

Break! (Also a New Record!)

Simon: Simon! You're doing ANOTHER interview?

Simon: I sure am.

Simon: Any reason?

Simon: Yep. I've just written a short story.

Simon: And?...

Simon: Basically I'm giving myself a break. Writing stories takes up lots of energy and these interviews are just me thinking up a sentence every now and then with music on in the background. Not so bad.

Simon: Still hard though?

Simon: Still hard, but you may notice I don't really take myself seriously here, so it's not massively important if I sound a bit uninsightful.

Simon: Got anything on your mind?

Simon: As explained, just doing a bit of chilling...

Simon: Wow, chilling. Are you trying to beat your record for the most boring interview?

Simon: Nope, it's coming naturally.

Simon: Do you think maybe the record would be a bad thing?

Simon: I thought maybe I could see how it goes?

Simon: Why not get a milkshake?

Simon: No! The last time was a nightmare, wasn't it?

Simon: Is that an end to GBK milkshakes, then?

Simon: No, I just need to heal my old wounds. Maybe I'll get one next week.

Simon: It sounds to me like you've got a phobia.

Simon: And what would that be?

Simon: Fear of car parks.

Simon: What's the Greek for that?

Simon: Well I couldn't find a phobia generator online, but I found fear of cars on Google. That would be Motorphobia. Interestingly I couldn't find fear of parks, yet I found fear of taste and all sorts of weird stuff.

Simon: Personally I can understand why someone could fear parks as they can be dangerous, but who's afraid of TASTING things? And how would you develop such a fear? I can't picture how tasting things would put you in danger.

Simon: Maybe it's caused by bad food.

Simon: Oh. That makes sense.

Simon: It was insightful, I'd say. Well done, me.

Simon: Thanks!

Simon: No only joking but it did makes sense. Anyway, let's say you have a fear of cars for the sake of simplicity and something to talk about.

Simon: I don't have fear of cars, though.

Simon: I don't care...

Simon: Fine, I have fear of cars.

Simon: Good man. So what's it like having a fear of cars?

Simon: Terrible, terrible.

Simon: What's the worst thing about it?

Simon: Errr...

Simon: Please, take your time. I know this is difficult for you.

Simon: You bet it is.

Simon: Please, go on...

Simon: The way they rev... Why do they have to be so loud? Sounds like maybe mechanical dinosaurs?

Simon: And how does the revving make you feel?

Simon: Errrrrr... Crap. Anyway, why not just ask what my fear of car parks is like? Then I won't have to risk sounding uniformed and maybe even a bit of a freak.

Simon: Oh yeah. What's it like?

Simon: I'm not saying I feel PANIC, but maybe a mild sense of doom.

Simon: Car park doom? Sounds like a strange metal sub-genre.

Simon: Yeah. It's even darker than the darkest music there is - funeral doom. My God the lyrics of CPD are bleak.

But it's nice to hear something a bit different every now and then I guess.

Simon: Maybe you'd like to take this opportunity to write some CPD metal?

Simon: Sure: CAR PARKS!!! ARRRRRGH!!!!

Simon: Personally I'd call that Car Park Death Metal.

Simon: Not necessarily, doom vocals can be shouty, too.

Simon: True, but the tempos are slower. Really the lyrics should be 'CAAAAAARRRRR!!!! PAAAAARKSSS!!!!!! AAAAAARGGHHH!!!

Simon: I think you're splitting hairs, there. Anyway, the way you wrote doesn't necessarily imply a slow tempo.

Simon: Touche. And can you elaborate on the sense of doom you feel?

Simon: I guess I get awful racing thoughts. Like 'why are the drivers shouting at me?' and 'will I get a massive fine if I just give up and leave the car park without paying?'

Simon: Really it's the car park's fault for making things so confusing.

Simon: Right, that's what I thought, but no one seems to find the places as stressful as I do.

Simon: You know what, I think they don't pay either. The drivers probably shout at you because they're just as pressurised as you are.

Simon: Pressurised?

Simon: Yes, under too much pressure.

Simon: Doesn't sound right to me.

Simon: No I think that's fine.

Simon: On another subject, how do you feel about going for another length record?

Simon: Not a boring record? I certainly won't have any troubles achieving that.

Simon: That's not really the point. How would you feel if your favourite band tried to be as boring as possible just to do something new?

Simon: Ever heard of minimalism?

Simon: Well I'm sure the goal of minimalism isn't to be BORING...

Simon: What is its goal then?

Simon: Ummm...

Simon: Apparently there's minimalism that's so monotonous, you start hallucinating eventually. Does that sound like fun music?

Simon: Well hallucinating isn't exactly dull.

Simon: Very stressful though.

Simon: Yes. And it makes you wonder what kind of things people start to imagine. If the visions are disturbing and the audience are armed, something very bad could happen.

