

Riley Burr
Kody Garis
Camry Kreymer
Marissa McCarty

Creeper's Playlist

Letter to Creeper:

Dear Creeper,

While times can be difficult on the streets, we created a list of songs that hopefully relate to your life. We know you've been through a lot, but I think that through these songs you'll be able to better relate your life to the experiences of people around you. These songs encompass situations of violence, war, and foreign presences in your head. Many of these songs helped us through times in which we weren't sure how to carry on. We hope that you can relate to, and understand the deeper meaning of these songs as you continue to explore and identify your personal morals and values. Always remember that music is a great escape and will provide you with much entertainment and joy while you work on your studies.

Sincerely,

Your Friends in Young Adult Literature

"Past Life" by Maggie Rogers

In this airy song, Maggie, a singer-songwriter, includes her confusion with the way her mind works. Similar to Creeper, Magge is describing someone and something inside of her mind. The lyrics "Oh, I could feel the world was turnin', All inside my mind" relates to the way that Oya is ever-present inside Creeper's mind. Because this is the case, Creeper is constantly being influenced by the visions and information that Oya is providing her. However, just like the song, the voice can become overwhelming at times. Additionally, the line "maybe there's a past life comin' out inside, inside of me" relates to the power of Oya and goddesses who are not present physically but influence lives entirely. The inclusion of otherworldly spirits and voices connect "Past Life" with *The Black God's Drums*.

"Eternal Sunshine" by Jhené Aiko

"The more that I see the more that I know I don't know anything at all. And the more that I breathe and start to go slow--of all the many things I can only recall--Maybe I have made mistakes and been through my fair share of pain. But all in all it's been okay, I've lived well."

This song relates to Creeper in that she is somewhat uneducated and even slightly naive to the world around her; however, that doesn't mean she refuses to learn or shuts herself out of the experiences and opportunities of growth and development.

“Zombie” by The Cranberries

This song fits because it contains a lot of allusions to war and fighting, and *The Black God's Drums* are set within the Civil War. Also, the lyrics “What’s in your head?” Apply well to Oya attaching herself to Creeper and being in her head.

“Radioactive” by Imagine Dragons

I chose this song because it has some steampunk imagery in it. It brings in ideas of revolution “I raise my flag, don my clothes, it’s a revolution I suppose”. With your resilience you stopped a possible apocalypse but this could’ve been your future.

“Four Women” by Nina Simone

Four Women discusses generations of women and how they survived slavery and early sexualization. It shows the anger of African American women. I feel that Creeper can relate to this song because she is like the “Peaches” character in the song.