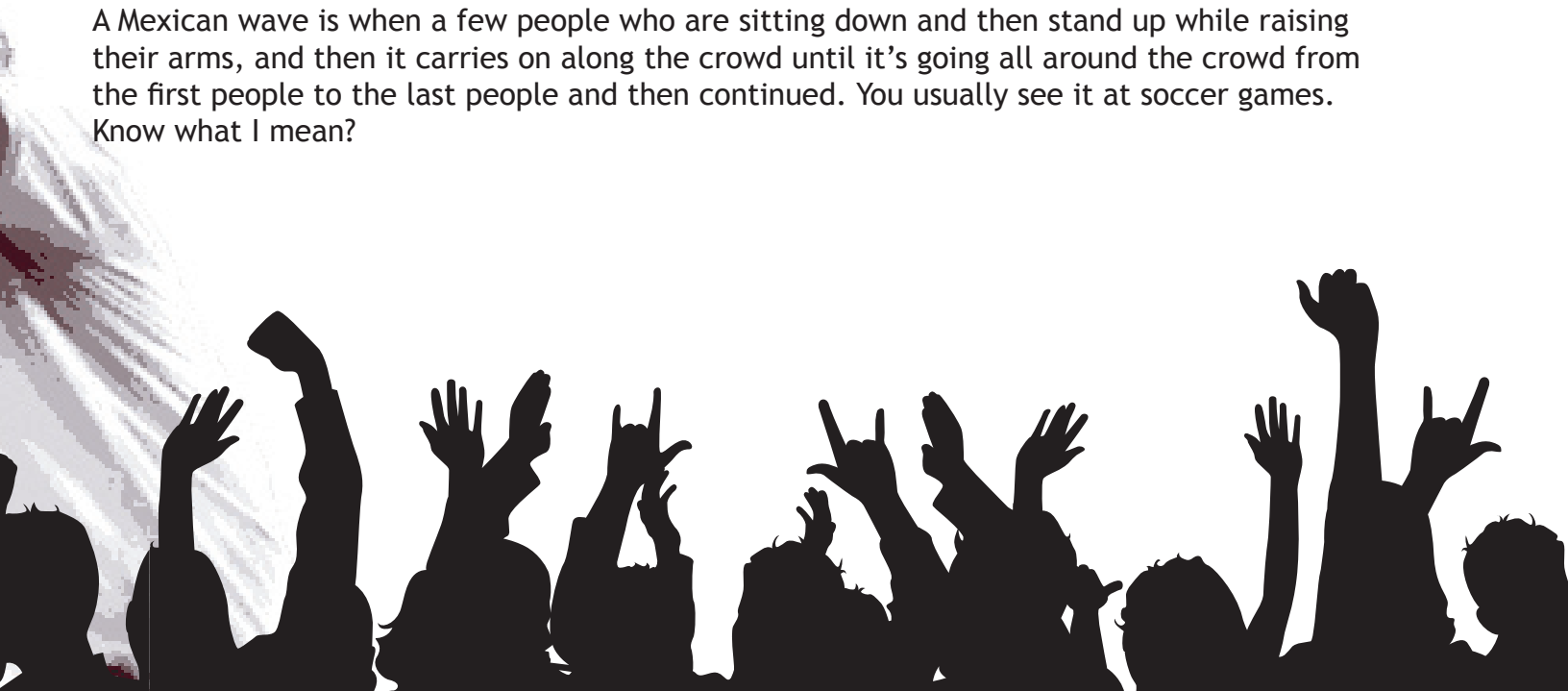
I guess I was expecting/ hoping for one or two rarities seeing as it was the second night in the same venue. The band delivered, we got the new Garden and the mamasan trilogy, and Smile! I really wanted Army Reserve or Come Back and they played both. I was hoping the crowd would be as loud as the night before too!

So, how loud was the crowd? Was it as loud as you expected? Did you think that overall the crowd was into the concert?

At first I was worried because the Mexican wave before the show just couldn't get going like it did the first night! But when the lights went down the place went insane, and I'd say that everybody in the building seemed to be having the time of their lives. Definitely a better crowd than the first night, in my opinion.

What is a Mexican wave?

A Mexican wave is when a few people who are sitting down and then stand up while raising their arms, and then it carries on along the crowd until it's going all around the crowd from the first people to the last people and then continued. You usually see it at soccer games. Know what I mean?



