

# Top 10 Stone Gossard Pearl Jam Songs

By **Kinsey Blake Haynes** - Jul 20, 2016

***Edited by Brett Buchanan***

It is no secret: Stone Gossard is one of the greatest guitarists of all time. Aside from Pearl Jam, he has been a guitarist in other prominent Seattle bands like Green River, Mother Love Bone, Temple of the Dog, and Brad.

Gossard is celebrating his 50th birthday today, and Alternative Nation has compiled a list of our favorite Stone songs and moments to celebrate.

Whether it is geeky lyrics, powerful riffs, or loud solos, Gossard brings an element to Pearl Jam that brings their well rounded sound a more quirky, but serene undertone.

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## **10. Satan's Bed from *Vitalogy***

*"WHO MADE UP THE MYTH THAT WE WERE BORN TO BE COVERED IN BLISS? WHO SET THE STANDARD, BORN TO BE RICH?"*

Satan's Bed is one of the lesser played songs from Pearl Jam's extensive catalogue. Since 1994, it has only been played 32 times. Gossard normally stays still through most of his performances, but has been known to bust a move when the moment is right. In 2013, the band performed the song on the second night of their Alpine Valley run in Wisconsin.

(In the video, you can see Gossard dance around the 1:50 mark.)

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## **9. Fatal from *Lost Dogs***

*"IF HE'S TRULY OUT OF SIGHT, IS HE TRULY OUT OF MIND?"*

After being left off *Binaural*, Fatal has become a sought after song to hear live. Having only been played six times from 2003 to 2014, the most popular version of this song comes from

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## 8. All Or None from *Riot Act*

*“HERE’S THE SELFLESS CONFESSION LEADING ME BACK TO WAR.  
CAN WE HELP THAT OUR DESTINATIONS ARE THE ONES WE’VE BEEN  
BEFORE?”*

Much like Fatal, this closing song from *Riot Act* shows not only Ed Vedder’s lower vocal range, but we can hear a more vulnerable, rhythmic sound from Gossard. The band recently performed the song on night two of their Madison Square Garden run and it was met with an exciting crowd response.

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## 7. Brother from *Lost Dogs/Ten Reissue*

*“YOU USE THE FLAG AS A BANDAGE. OH MY BIG BROTHER’S A  
POCKET HYPOCRISY.”*

This song started as an instrumental in its early 90s incarnations. While the instrumental, composed by Gossard is on the *Lost Dogs* compilations, a newer version with lyrics written by Vedder appears on the *Ten Reissue*. This is my personal favorite Pearl Jam song and is on my bucket list to hear live. They have played it eight times: once in 1991; six times in 2009; and once in 2010. Brother is one of the heaviest and loudest Gossard songs to date and it proves how different his sound can be.

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## 6. No Way from *Yield*

*“HERE’S A TOKEN OF MY OPENNESS, OF MY NEED TO NOT  
DISAPPEAR.”*

If you were in attendance at the PJ20 Anniversary shows in Alpine Valley, then you definitely heard this song and were freaking out. Stone did NOT want to play No Way, but after Eddie pestered him, it was decided. On the album version of the song is where we hear the true

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### 5. Thin Air from *Binaural*

*"IT'S NOT IN MY PAST TO PRESUME, LOVE CAN KEEP ON MOVING IN BOTH DIRECTIONS. HOW TO BE HAPPY AND TRUE IS THE QUEST WE'RE TAKING ON TOGETHER."*

Eloquently written lyrics with a sweet tone mixed into the harmony of Ed's voice makes this one of the best Gossard songs. We start seeing a softer side of the band with the *Binaural* album cycle. Thin Air is a song that is truly timeless and can be played at any point in a show without the crowd losing energy.

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### 4. All Those Yesterdays from *Yield*

*"YOU DON'T THINK THERE'S TIME TO STOP. THERE'S TIME ENOUGH FOR YOU TO LAY YOUR HEAD DOWN TONIGHT."*

When I hear this song, I always imagine a row of frat boys with their arms around each other, swaying and singing this as loud as they can. I doubt that is what Stone had in mind when he wrote this song. The lyrics are what make this song the masterpiece that it is.

### 3. In Hiding from *Yield*

*"IT'S FUNNY WHEN THINGS CHANGE SO MUCH. IT'S ALL STATE OF MIND."*

This is the best song on *Yield*. It is every hardcore Pearl Jam fan's right of passage to hear this song live at least once. Stone plays this song how it was meant to be played: passionate and loud. Whether it be to a few hundred people at the Vic in Chicago, or to thousands at a sold out Madison Square Garden, Gossard and his band mates are always on point when this song is played.

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### 2. Strangest Tribe from *Holiday Single 1999*

One of the rarest songs in Pearl Jam's history, *Strangest Tribe* was released as a Ten-Club Holiday single in 1999. It has only been performed live once. This song sounds like a something you would hear at a hypnotic spiritual gathering in the middle of the woods at night. Stone's diverse musical influence is very prominent in this song. He can tune his acoustic guitar to sound like a completely different instrument. That is just plain cool.

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A list of Stone songs would not be complete without *Don't Gimme No Lip* and *Mankind*. Since Gossard does lead vocals on both, they are tied for number one, because it was just too hard to choose between them.

### **1. Dont Gimme No Lip from *Lost Dogs* and Mankind from *No Code***

*"IT'S ALL JUST INADVERTENT IMITATION AND I DON'T MEAN MINE."*

*Don't Gimme No Lip* and *Mankind* are the true essence of our view into Stone's world. He is goofy, a little bit nerdy, and kicks ass on lead vocals. Both songs have an early punk sound to them which adds to his level of awesome.

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Honorable Mention: *Smile* from *No Code*

*"THREE CROOKED HEARTS AND SWIRLS ALL AROUND."*

Stone and Jeff [Ament] swap instruments for this song: Stone on bass and Jeff on guitar. It just keeps life whimsical, don't you think?

Happy 50th birthday, Stone!

**Kinsey Blake Haynes**

**God**

thin air, all or none, and parachutes are my favorites

**God**

i forgot about NO WAY

**Corndog**

Not a big fan of Thin Air, but i love All Or None and Parachutes.

I'd say AON is the best song on Riot Act by quite some margin. Pity there wasn't more of that kind of thing on the album.

**God**

Dude I really liked Riot Act when it came out and still will take it out and enjoy it every now and then. But I totally agree AON is the best song on Riot Act

**Corndog**

Took me a while to get into Riot Act but I came around in the end. Not the best album they've ever made but there's some very decent tracks on it, like Save You, LBC or Half full; and of course AON which was a great wee song!

After all these years though, Binaural still really does nothing for me.

**Soundwave**

Riot Act has really great songs and some terrible ones...I love You Are, Help Help,AON, Half Full, and Ghost....Can't keep and Cropduster are decent but the rest are pretty bad

**Corndog**

Yeah it is a bit of a mixed bag to be sure, but I personally think it was an improvement over Binaural.

**nomad**

No Way and Of The Girl are my two favorite Stone songs

**Billy**

you are totally right, Jeff did the music, eddie the lyrics.

**Soundwave**

There is too many songs it's hard to keep track....good read tho

**Soundwave**

Is this guy aware that Stone wrote almost all of Ten's music? At least he put No Way and All those yesterdays on there

<https://www.alternativenation.net/top-10-stone-gossard-pearl-jam-sor>

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