



9/11/25

Family, Friends, and Frittata's alike,

I'd first like to take a moment to acknowledge the date, and ensure that we do our part for the history books, and **never forget** the courageous men and women who lost their lives in lower Manhattan, 24 years ago. In particular, Rick Rescorla died saving 2,700 lives. I'd also recommend looking into John McLoughlin and Will Jimeno's story. There is one other story out there worth looking into. It's a rabbit hole, and for the life of me I cannot remember the guys name (I know right). But he was an interviewee at the time of the event, who came off of the street and started saving people. He had a first hand account, from the ground floor, of what happened. He was somehow involved in the architecture of the building, and gave an on-the-spot interview, claiming that the explosions came from inside the building. The interview itself has since been scrubbed (as much as possible) from the internet – but it is still out there. Would be helpful if I had a name. But shortly after this interview went public – he either disappeared, or died mysteriously. I'll send out an amendment should I recall his name.

While we are on the subject of amendments – I made a colossal mistake last month. I had mentioned my records had been taken. Perhaps they were in fact taken by my second personality. But I found them. On God **both** records were inside the sleeve of Phoebe Bridgers' Punisher Album. So there were (3) records, (2) of which were in their own covers, inside the cover of Punisher. The copy I originally purchased was a double album, but the second vinyl was the exact same record as the first (which I didn't quite understand) and gave the second vinyl to a friend. So both Caroline records were inside the sleeve on one side, and my copy of Punisher was on the other. I've done my best to apologize to all whom were involved – it wreaked havoc upon my life, and turned my world upside down for a hot second – and they were just right there all along :/

And lastly, before we dive into this month's record – I wanted to acknowledge something I found pretty cool that I just realized today. My sister and I are both 1 day apart in birthdays – she is the 19th of September, and I am the 20th. She was born when I was a senior in high school, the day before I turned 17. This September, she is turning 17 – the age I was when she was born – **and** I will be turning exactly double her age (34), which will never happen again.

After the initial difficulty I had selecting last month's record, I was expecting something similar this month. On the contrary – this one slapped me right in the face just days into the month. Since the inception of the **PORTOLA** festival in San Francisco, I've set the expectation that "this is the year I make it." I text my cousin Diane months ahead saying



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“this is the year!” And then life. So, I will *not* be attending this year (sorry Diane). BUT – The Chemical Brothers are headlining the night of the festival, closing out the Warehouse venue on 9/20. Would have been a hell of a way to follow up last year’s Fred Again birthday show. I’m sure there is a live stream available, and I’ll be tuning in. Since they’re headlining the festival on my birthday, I never really had a choice in picking anything else. As far as their discography goes – ***Push The Button*** is my clear choice for #1. It’s just one of those that slaps from start to finish, and touches all corners of the mind and soul. I’d personally like to go on record predicting that they are going to close out their Portola set with *Hold Tight London*. That’s probably my top track on the album, and it definitely has that close-out-a-set type feel to it. Listeners may be familiar with the album’s most popular, and leadoff track – *Galvanize* – but may also recognize *The Boxer*, and *Believe*. The rest of these tracks fly pretty low under the radar, unless you are a fan of the band, or enthusiast to this specific brand of music. They’ve kind of got a Daft Punk feel to them. Well, more than kind of. They’re a lot like Daft Punk. It’s one of those where the tracks fade into one another, so out of order playing can sometimes disrupt it’s flow. They’ve got albums dating back to ’95, and has consistently put out new work every 2-3 years since. That’s impressive. I think *Surrender* might be their top album overall, but quite frankly, they’ve got so much good stuff out there, it’d take me an entire weekend. Maybe I’ll do that this weekend....

I *am* super stoked about this one. I’m sorry to those who I haven’t been able to keep up the sending of their copies this summer. I’ve got a lot of changes on the horizon, and not much wiggle room at the moment. Though there have been troubling times, there will always be troubling times, and the dawn will always rise anew. Definitely give this one a spin!

Dan Diego



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Past ROTMs:

November 2023: Desire, I Want to Turn Into You – Caroline Polachek

December 2023: Depression Cherry – Beach House

January 2024: MTV Unplugged Live from New York – Nirvana

February 2024: Actual Life 2 – Fred Again..

March 2024: Music from the LOTR Trilogy – The City of Prague Philharmonic Orchestra

April 2024: Greatest Hits: Volume 1 – James Taylor

May 2024: Hybrid Theory – Linkin Park

June 2024: Ursa Major – Third Eye Blind

July 2024: Live 1997 – Daft Punk

August 2024: White Ladder, Live in Austin – David Gray

September 2024: Tidal – Fiona Apple

October 2024: Kid A – Radiohead

November 2024: Alive 2007 – Daft Punk

December 2024: Ten – Pearl Jam

January 2025: Balloonerism – Mac Miller

February 2025: Ceremonials – Florence + The Machine

March 2025: Narrow Stairs – Death Cab for Cutie

April 2025: Pang – Caroline Polachek

May 2025: 4:44 – Jay-Z

June 2025: Third Eye Blind – Third Eye Blind

July 2025: Live from Joshua Tree – Rufus Du Sol

August 2025: Magic – Bruce Springsteen

September 2025: Push the Button – The Chemical Brothers