

Tales of jamming with friends

WASIQUE HASAN

Much like those jumbo packs of chips you secretly buy, music is best when shared. Nothing compares to the feeling of creating beautiful melodies with your companions, which is why people love organising jamming sessions. The following are some of the many things that happen when you're jammin' without a care in the world.

LACKINGS IN THE EQUIPMENT DEPARTMENT

The tools of the trade are the most important part of making music, so it makes perfect sense for them to be in shortage. Because of the location of the jam host's house and lack of transportation, not everyone is able to bring their instruments. When the number of people exceeds the number of instruments, drastic measures need to be taken. These range from coaxing out instruments from the neighbourhood to kicking the offenders. From the roof. 300-style.

THAT'S NOT WHAT MUSIC SOUNDS LIKE, IS IT?

No it is not. I am, of course, referring to the point in time when everyone is present with their equipment and warming up. To an outsider, the sounds coming from the room might make it seem like Lil Wayne has been allowed to play



instruments again. The reality is much less exciting, since the discordant noises are just sounds of different people tuning their guitar/bass/drums/cowbell. Bonus points to annoyingness if the dude with the electric guitar turns on the amp before plugging in the cord. And that, kids, is how electric guitar babies are made.

PERFECTION

You've done the hard part. After getting

the people and the instruments together, everyone is finally warmed up and in tune. This is the part you've all been preparing for, when you can finally let go. The bass leads you in and it all comes together in utter perfection. The drums pump furiously yet tirelessly. The booming bass sets the stage while the shrieking guitars rock it. This is it. This is the dream, what makes the long trek absolutely worth it. For these few minutes, or the

remainder of the song, you are invincible. **PER-FLUKE-TION?**

After the first song set the standards impossibly high, it all comes crashing down. The drummer morphs into Lars Ulrich, and is unable to remain at a stable tempo for more than a few seconds. The bass sounds like it has sputtered, coughed, and cried. The electric guitar is nothing more than a mess of distorted garble. It seems getting that one song right was nothing more than a bit of good fortune.

OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW

Devastated by the failures, the group decides to learn something new together. This fresh start takes up more time than anyone had foreseen, and it sounds a lot like the second point of this article.

Before you know it the jam is over and everyone has left. You would be sadder about this if your ears weren't already bleeding. "Maybe next time will be better", you think to yourself. Unfortunately, there is no next time because you've lost all hearing in your ears. I'm sorry for your loss.

With a heart of ash and a PC of potato, Wasique Hasan could use some help. Send memes to cheer him up at [facebook.com/hasique.wasan](https://www.facebook.com/hasique.wasan)

Why you shouldn't be a people pleaser

MUSHFIQUR RAHMAN SHANTO

We've been taught to always be polite, be nice, to always put on a smile and help other people. And that is by all means, a good thing. But sometimes, we end up saying yes to things we don't want to, letting someone get away with a wrongdoing, doing favours for someone while sacrificing important ordeals of our own. This is called people pleasing.

People pleasing is a very different thing from simply being nice. The difference is that a people pleaser operates from a fear of being disliked, rather than from good intentions and genuinely caring about others. For example, you're talking to someone and he tells you Rick and Morty is a terrible show. You nod and agree with him even though it's your favourite show in the world and you regularly procrastinate doing important work just to binge watch episodes for the umpteenth time. Now that's people pleasing behaviour.

We come in contact with a variety of people with a huge range of different thoughts and opinions. If you agree with everyone on everything, you're definitely doing something wrong.

When you're being a people pleaser, you're being fake, manipulative and inauthentic. Like the example above, if you go around mirroring others like that, you'll have a lot of people who don't hate you but you'll barely have people who you genuinely connect with. It goes beyond just simply mirroring other's likes and

FACES of a PEOPLE PLEASER



dislikes. Any behaviour that goes against your real feelings and intentions makes you inauthentic. People can actually sense it and eventually, they won't trust or respect you for not showing your real self. Not to mention such behaviours have a negative impact on your self-esteem. You're essentially telling yourself that other people liking you is more important than your own thoughts, choices and daily life duties. You end up feeling inferior, paranoid and a feeling of dissatisfaction takes over from not expressing yourself.

People pleasing can also lead to awkward situations. If you agree with both Rahim and Karim when they have conflicting opinions and come to talk about that to you, it will become a cringefest for you.

Unfortunately, a lot of people constantly rationalise such action as politeness and end up doing more harm than good. Our culture pretty much teaches us to be people pleasers since childhood. Remember how when you're visiting someone and they offer you sweets, you're

supposed to refuse and wait for them to forcefully offer it again even though on the inside, you're craving for some sugar? So next time you find yourself sacrificing being true to yourself to please others, ask yourself if it is really worth it. If not, realise it, take note of it, and do what the "real" you would do.

Mushfiqur Rahman Shanto is an undercover wizard who spends his days quietly observing muggles. Send him new magic spells at mushfiqshanto1234@gmail.com