

What your position in a band says about you

WASIQUE HASAN

The opinions expressed in this totally legit article are the writer's own, send all your hate to him. Plus he can't even play an instrument, what a loser.

Bassist: If you play bass, then you *really* enjoy playing the victim. While it is true that in most bands the contribution and importance of the bassist is overlooked, you have made this fact your gospel. At every opportunity you are preaching the plight of the bassists - how no one appreciates what you do, and how the band's music wouldn't be half as good if you weren't there. In trying to prove to everyone that you *are* the backbone of the band, you create some wicked basslines. Unfortunately, you don't practice said basslines and end up looking like an idiot when you mess up. Thus proving the misconceptions right. Good job, idiot. Bassists also tend to be violent, and will hit you if you ask them to play *Seven Nation Army*.

Drummer: As a rule, drummers hate their neighbours. If they didn't, they would have played some "*bhodro*" instrument like the harmonium, and not some gigantic contraption of noise produc-

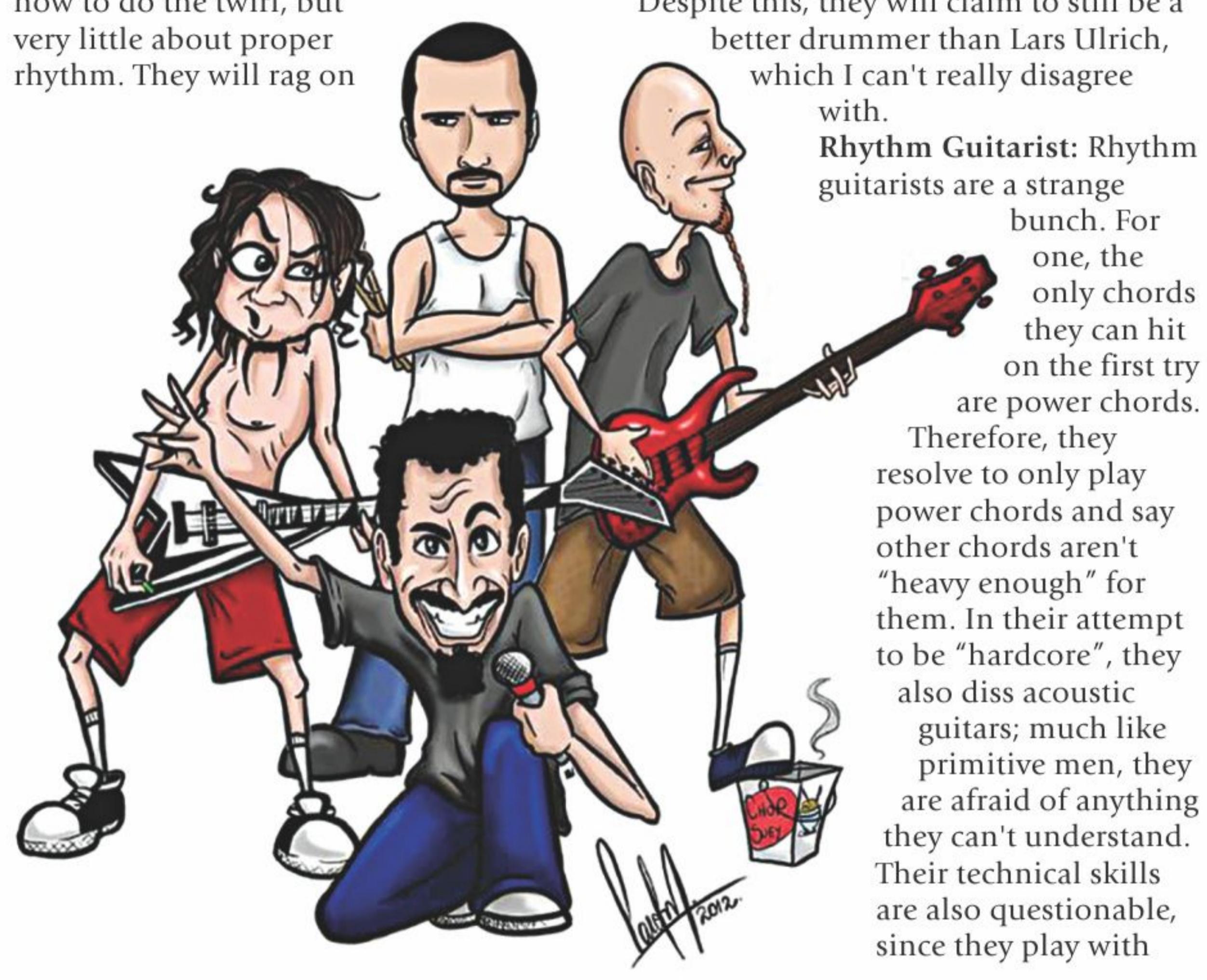
tion. Even more important than their hate for neighbours is their love for drum stick twirls. Most drummers know how to do the twirl, but very little about proper rhythm. They will rag on

Ringo Starr for not being technical but lack the ability to maintain the right tempo for more than ten seconds.