Simon: I assume the visions are boring. I bet people just start seeing other people sleeping or accounting or whatever. I think you made a good point, if the visions were scary extreme minimalist concerts would have abysmal reputations.

Simon: That's your genuine hypothesis?

Simon: Yes.

Simon: I wonder if people would hallucinate if I kept writing the same word over and over...

Simon: What word?

Simon: Hello.

Simon: I think you'd have to write it a few million times, unfortunately.

Simon: Ok, I'll leave it. Do you have anything else on your mind?

Simon: Nothing.

Simon: Maybe you should listen to a few hours of minimalist music. Then you can test your hypothesis.

Simon: I'll do that, then.

Simon: ...

Simon: I'm back!

Simon: What happened?

Simon: I don't want this interview to go too dark, but long story short I'm going to jail for ten years.

Simon: Really? Did you explain about the minimalism?

Simon: I did and they didn't believe me.

Simon: Wow. Sorry.

Simon: No only joking.

Simon: Next subject!

Simon: I've eaten a fruit scone, today...

Simon: Great!

Simon: Yep, pretty good. I dropped a few crumbs, though.

Simon: Often the way, often the way.

Simon: Then I put them in a plastic bag.

Simon: Good thinking...

Simon: The bag cost 15p.

Simon: Look, I think we're going to have to move on...

Simon: The bag is black and white. It has a M&S logo on it. I got it at the local petrol station. I didn't even buy any petrol.

Simon: Ahem... Well, time is money.

Simon: It has the number '0230346' on it. I don't know what that means...

Simon: Maybe it's guitar tab?

Simon: It sounds rubbish.

Simon: Well it would. That's certainly not a scale I recognise.

Simon: It's almost the locrian natural 2nd scale. Not quite though. 'Raining Blood' by Slayer uses the same scale in places, technically speaking.

Simon: I'm sure that's pure coincidence.

Simon: Maybe M&S are metalheads.

Simon: Well almost metalheads.

Simon: Maybe they're concerned about copyright.

Simon: I think you're overthinking.

Simon: I don't think so.

Simon: No, you are. Next subject!

Simon: My grapes have got the number '13022' on them.

Simon: Uh-huh?

Simon: That's more atonality. They also have the numbers '07:53' and '1950'. That guitar tab is surprisingly tuneful.

Simon: The grapes song.

Simon: Yes, but ignore the first of the three numbers I mentioned as it doesn't make much sense. It does bring to mind Metallica though.

Simon: Awesome. Next!

Simon: Here's a thought: Why do my pistachio nuts say a small handful is exactly 154 kcal? That's VERY precise. It implies all small handfuls are exactly the same.

Simon: And it's boring tab.

Simon: Actually, it has a major blues feel.

Simon: Oh yeah. F major blues, if using the bottom string. Now next subject!

Simon: Why did Offspring change their name to The Offspring? Who cares if there is or is no 'the'? It's like when Pepsi spent millions changing their logo and it looked exactly the same.

Simon: You could make arguments saying each version is better. Offspring on its own doesn't make grammatical sense, but it is snappier.

Simon: Are you sure it doesn't make grammatical sense?

Simon: I don't know, maybe it does. But if someone walked up to you and said 'Offspring' you would be confused...

Simon: Same goes with 'The Offspring'...

Simon: Yeah, but I think I'd be slightly less confused the second time round...

Simon: If you say so.

Simon: I dunno.

Simon: Ok. And why did Yngwie Malmsteen call his band Yngwie Malmsteen's Rising Force, then Yngwie Malmsteen, then Yngwie Malmsteen's Rising Force then Yngwie Malmsteen, again?

Simon: Makes you wonder what's going on in his head. It's as if he has been thinking deeply over the decades what sounds cooler, whilst neglecting the music.

Simon: I'm sure many would agree with THAT.

Simon: Similarly, why did Polka Tulk Blues Band change their name to Black Sabbath?

Simon: Because they stopped playing blues?

Simon: Oh yeah. They could have kept their name and made it ironic, though.

Simon: You've got me there.

Simon: Last question, let's make this interview another record breaker in length as hinted at earlier. NOT boringness, length. Here goes: Today is August 24th, 2020. What does that date mean to you?

Simon: 2482020? It's the whole tone scale, isn't it?

Simon: You're talking about guitar tab again?

Simon: Yep. I thought I'd milk the idea. Really I could have made a whole monologue out of it, so I'm a little annoyed with myself. A monologue down the drain...

Simon: Well you can still monologue about it if you keep this interview secret.

Simon: And how would I do that?

Simon: You could call this interview 'the secret interview'.

Simon: And that would stop people reading it?

Simon: It would stop honest people reading it.

Simon: So you've spent all this time doing this interview and you don't even want people to read it, so you can write a monologue many people would be confused by?

Simon: Just Google 'guitar tab'.

Simon: You really like making me feel small, don't you?

Simon: Just saying. Anyway, we've broken the record! I guess...

Simon: Bye?

Simon: Bye!