**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
1984
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?**