Gotcha! So, it sounds like a NY wave that skipped across the ocean!

The theme of this issue of Trading Stories with the Leaves is Vs. Do you remember any songs from Vs during that concert?

Daughter with the 'It's OK' tag was just amazing, but Rearviewmirror just blew me away. I sometimes skip it on the bootlegs but i was mesmerized. The bridge was jaw-dropping, and my girlfriend even got a chant and clap going which was fun! I think that might have been her favourite moment of the show, but not mine though!

You mentioned what was your girlfriend's favorite part of the show. What was your favorite part of the show?

It's a moment I'll never forget. It was during Garden, that first chorus where Ed sings lower than on the original version, with just Stone's guitar. The crowd just started singing the original part in the higher note. I swear at that moment I think I had some kind of out of body experience. I stopped singing, closed my eyes and just listened to Ed and the crowd. They were in perfect harmony; nothing else in the world mattered at the moment. I got goosebumps, tears in my eyes and I felt like I could die at that moment a happy man. On the bootleg you can hear the crowd singing so loud, but it still doesn't do it justice. That has to be my favourite live moment ever.

Well, if more copies of that bootleg needed a reason to be sold, I think you just did the job! That sounds like an incredible experience . . . possibly the type of experience we all want without knowing it, you know.

What was going on for you during the next song or two after Garden?

I felt like crying, but not for long because Do The Evolution was next and it was time to shimmy! My tour buddies and I came up with the concept of shimmying which we only did during DTE, so we were in full shimmy mode by then! Singing in the choir too, and then a rockin' version of Sad straight after, so I didn't have time to rest and contemplate the religious experience I'd just had.

Yep, I always say there's not enough shimmying in the world. Also, not enough religious experiences to be had at concerts, but I say a lot of things!

Back to the interview. Do you remember what was going on during the last song?



Well during Yellow Ledbetter, it felt like saying goodbye to old friends. The band had blown our minds and kicked our asses, and now we were taking a breather while singing our own versions of the song. It was so cathartic. During Rockin' in the Free World, however, it felt like one big party. House lights were on, I looked around a few times and nobody was standing still. There was one shirtless guy in the right stands stood on his own playing air guitar with his leg! There was a feeling of euphoria just sweeping over the audience!

I read on another post that the Lisbon concerts are some of the best particularly because of the crowd, and from your responses it sounds like you would agree. Is that right?

Yeah, I would definitely agree. It's also the fact that for the most part the crowds were really friendly too. Everyone was dancing and singing, but there was minimal pushing so we never felt uncomfortable or squashed. It made for a really pleasant experience.

Also, you wrote that you didn't have time to contemplate what you felt during Garden. At what point away from the concert were you able to just remember the flow of the experience, or rather, relive the awe?

I think I started to contemplate what I'd seen when I finally got into bed that night. I can't remember anything from leaving the venue to getting to my hotel, but when I got into bed the memories just started racing through my head. I really wanted to cry again, because I never knew that music could do that to a person and have that type of impact. I felt exhilarated, euphoric, emotional, and tired all at the same time.

So, you meet someone on the street. He's a lot like you. He just attended two concerts; one in another city, but one in the city where you both are standing. He's contemplating going to the second show tonight, but he may or may not. He's not sure. It would be his third show. What would you say to him?

I would say go for it! It's usually the shows that kinda happen last minute which end up being the most memorable. A friend hooked us up with the Lisbon II tickets and wouldn't accept payment for them, and it ended up being the greatest night of my life. Don't pass up on any Pearl Jam opportunity: you never know in what way they'll blow your mind.

Yep, Philly 05 was last minute for me. I know exactly what you mean.

Anything else you wanted to add about Lisbon II 2006 for our Trading Stories with the Leaves #2 readers?



Nothing really that many people haven't already said. Music is such a powerful thing, but with Pearl Jam I feel that it's life-changing. Lisbon II cemented that feeling for me. As cheesy as it sounds, my life changed that night. The positive, uplifting feeling I walked out of the show with hasn't gone. I wake up every day, thinking about it. It was everything you want at a PJ show - lovely city, phenomenal crowd, fantastic set list and a band that just loves to play. Lisbon II had it all.

