**4 Songs with Dystopian Themes for Analysis**

**“In the Year 2525” by Zagar & Evans**

**[Chorus 1]**[In the year 2525](https://genius.com/3295657/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/In-the-year-2525)  
[If man is still alive  
If woman can survive](https://genius.com/3295556/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/If-man-is-still-alive-if-woman-can-survive)  
[They may find-](https://genius.com/3296582/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/They-may-find)  
  
**[Chorus 2]**In the year 3535  
[Ain't gonna need to tell the truth, tell no lies](https://genius.com/3295713/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/Aint-gonna-need-to-tell-the-truth-tell-no-lies)  
[Everything you think, do, and say  
Is in the pills you took today](https://genius.com/3295696/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/Everything-you-think-do-and-say-is-in-the-pills-you-took-today)  
  
**[Chorus 3]**  
In the year 4545  
Ain't gonna need your teeth, won't need your eyes  
[You won't find a thing to chew  
Nobody's gonna look at you](https://genius.com/3295722/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/You-wont-find-a-thing-to-chew-nobodys-gonna-look-at-you)  
  
**[Chorus 4]**In the year 5555  
[Your arms are hanging limp at your sides  
Your legs got nothing to do  
Some machine's doing that for you](https://genius.com/7511683/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/Your-arms-are-hanging-limp-at-your-sides-your-legs-got-nothing-to-do-some-machines-doing-that-for-you)  
  
**[Chorus 5]**  
In the year 6565  
[Ain't gonna need no husband, won't need no wife  
You'll pick your sons, pick your daughters too  
From the bottom of a long glass tube](https://genius.com/3295798/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/Aint-gonna-need-no-husband-wont-need-no-wife-youll-pick-your-sons-pick-your-daughters-too-from-the-bottom-of-a-long-glass-tube)  
[Whoa-oh-oh](https://genius.com/3295686/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/Whoa-oh-oh)

**[Chorus 6]**  
In the year 7510  
[If God's a-coming, he ought to make it by then](https://genius.com/3295757/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/If-gods-a-coming-he-ought-to-make-it-by-then)  
[Maybe he'll look around himself and say  
“Guess it's time for the judgement day!”](https://genius.com/15893873/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/Maybe-hell-look-around-himself-and-say-guess-its-time-for-the-judgement-day)  
  
**[Chorus 7]**  
In the year 8510  
[God is gonna shake his mighty head  
He'll either say, "I'm pleased, where man has been"](https://genius.com/3295845/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/God-is-gonna-shake-his-mighty-head-hell-either-say-im-pleased-where-man-has-been)  
[Or tear it down and start again](https://genius.com/7511664/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/Or-tear-it-down-and-start-again)  
[Whoa-oh-oh](https://genius.com/3295686/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/Whoa-oh-oh)  
  
**[Chorus 8]**  
In the year 9595  
I'm kinda wonderin', if man is gonna be alive  
[He's taken everything this old Earth can give  
And he ain't put back nothing](https://genius.com/3295670/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/Hes-taken-everything-this-old-earth-can-give-and-he-aint-put-back-nothing)  
[Whoa-oh-oh](https://genius.com/3295686/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/Whoa-oh-oh)  
  
**[Bridge]**  
[Now it's been ten thousand years  
Man has cried a billion tears](https://genius.com/3295820/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/Now-its-been-ten-thousand-years-man-has-cried-a-billion-tears)  
For what he never knew  
Now man's reign is through  
But through the eternal night  
[The twinkling of starlight  
So very far away  
Maybe it's only yesterday](https://genius.com/3295743/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/The-twinkling-of-starlight-so-very-far-away-maybe-its-only-yesterday)

**[Chorus 1]**[In the year 2525](https://genius.com/3295867/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/In-the-year-2525)  
[If man is still alive  
If woman can survive](https://genius.com/3295556/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/If-man-is-still-alive-if-woman-can-survive)  
[They may find](https://genius.com/3296582/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/They-may-find)  
  
**[Chorus 2]**In the year 3535  
[Ain't gonna need to tell the truth, tell no lies...](https://genius.com/3295713/Zager-and-evans-in-the-year-2525/Aint-gonna-need-to-tell-the-truth-tell-no-lies)

**“99 Red Balloons” by Nena**

You and I in a little toy shop   
Buy a bag of balloons   
With the money we've got   
Set them free at the break of dawn   
'Til one by one, they were gone   
Back at base, bugs in the software   
Flash the message   
"Something's out there"   
Floating in the summer sky   
99 red balloons go by   
  
