



FINANCIAL PREPAREDNESS

"One of life's most painful moments comes when we must admit that we didn't do our homework, that we are not prepared." ~ Merlin Olsen

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The Best Songs You've Never Heard

Part of living a fulfilled life is finding time to periodically listen to music you enjoy. I used to listen to music when I drove, but now I listen to a podcast (the [No Agenda Show](#)). Plus, a car's acoustics aren't great for music. Now I listen to music when I do something that doesn't require any thinking, such as entering data into a spreadsheet.

Music stirs emotions (primarily happiness), evokes memories and nostalgia, and can transport you to a different time and place (which for me, often involves a woman). Most people probably need more music in their lives.

As we take a break from work this Labor Day weekend, I'd like to share with you some of the best songs (in my opinion) that you've (probably) never heard. In doing so, I hope it will make your life a bit more fulfilled.

To help set your expectations, I'll mention the bands that influenced me the most in the past. In general chronological order, they are: Rush, U2, R.E.M., The Church, The Sundays, The Adventures, Enya, Clannad, James, Mazzy Star, The Brian Jonestown Massacre, The Dandy Warhols, Miranda Lee Richards, Iron & Wine, The Green Pajamas, Smoke Fairies, and Uncle Earl.

Here are the songs in alphabetical order. Each has a link where you can see the music video or listen to the audio. I discovered many of them on [Pandora](#).

“[Adrift](#)” by Steve Kilbey (of The Church). This is one of the newest songs on my list.

“[April Showers](#)” by Caedmon's Call

“[Believe in You](#)” by Amy Rigby

“[Bells](#)” by Smoke Fairies

“[The Bird](#)” by Kathryn Joseph (one of the best music videos I've ever seen)

“[Bony on the Isle of St. Helena](#)” by Uncle Earl

“[Born](#)” by Over the Rhine

“[Born of Frustration](#)” by James

“[Bring Me the Head of Paul McCartney on Heather Mills' Wooden Peg](#)” by The Brian Jonestown Massacre (explicit). This song would have been great on the series “Sons of Anarchy.”

“[Broken Land](#)” by The Adventures

“[Burning in the Sun](#)” by Blue Merle

“[Candy](#)” by Iggy Pop (with Kate Pierson)

“[Cars](#)” by Gary Numan. I remember jamming this song while playing with my cowboys and Indians back when I was about 10 years old.

“[Casimir Pulaski Day](#)” by Sufjan Stevens

“[Ceremony](#)” by Galaxie 500

“[Come Talk to Me](#)” by Peter Gabriel

“[Come to My Mind](#)” by Smoke Fairies

“[Copperhead Road](#)” by Steve Earle

“[Cuyahoga](#)” by R.E.M. When I was a resident advisor in college, someone had written this verse on the wall of one of my rooms: “This is where they walked, swam, hunted, danced and sang / Take a picture here, take a souvenir”

“[Dark Moon, High Tide](#)” by Afro Celt Sound System (from the soundtrack of “Gangs of New

York”

“[Don't Ask Me to Dance](#)” by Arab Strap

“[Doves](#)” by The Dandy Warhols

“[Eirigh Suas a Storin](#)” by Clannad

“[Elderly Woman Behind the Counter in a Small Town](#)” by Pearl Jam

“[Entre Nous](#)” by Rush

“[Face Down](#)” by Katie Todd Band

“[Fire](#)” by Kasabian

“[Flagpole Sitta](#)” by Harvey Danger

“[From the Hip](#)” by Lloyd Cole & The Commotions

“[Gazelle](#)” by The Green Pajamas

“[A Gift of a Thistle](#)” by The London Symphony Orchestra (from the soundtrack of “Braveheart”)

“[Glass Hotel](#)” by Robyn Hitchcock

“[Glenn Tipton](#)” by Sun Kil Moon

“[Good Friday](#)” by Cowboy Junkies

“[Hard Times](#)” by Eastmountainsouth. A fantastic cover of [the Steven Foster song from 1854](#).

“[Heresy](#)” by Rush. This song has great meaning to me, as I spent years of my life dealing with the subject.

“[Horses and Their Kin](#)” by Marissa Nadler

“[Hotel Womb](#)” by The Church. One of my all time favorites!

“[I Don't Need Her](#)” by The Outfield

“[I Understand It](#)” by Idlewild

“[If You Don't Love Me \(I'll Kill Myself\)](#)” by Pete Droge.

“[If You Were Here](#)” by Caryl Brothers

“[Into My Hands](#)” by The Church

“[Joy](#)” by The Sundays. Another of my all time favorites!

“[Just For You](#)” by The Church

“[Kim the Waitress](#)” by The Green Pajamas. Classic song.

“[La Valse d'Amélie](#)” (piano version) by Yann Tiersen from the soundtrack for “Amélie.”

“[Laid](#)” by James

“[The Last Goodbye](#)” by Uncle Earl

“[Last Solstice of the '70s](#)” by Miranda Lee Richards

“[Linger](#)” by The Cranberries

“[Long Ride Home](#)” by Patty Griffin

“[Love and Some Verses](#)” by Iron and Wine

“[Meshes of the Afternoon](#)” by The Green Pajamas

“[Miss Clare Remembers](#)” by Enya. An old favorite.

“[My Lagan Love](#)” by The Corrs

“[The Nest](#)” by Jose Gonzalez

“[Out in the Black](#)” by Imaad Wasif

“[Ozilline](#)” by The Indigo Girls

“[Planet Love](#)” by The Green Pajamas

“[Providence](#)” by Jack Frost (incl. Steve Kilbey). One of the most underappreciated songs of all time.

“[Revenge](#)” by the London Symphony Orchestra from the soundtrack of “Braveheart”

“[Rhymes of an Hour](#)” by Mazzy Star

“[Ride](#)” by The Dandy Warhols

“[Road](#)” by Nick Drake

“[The Sea](#)” by River City People

“[Seasons of Your Day](#)” by Mazzy Star

“[She Sells Sanctuary](#)” by The Cult

“[Shimmy She Wobble](#)” by Otha Turner and The Rising Star Fife & Drum Band, from the soundtrack of “Gangs of New York”

“[The Sound of Summer](#)” by The Adventures

“[The Tennessee Kid](#)” by Steve Earle. I wrote about this in [The Balance Comes Due Someday](#).

“[These Shadows](#)” by Wooden Shjips.

“[Time For Me to Come Down](#)” by Amy Rigby

“[Tornado Alley](#)” by Viva Voce

“[The Trip to Bountiful](#)” by The Adventures

“[Untogether](#)” by Belly

“[Valentine, Nebraska](#)” by Buddy

“[Why Hate the Winter](#)” by Iron and Wine

“[With Stars Down](#)” by Track a Tiger

“[Wizard Flurry Home](#)” by Mariee Sioux

“[Wondering Where the Lions Are](#)” by Donavon Frankenreiter

“[1965](#)” by The Hickories

If you discovered some good new songs, let me know!

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