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Name: Interview of Buru by Ms. Haiku, and Spanish translation by Buru

How does this relate to Vs? : Vs songs included in set list

Title: August 23, 2006, Dublin, Ireland

Set List: Inside Job, World Wide Suicide, Severed Hand, Animal, Do The Evolution, Given To Fly, Corduroy, Gone, Marker In The Sand, Daughter/(It's OK), Better Man, Why Go, Education, Even Flow, Life Wasted, Rearviewmirror/ Indifference, Black, Crazy Mary, Alive The Boys Are Back In Town, Leash, Fuckin' Up

When/where did you attend your first concert, and when/where did you attend your last concert?

I attended my first concert in 2000, in Saratoga Springs. Having given up hope that Pearl Jam would ever come to Argentina (the bastards) I flew over to the US with my eager 20 years, and saw them in Saratoga and both Mansfield shows. And they were rocking. My favourite show was the last Mansfield one, because I was actually quite close to the stage! (10th row, thanks to a Ten Club member).

My last show was last year in Europe, the Barcelona show, which was my final show after a string of European shows. And the crowd was really energetic, I got pushed and squished a lot but held on to my front row place, waving my Argentina flag. It reminded me of the shows back home, although those were even more... I'll go with, physically challenging, haha!

You've traveled all over the world to see them. What was the trip that took the most amount of work that was worth that amount of work?

That would be the Europe trip in 2006, because that is a really expensive destination (the currency exchange kills us), to us it's as if we were paying about 4 times more than a European fan. But it was definitely worth it, because they were general admission shows which allowed me to be really close to the stage, and the vibe was great. And as well, Europe is a gorgeous place. I also met many great fans, who I will be seeing again in about a month, as I am returning to Europe!

3 cheers for networking! Originally, I wanted to discuss the Argentina shows from 2005, but it sounds like there's a lot to discuss from Europe 2006. First, the Argentina Flag. Do you carry it to every show?



I carried it to every European show, since I bought the flag for that tour. But I intend to carry it to every show from now on. It's not too big, so it doesn't get in the way. I also have a sign I made for that tour, while I was waiting in line for the Antwerp show since I had like 6 hours to kill till doors opened. It reads "Come Back to Argentina" on one side, and "Make me smile" on the other. I know Jeff at least saw this sign, during the Barcelona show, and I seemed to read in his lips "Maybe 2 years" so everyone here is expecting Pearl Jam to return in 2008. They made us wait long enough!

2008 is just around the corner. Let's cross our fingers. What was the first Europe 2006 show you attended?

My first Europe show was Dublin, and it was really special. Inside Job as an opener was the best thing that could happen to me, since that was one of the songs I most wanted to hear from the Avocado album. It is a favourite, together with Gone. So that song alone, as opener, made the trip worthwhile. I also went to Reading, Arnhem, Antwerp and Barcelona.

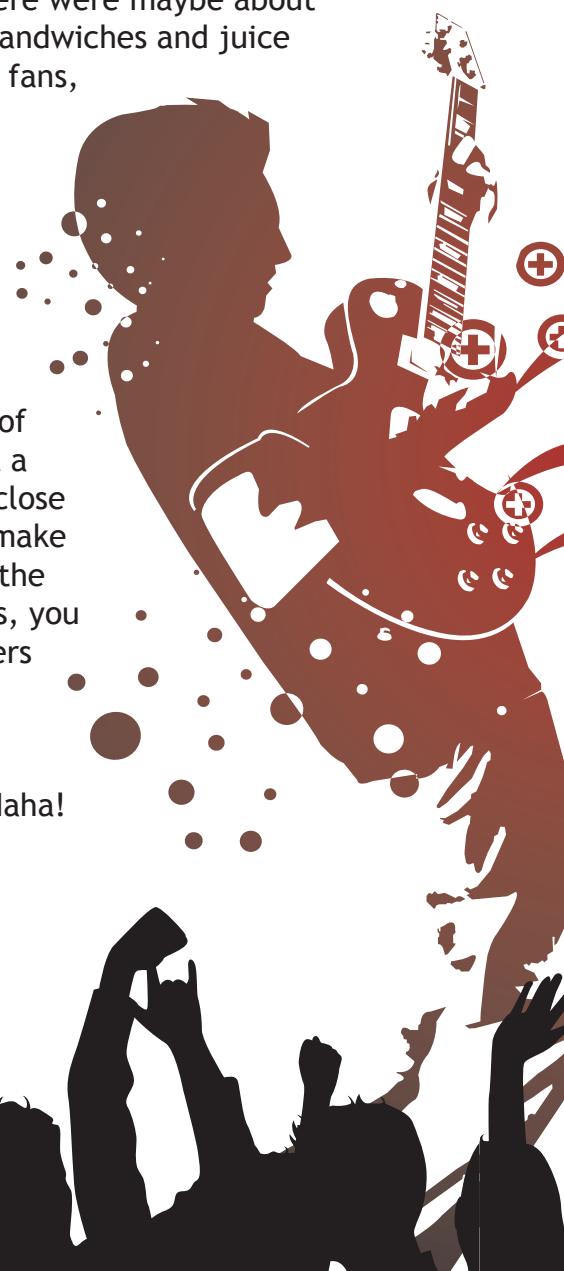
You arrive at the venue, flag in hand I presume, what was the day like in Dublin? What were you up to?