99 red balloons   
Floating in the summer sky   
Panic bells, it's red alert   
There's something here   
From somewhere else   
The war machine springs to life   
Opens up one eager eye   
Focusing it on the sky   
Where 99 red balloons go by   
  
99 Decision Street   
99 ministers meet   
To worry, worry, super-scurry   
Call the troops out in a hurry   
This is what we've waited for   
This is it boys, this is war   
The president is on the line   
As 99 red balloons go by   
  
[Instrumental Interlude]   
  
99 knights of the air   
Ride super-high-tech jet fighters   
Everyone's a super hero   
Everyone's a Captain Kirk   
With orders to identify   
To clarify and classify   
Scramble in the summer sky   
As 99 red balloons go by   
  
As 99 red balloons go by   
  
99 dreams I have had   
In every one a red balloon   
It's all over and I'm standin' pretty   
In this dust that was a city   
If I could find a souvenier   
Just to prove the world was here   
And here is a red balloon   
I think of you and let it go

**"The Sound Of Silence" by Disturbed**  
(originally by Simon & Garfunkel)

Hello, darkness, my old friend  
I've come to talk with you again  
Because a vision softly creeping  
Left its seeds while I was sleeping  
  
And the vision that was planted in my brain  
Still remains  
Within the sound of silence  
  
In restless dreams I walked alone  
Narrow streets of cobblestone  
'Neath the halo of a street lamp  
I turned my collar to the cold and damp  
  
When my eyes were stabbed by the flash of a neon light  
That split the night  
And touched the sound of silence  
  
And in the naked light I saw  
Ten thousand people, maybe more  
People talking without speaking  
People hearing without listening  
  
People writing songs that voices never share  
And no one dare  
Disturb the sound of silence  
  
"Fools," said I, "You do not know  
Silence, like a cancer, grows  
Hear my words that I might teach you  
Take my arms that I might reach you"  
  
But my words like silent raindrops fell  
And echoed in the wells of silence  
  
And the people bowed and prayed  
To the neon god they made  
And the sign flashed out its warning  
In the words that it was forming  
  
And the sign said  
"The words of the prophets are written on the subway walls  
And tenement halls  
And whispered in the sound  
Of silence"

**"1984" by David Bowie**

Someday they won't let you, now you must agree  
The times they are a-telling and the changing isn't free  
You've read it in the tea leaves, and the tracks are on TV  
Beware the savage jaw of 1984  
  
They'll split your pretty cranium, and fill it full of air  
And tell that you're eighty, but brother, you won't care  
You'll be shooting up on anything, tomorrow's never there  
Beware the savage jaw of 1984  
  
Come see, come see, remember me?  
We played out an all night movie role  
You said it would last, but I guess we enrolled  
In 1984 (who could ask for more)  
1984 (who could ask for mor-or-or-or-ore)  
(Mor-or-or-or-ore)  
  
I'm looking for a vehicle, I'm looking for a ride  
I'm looking for a party, I'm looking for a side  
I'm looking for the treason that I knew in '65  
Beware the savage jaw of 1984  
  
Come see, come see, remember me?  
We played out an all night movie role  
You said it would last, but I guess we enrolled  
In 1984 (who could ask for more)  
1984 (who could ask for mor-or-or-or-ore)  
(Mor-or-or-or-ore)  
  
1984  
1984  
1984  
1984  
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1984

**Questions:**

**1. Does the song allude to some type of societal control? If so, what is it?**

**2. Does the song suggest a perfect society has existed, can exist, should exist, or will exist in the future? Explain your answer.**

**3. Discuss how the song suggest some kind of control being imposed upon the citizens of a society in one the following ways: A) Mindless bureaucracy, relentless regulation, or incompetent government officials? B) Technology (computers, robots, or anything scientifically technological)? C) Philosophy/Religion? Explain your answer.**

**Address all that apply for question #4:**

**4. Does the song….a) Allude to the suppression of free thought? B) Indicate the use of propaganda to promote ideas? c) Suggest a figurehead is supposed to be revered? d) Suggest citizens are under constant surveillance? e) Suggest a fear of the outside world? f) Paint a picture of a dehumanized world? g) Associate the natural world with negativity? h) Promote collectivism and/or shun individualism?**