

Being an astronomer is far more than just knowing facts and measurements. Sometimes you can learn important things about the universe by listening to your own feelings. Song lyrics are often a great stimulus for thinking about space in a different way. Select three of the lyric fragments below, and write a short essay for each of them. Can you explain what they make you think of, from both a human and an astronomical point of view?

- 1) Madonna (Nothing Really Matters) *"Nothing takes the past away like the future. Nothing makes the darkness go, like the light"*
- 2) Moody Blues (Out and In) *'Gazing past the planets. Searching for Total View. I've been lying here for hours. You got to take a journey out and in...'*
- 3) Vanessa Carlton (A Thousand Miles) *"If I could fall into the sky, do you think time would pass me by?"*
- 4) Train (Drops of Jupiter) *"Tell me did the wind sweep you off your feet. Did you finally get the chance to dance along the light of day...and head back toward the Milky Way"*
- 5) Elton John (Rocket Man) *"I miss the earth so much I miss my wife. It's lonely out in space. On such a timeless flight..."*
- 6) Rolling Stones (2000 Light Years From Home) *"Sun turnin' 'round with graceful motion. We're setting off with soft explosion. Bound for a star with fiery oceans. It's so very lonely, you're a hundred light years from home"*
- 7) David Bowie (Major Tom) *"For here...Am I sitting in a tin can. Far above the world. Planet Earth is blue, and there's nothing I can do"*
- 8) Pearl Jam (Light Years) *"We were but stones. Your light made of stars. With heavy breath awakened regrets. Back pages and days that could have been spent together but we were miles apart. Every inch between us becomes light years now."*
- 9) The Police (Synchronicity I) *"A connecting principle. Linked to the invisible. Almost imperceptible. Something inexpressible. Science insusceptible."*
- 10) Smash Mouth (Walking on the Sun) *"So don't delay.. act now supplies are running out Allow if you're still alive... six to eight years to arrive. And if you swallow there may be a tomorrow. But if the offer's shunned you might as well be walkin' on the sun."*

I.M.A.G.E

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