I got to the venue a little before 10am, it was sunny, a bit cold. There were maybe about 30 people already there, and yes, I had my flag in hand plus some sandwiches and juice for the long wait ahead. I met up with Casey and Helen (two other fans, one Irish, the other North American) a little later. And then more fans kept dropping by.

That's very cool you met up with Casey and Helen. Talk about an international convention, eh? You were already in line about 9 hours before the show started? So, did you all wait in line 9 hours before the show started?

Yes, for the 2006 Europe tour tickets that were GA; that is in front of the stage, were first come first serve. As Ten Club members you got a 15 min early entrance to try and secure a spot in the front row, or close to the front. My ten club number is not really good, I could never make front row otherwise. Hence why I went really early. I actually was the guest of another ten club member for that show. And if you see pics, you can see me first in line with Helen (Heineken Helen) and a few others

Yes long hours!! At least there were bathrooms, which was not the case for the Buenos Aires shows... I spent about 12 hours without peeing for those shows, so I would not lose my place in the front! Haha!



You definitely have a one track mind. Very admirable! What was the main focus of conversation those 9 hours waiting before the doors opened?

OK, so the conversation in Dublin, I'm sure it was pretty much rubbish, and then talk about Pearl Jam, and songs we wanted played, and how hungry we were, since very few remembered to bring goodies. And then talk complaining about the lack of organization, the people in charge of the venue really had no idea what was going on, things got sorted once the Pearl Jam crew arrived though. We also got some rain while we were in line! And sheltered under an umbrella I had bought. Really sad picture! Haha!

What did the Pearl Jam crew do that wasn't being done before?

They made the ten club people queue in a different line, because till that moment we were all together and generally organized the queuing

So, the 9 hours of waiting are over. You go past security, and then ?

Once we got past security, I ran to the front, towards the left, in front of Mike. And that is where I stayed for the rest of the show

Way to book it down there! What did you do when you saw the first band member from PJ on the stage?

I held my breath anticipating something really special, and just absorbed the crowd reaction. I may have waved my flag too.

So, what was the first song that you remember?

Inside Job, which was the first! And just the intro to that song, it is one of the most beautiful things ever.

Oh, that's right, you told me already. It is a beautiful song, I love the lasers, I just turn around and watch where they are going. How was the crowd in Dublin reacting to this song?

They were loving it. I don't remember there being lasers for this one in Europe though. I just got lost in the song

I agree. It's a great song to fall into.

There was a lot of chanting in Dublin, I loved the crowd there. It was one of my favourite Europe shows



Yeah, I heard that Dublin was great. What was the next memorable moment at the Dublin show?

After the opener we got a lot of songs from the avocado album, which were rocking, but if I have to think about it now, I would have to say Gone, because that song was immediately special to me the first time I heard it. And it was special to me because I had never witnessed it live, so that made it even more special. I've always been partial to DTE though, which came before Gone, that was pretty rocking too, and then I would also say Daughter with the It's OK tag, since I had been wanting to sing that tag for quite some time. I love that tag, it's simply brilliant.

Yes! It's OK! Oh, I LOVE that! When the band took a break during the first encore, what was the crowd doing at that time?

It is so good. During the encore there was some cheering as usual. I don't really remember encores, since I am more worried about when the band is going to come out next! Haha!

So, the last song. What was happening?

