

Today I'll be discussing album 'Worship and Tribute' by Glassjaw. The album only sold 54,000 units in the US. Do you know what that means? It means that if you won the lottery, you could buy every single copy. Then when you boast of doing so, it gets explained that's not a huge number really, and you ask yourself why you acted in such a way; you wonder if you can send every copy back even if you estimate the whole process to take roughly 27,000 hours, which is more than a good three years, non-stop; and your frustration leads to a deep, if irrational resentment towards the world. Basically, you feel like the biggest idiot ever. But a conscientious one. A super stoic anomaly who needs no sleep. A person to be admired. Envied? Not so much. You get approached by doctors who want to interview you, to find out what's going on, but the fuss that gets made of you can't replace the time you have lost, even if you believe it's made you tougher.

You feel particularly stupid when it gets assumed you must be a big fan. Imagine the horror on people's faces when you explain you don't even like them. Luckily for me however, I do like the band. I haven't won the lottery yet, but when I do I'd buy all the copies for a different reason - to freak people out. I'm not greedy or insane, one copy is enough for me, but if you're paranoid about being mugged, you can just say 'I've bought thousands and thousands of copies of the same album. Still want to mess with me?' Then the attackers run away. Well that's the theory, part of the problem is no one has ever said that before, making it impossible to predict the outcome. I'm wondering what the odds are of picking an American at random and him having the album in question. So let's do some maths and find out. So the album sold 54,000 and there are roughly 330,000,000 Americans. So is that 330,000,000 divided by 54,000? If so, 1 in every 6,111 Americans has Worship and Tribute. That was fun wasn't it?

Now that I realise the maths is actually very simple, let's get a more precise figure. If I was wrong just then however, I guess I could blame someone else. But who? My family members are all reasonable at maths, as were most of my friends. Tough one. I could blame the dog, dogs are horrible at maths, but how can I blame a dog when it doesn't even understand what a digit is? I clearly find this situation to be extremely stressful, which is why psychiatrists are sometimes concerned. But of course blaming everyone else doesn't make me too likeable, so such people eventually think 'who cares' and leave me alone. Anyway, there are actually 331,900,000 Americans. So that's 331,900,000 divided by 54,000. So that's one in 6,146 Americans who own the album. Wow. Not sure how I thought the first population mentioned was somehow easier to work with. :S

You may be wondering what genre the band play in. So do I. Wikipedia says they play 'post-hardcore' music and emo. I have to be honest, I'm not sure what post-hardcore is. Post means after, hardcore means punching Mike Tyson in the face and running away, maybe? I'm not sure how that translates into music. Maybe it would be very fast. I'd sure run fast. So post-hardcore means the feeling AFTER you hit Mike Tyson? I guess I'd be feeling very scared. So post-hardcore is anxiety-inducing music, we got there in the end. I'm wondering how you can be post-hardcore and emotional at the same time. Well I guess anxiety is emotional. But when I think emo, I think warm happy feelings. Nothing to do with hitting heavy weight boxers at all. :S Whatever the case, a good album! Sounds a bit strange, but yeah, I like it.

To conclude, I wonder what I would be best at - a statistician or a music reviewer... I really do think I got the stats right, but theorising that post-hardcore music is about punching Tyson, running away and being really scared? I've never heard of those kind of lyrics before. It does sound like a kind of punky thing to do and post-hardcore is related to punk, but still, the situation seems very specific to me, and whilst sub-genres can be specific, I think that's a bit far. Note how I didn't say 'very far' though, as there is a sub-genre of metal solely about pirates. If you thought hundreds of bands writing about nothing more than such people is uncreative enough, the genre is simply called 'pirate metal.' I seem to have mentioned the genre a good three other times on my site, so in a way I'm being uncreative too, and I can't claim I'm not being silly, so I can't attack pirate metal in that way either, but come on, try something new! Anyway, 9.25/10! :O Bye!