Despite this, they will claim to still be a better drummer than Lars Ulrich, which I can't really disagree with.

Rhythm Guitarist: Rhythm guitarists are a strange bunch. For one, the only chords they can hit on the first try are power chords.

Therefore, they resolve to only play power chords and say other chords aren't "heavy enough" for them. In their attempt to be "hardcore", they also diss acoustic guitars; much like primitive men, they are afraid of anything they can't understand. Their technical skills are also questionable, since they play with



only downstrokes. They'll say they're doing it to be like James Hetfield, but everyone can see through it.

Lead Guitarist: This person is *way* too fond of the Lil Wayne meme. It is a funny meme, but for the love of God stop overusing it. Lead guitarists also delude themselves into thinking they are much better than they actually are. It gets so bad sometimes that they try to convince people they would be as good as Steve Vai if they only had the same gear. Their knowledge of music theory is also laughable, and most of the time the only scale they'll know is the Em pentatonic. He's also never managed to play an entire solo flawlessly. It'll happen eventually, hopefully.

Vocalist: Vocalists think they are God's gift to mankind. They are so full of themselves, they think people only like the band because of them. In reality, they are probably the weakest link in the band. You know what - I'm going to stop talking about them and not indulge their egos any further.

So, which band member are you? How accurate were these descriptions? Let me know at nobodycares@gmail.com

Being Fairy Squad Parent

SAMIN SABAH ISLAM

At 17, I wasn't ready to be a mom. More so, the mom to five immature, rowdy hoodlums who laugh at videos of cats urinating on babies. See, I didn't really opt for the squad mom life. But between making coaching reservations for my friends and brushing off food crumbs from their chins, I realised this is who I am, I am fairy squad mother.

Squad mother comes bearing advice (asked and unasked for), affection and food. Say you're thinking about getting back with the lying ex who supposedly changed his ways. Pop! Here we come, flying you out of Neverland and getting it through your head that you can do much better. Seriously, we're not letting all that post breakup ice-cream we consoled you with go to waste. You can't really hide these things from us, we feel it in our appendix every time you make a stupid decision.

Whether you're feeling insecure about the angry pimple on your forehead, or just found out that Taskin Ahmed is off the table; fairy squad mother will be there for you, nurturing you with homemade cupcakes. We're good listeners, and we don't judge you.

Being squad parent comes with a natural mama bear instinct. We don't randomly start growling or catching fish with our mouths, but I assure you the innate protectiveness is real. Even if we're minion sized and our 5'11 friends conspicuously don't need shielding from us, we will pounce at anybody saying nonsense about our squad.

As a squad parent, we learn to adult before any of our other friends do. An important role of the squad parent is communicating with intimidating waiters and teachers on behalf of the squad. When the "You go" "No, I went last time, you go" drags on too long, the helpless pleading pairs of eyes eventually find us. We have to get up, tune in to our adult voice, and ask for another packet of ketchup. These are significant responsibilities we've taken on our shoulders.

Being a fairy squad parent isn't really a self-proclaimed title. You'll even yourselves convincing your parents to go



out by solidifying your debate with the mention of our presence. Real parents trust squad parents. They know we're responsible and sensible. For instance, if you're going for a road trip -

Your bag: Phone, headphones, a week old can of beverage, half eaten crackers, some paper with a scribbled phone number, the ID card you lost two years ago, food crumbs, ants, used tissue paper.

Squad Parent's bag: Phone charger, adaptor, dry food, water, diarrhoea medicine, a map, a T-34 tank, money, wet wipes.

You get the idea.

However, being a squad parent sometimes translates being the party pooper. You'll frequently find us saying things along the lines of, "One month left till exams guys, I

think it's time we delete Ludo Star from our phones and make time for some mark schemes". We're the annoying pop up notifications that you can't put on silent. We'll constantly remind you exactly how much of the syllabus you've left untouched and how you should save that money for emergencies rather than buying more lipstick that you'll never use. Squad parents aren't stupid, we know that you probably ignored all the six links we sent you about how staring at your phone all day can kill you. However, we operate with the theory that maybe if we nag you enough, one day you'll comply just to have us shut up.

Samin Sabah Islam believes there are very few problems in life, if any, that a good nap can't fix. If she isn't asleep, your queries may be answered at sabahsamin11@gmail.com