The place was going crazy, because they closed with Fuckin' up!! I was so euphoric, I definitely waved my flag during that one. What I like the most is when shows end on a high note. That is why I love Rocking in the Free World, Fuckin' Up or Baba as closers

I agree. When they end energized, its like easier to go do something else instead of miss what's just happened. Do you keep your ticket stubs?

I kept my bracelet! (given to ten club members) I kept all of them. And I got a pic from Mike during that show.

What do you think readers of Trading Stories with the Leaves #2 should know about the Dublin 2006 show that has not been touched upon?

Hmm let me think, the encore was great and there were some mini Ed speeches that were really cool too. They also played "The boys are back in town" which was really special. That song is played usually after Ireland football matches

Ed's speeches! How could I forget! Let's hear it about the Ed speeches and the encores.



And it was the first time they played "Education" - I remember how we freaked out when we heard that one during the soundcheck. Well, Ed did another joke on The Point, kind of like he had done in 2000. He tells a random or winding story, then he says something like "What's the point?" - and the answer is: The Point is a really cool place in Dublin. And he also mentioned how he had fallen in love with a woman who had Irish blood in her, and so had Mike, and how he also had a daughter with Irish blood in her.... that must have been cool for the Irish. I remember "Olé! Olé!" chants in Dublin too, those were pretty cool - also reminded me of the shows back home.

Entrevista a Buru, por Ms. Haiku

¿Cuándo/donde viste tu primer recital de Pearl Jam, y cuando/donde viste el último?

Vi mi primer recital en el año 2002, en Saratoga Springs. Ya me había resignado a que Pearl Jam nunca iba a venir a Argentina (los desgraciados ;)), entonces me fui a los Estados con mis ansiosos 20 añitos y los vi en Saratoga y en los dos shows de Mansfield. Y estuvieron impecables. Mi show favorito fue el último show de Mansfield, porque estaba muy cerca del escenario (fila 10 gracias a un miembro del Ten Club).

Mi último recital fue el año pasado, en Europa, el recital de Barcelona que fue mi última parada luego de una serie de recitales en ese continente. Y el público fue muy entusiasta, me empujaron y apretujaron bastante, pero pude conservar mi lugar en la valla o primera fila, mientras sacudía la bandera de Argentina. Me hizo acordar de los shows en casa, de locales, aunque esos fueron aún más... voy a decir físicamente demandantes, jaja.

Viajaste por todo el mundo para verlos. ¿Cual fue el viaje que te llevó más trabajo realizar y que valió todo ese esfuerzo?

Ese sería el viaje a Europa en el año 2006, porque ese es un destino muy caro para nosotros (el cambio es muy malo), es como si tuviéramos que pagar 4 veces más que un fan europeo. Pero definitivamente valió la pena, porque fueron recitales de admisión general, que me permitieron estar muy cerca del escenario, y el ambiente fue excelente. Por otra parte, Europa es un lugar hermoso. También conocí a muchos fans, y los voy a ver de nuevo en como 1 mes, porque voy a estar volviendo a Europa!



3 hurras para el networking! Originalmente, quería discutir los shows de Argentina del 2005, pero parece que hay mucho que discutir de Europa 2006. En primer lugar quisiera saber, la bandera de Argentina, la llevás a cada recital?

La llevé para todos los shows europeos, ya que la había comprado para esa gira. Pero pienso llevarla a cada recital al que vaya, de ahora en más. No es muy grande, así que no molesta. También tengo un cartel que hice para esa gira, mientras esperaba en línea para el recital en Antwerp, ya que tenía como 6 horas de espera hasta que abrieran las puertas. Dice "Come Back to Argentina" de un lado, y "Make me smile" del otro. Se que por lo menos Jeff lo vio, durante el show de Barcelona, y en sus labios me pareció leer "Maybe 2 years" (quizás 2 años) así que todos acá estamos esperando que Pearl Jam regrese para el 2008. Ya nos hicieron esperar bastante!

El 2008 está acá a la vuelta. Crucemos los dedos. ¿Cuál fue el primer show europeo al que fuiste?

Mi primer recital europeo fue en Dublín, y fue muy especial. El show abrió con Inside Job, y eso fue lo mejor que me pudo pasar porque es una de las canciones que mas quería escuchar del ultimo álbum, el álbum de la palta. Es de mis favoritas, junto a Gone. Así que esa canción por si sola como abertura del show, hizo que el viaje valiera la pena. También fui a Reading, Arnhem, Antwerp y Barcelona.

Llegás al lugar del recital, bandera en mano asumo, como era el día en Dublín? ¿Qué estabas haciendo?

Llegué un poco antes de las 10 de la mañana, había sol pero hacía algo de frío. O tal vez estaba nublado, no se, el tiempo en Irlanda es un poco así, cambia a cada rato. Habrían unas 30 personas, y si, tenía mi bandera en mano, y unos sandwiches y jugo para hacer la espera llevadera. Me encontré con Casey y Helen (2 fans, el primero estadounidense y la segunda irlandesa) un poco más tarde. Y luego empezaron a caer más fans y conocidos.

Que bueno que te hayas encontrado con Casey y Helen. Fue como una convención internacional! Ya estabas en fila como 9 horas antes de que el recital empiece? Entonces, todos esperaron en fila durante 9 horas antes del show?

Si, como los shows europeos del 2006 eran de admisión general, y no con asientos numerados, la filosofía era el que primero llega primero entra. Los miembros del Ten Club entraban 15 minutos antes, como para intentar asegurar un lugar en la valla, o cerca del frente. Y por esta razón fui al estadio tan temprano. Es más, si ves fotos, se me puede ver primera en fila para entrar, junto a Helen (Heineken Helen) y un par más.



Eran horas largas, pero por lo menos había baños! Ese no fue el caso en los recitales de Buenos Aires... ahí me pasé como 12

horas sin ir al baño, para no perder mi lugar en la valla, jaja.

Definitivamente tenés una mente unidireccional. Muy admirable! ¿Cuál fue el foco principal de conversación durante esas 9 horas de espera, antes de que abrieran las puertas?

Estos segura de que hablamos basura, y de un poco de todo, mucha charla de Pearl Jam también, qué canciones queríamos escuchar, cuanta hambre teníamos porque pocos nos habíamos acordado de llevar comida, etc. También nos quejamos por la falta de organización. La gente del estadio realmente no tenía idea de lo que pasaba, pero todo fue resuelto una vez que llegó la gente de la banda. También llovió un poco mientras esperábamos. Y nos escondimos de a muchos bajo el paraguas que yo había comprado. Esa fue una imagen realmente triste jaja.

¿Que hizo la gente de Pearl Jam que no se había estado haciendo hasta ese entonces?

Básicamente organizaron las filas, el tema de acceso.

Entonces, las 9 de horas de espera terminaron. Pasan Seguridad y después...?

Una vez que pasamos el control de Seguridad, corrí al frente, hacia la izquierda, del lado de Mike. Y ahí me quedé durante todo el recital.

¡Felicitaciones por agenciarte ese lugar! ¿Qué fue lo que hiciste cuando viste al primer integrante de Pearl Jam en el escenario?

Contuve mi respiración anticipando algo maravilloso y especial, y simplemente absorbí la energía y reacción de la gente a mi alrededor. También agité la bandera.

¿Cuál es la primera canción de la que te acuerdes?

Inside Job, que fue la primera! Ya la introducción a esa canción, es una de las cosas más hermosas que escuché en mi vida.

Ah, es verdad, ya me habías dicho. Es una hermosa canción, me encantan los láser, me doy vuelta para mirar adonde van. ¿Cómo fue la reacción del público en Dublín a esta canción?



Se volvieron locos, les encantó. No me acuerdo de que hubiera láser para esta canción en Europa. Yo simplemente me perdí en la canción.

Estoy de acuerdo. Es una excelente canción en la cual perderse.

Hubieron muchos cantos y coritos en Dublín, me encantó el público de ahí, fue uno de mis recitales favoritos de los de Europa.

Si, escuché que el show de Dublín estuvo excelente. ¿Cuál fue el siguiente momento memorable de ese show?

Después de Inside Job, vinieron algunas canciones más del ultimo álbum, que estuvieron muy buenas, pero si tengo que pensar sobre esto ahora, diría que Gone, porque esa canción fue inmediatamente especial para mi desde el primer momento en que la escuché. Y fue particularmente especial en ese show, porque era la primera vez que la escuchaba en vivo. También siempre me encantó Do The Evolution, que vino antes que Gone, y otro momento especial fue Daughter con el tag de It's OK, ya que venía con ganas de cantar esos coros de It's OK hace un tiempo ya. Me encanta ese tag, es simplemente brillante.

Si!! It's ok! Ah, me ENCANTA eso! ¿Cuando la banda tomó su primer descanso, que era lo que hacía el público?

Si, es muy bueno el tag. Durante la primera pausa hubo mucho canto, aplauso, lo que es habitual. No suelo acordarme demasiado de esas pausas, porque estoy más preocupada pensando en cuando va a volver la banda jaja.

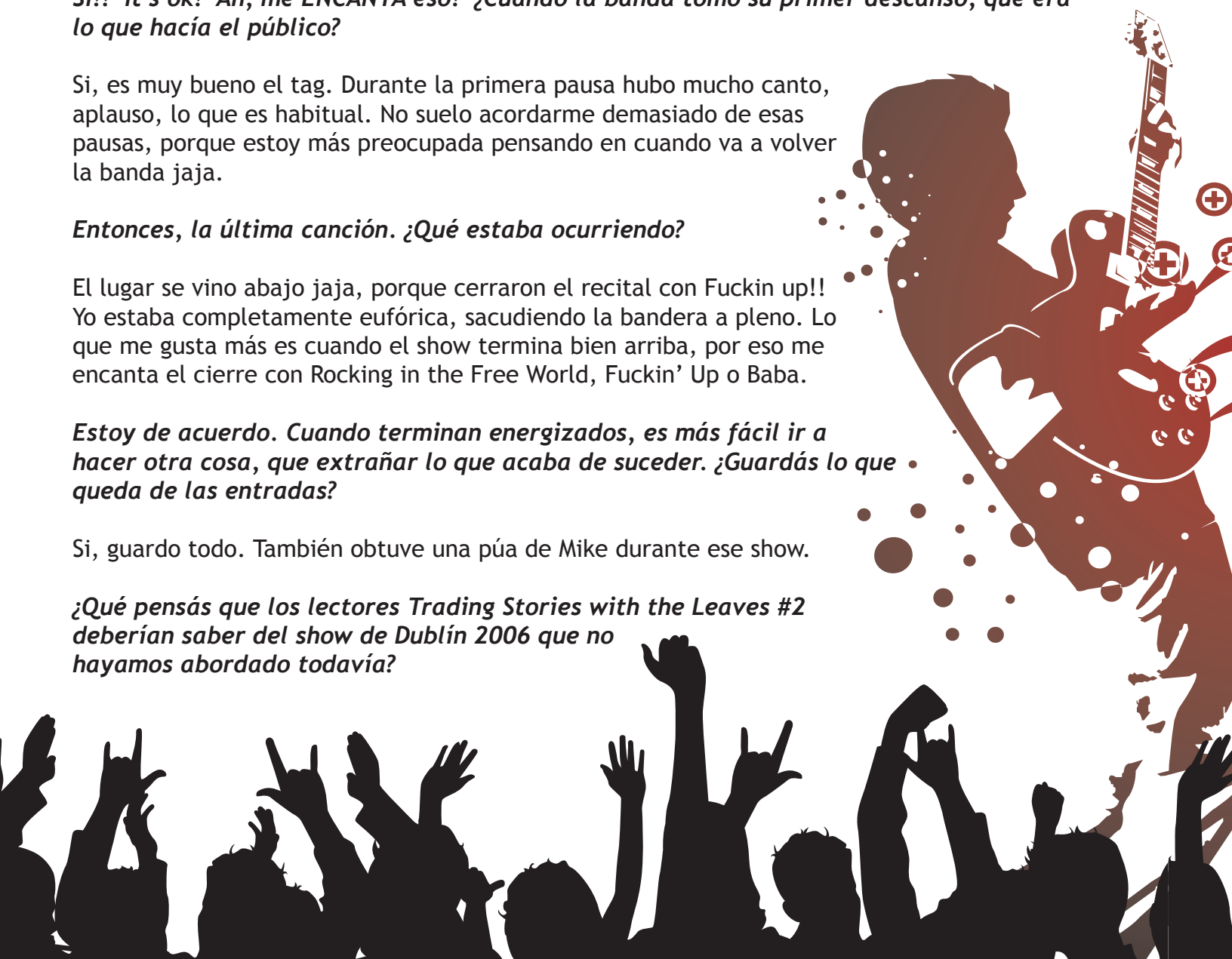
Entonces, la última canción. ¿Qué estaba ocurriendo?

El lugar se vino abajo jaja, porque cerraron el recital con Fuckin up!! Yo estaba completamente eufórica, sacudiendo la bandera a pleno. Lo que me gusta más es cuando el show termina bien arriba, por eso me encanta el cierre con Rocking in the Free World, Fuckin' Up o Baba.

Estoy de acuerdo. Cuando terminan energizados, es más fácil ir a hacer otra cosa, que extrañar lo que acaba de suceder. ¿Guardás lo que queda de las entradas?

Si, guardo todo. También obtuve una púa de Mike durante ese show.

¿Qué pensás que los lectores Trading Stories with the Leaves #2 deberían saber del show de Dublín 2006 que no hayamos abordado todavía?



Dejame pensar, el primer encore fue espectacular y también hubieron algunos mini-discursos de Ed que estuvieron muy bien. También tocaron "The boys are back in town" que fue bastante especial. Creo que pasan esa canción después de partidos de fútbol en Irlanda. Y también fue la primera vez que tocaron Education en vivo, me acuerdo que nos volvimos locos cuando escuchamos esa canción durante la prueba de sonido.

Los discursos de Ed. ¡Como pude olvidarme! Contame un poco más.

Bueno, hizo un chiste sobre el lugar (The Point, El Punto), similar al que había hecho en el 2000, donde cuenta alguna historia sin demasiado sentido y para el remate pregunta "What's the point?" (¿Cuál es el Punto?) - y la respuesta es: El punto es un lugar muy copado de Irlanda. También mencionó como se había enamorado de una mujer con sangre irlandesa, al igual que Mike, y como ahora él tenía una hija que tenía sangre irlandesa en ella... eso debe haber sido especial para los irlandeses. Me acuerdo también de cantos de Olé Olé Olé, cosa que me hizo acordar mucho de los recitales en Argentina. Realmente el recital fue una experiencia fantástica, buenísima.

El tema de Trading Stories with the Leaves #2 es VS. ¿Hay alguna canción de Vs que se haya destacado durante el recital?

Indifference, sin dudarlo. De nuevo, fue la primera vez que escuché esa canción en vivo.

La tocaron durante el primer encore, y fue un momento perfecto, apaciguante, hermoso... perfecto. Yo le solía decir a amigos que las canciones de Pearl Jam que empiezan con la letra "I" me evitan en vivo, en particular Immortality (Inmortalidad)... por lo menos ahora hay una canción menos que empieza con la letra "I" y me falta... tal vez durante esta gira europea consiga un poco de inmortalidad. ;)

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After spending all my life training to be a ninja, I finally became a Graphic Designer some years back, back when Jeff used to wear a hat bigger than my house. So, it is my esteemed privilege to be judging this Wet T-Shirt competition of photos sent in by the luscious PJ fans... what? Oh is it!!... Ok I've just been informed by someone who can read words with more than two syllables it's a Poster Contest I'm judging!! Well here's hoping someone has entered that one with the girl playing tennis, who lifts up her dress with her wee bumcheek on show...what now? Oh it's a PJ Poster Contest!!!! Eeny meeny miny moe.... Ok the winner is the New York one... It's pulchritudinous in its colour scheme, and it also has a backdrop of Edinburgh in it. So yes, that guy/gal wins [you mean mammasan, Dunk! - fins], and I'm sure you'll agree, it's a great design which combines a subtle array of muted tones and a classic cityscape to produce an aesthetically absorbing 70's style poster in keeping with the artist's birthdate and graphic art of that period.

Congratulations!!! You win my thongs.



Name: mammasan

How does this relate to Vs? : I was listening to Vs when I designed it. So while it may not relate to Vs, it was inspired by Vs.

Title: September 7, 1974, Newark NJ.

HONORABLE MENTION



Name: knitted

How does this relate to Vs ? : 'time to emancipate'. 1960's rock posters usually had some sort of hookline, like 'the limit of the marvellous' - so this is my hook. The red white and blue is deliberate, but I don't know if it's ironic or not. It is done in true 1960's style - by hand! Told you I was getting out my crayons - you thought I was kidding.

Title: September 18, 1968, Christchurch

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TRADING
STORIES
WITH THE
LEAVES

