

THE WEEKLY PLAYLIST

APRIL 10-16, 2022

Welcome to the Weekly Playlist, where I break down what music I've been listening to during the past week, and hopefully put you on to some bangers. These songs can be new or old, of any genre, they just happen to be what I'm listening to during the week. Sit back, relax, and plug in to the Weekly Playlist.

April 10-16, 2022: I'll be completely honest, this week was pretty slow in terms of new music that I enjoyed. One of these songs is older, and the rest dropped a week ago, but that doesn't mean they're any less worthy of discussion.

"Through the Fire" - Fivio Foreign feat. Quavo

I'll start by stating that I'm a huge fan of drill rap, and was super excited to listen to Fivio Foreign's debut album **B.I.B.L.E.** The 32-year-old Brooklyn native broke onto the rap scene in 2019 with the single "Big Drip" and he's since gained traction after appearing on Kanye West's 2021 album *Donda*, with an incredible feature on "Off the Grid." Regarding "Through the Fire," it's a trap banger that is a spin on Chaka Khan's 1985 hit single, "Through the Fire." Going back to Foreign's relationship with Kanye, Khan's single has been flipped before, with Kanye's hit "Through the Wire."

While many are burnt out by the Migos and their adlibs by now, I was pleasantly surprised to find that I really enjoyed Quavo's feature on "Through the Fire." The song might not state anything terribly meaningful, but Foreign and Quavo's verses both are hard-hitting over the track's beat. Foreign introduces "Through the Fire" over a choir-like intro explaining "I came a long way from Brooklyn / This shit sound like growth / This shit sound like church" and then directly referencing "Through the Wire" by explaining "Ye did 'Through the Wire' this 'Through the Fire.'" It's a simple explanation, but serves the song well before the beat drops and Foreign serves up some hard drill bars that fans of drill rap will enjoy.



"First Class" - Jack Harlow

Jack Harlow is emerging as rap's favorite white boy, and he excited audiences by teasing a snippet of "First Class" on social media a week before releasing it on streaming platforms. "First Class" samples Fergie's 2006 hit "Glamorous," which was successful in its own right and featured rapper Ludacris. The argument can be made that Harlow relies heavily on the sample, and this is definitely going to become a song that is overplayed by fans and on the radio, but for now, I can't get the chorus out of my head.

Throughout the chorus, Harlow interrupts Fergie for an incredibly quotable group of lines. For example, "I been a (G), throw up the (L), sex in the (A.M.), uh-huh (O-R-O-U-S, yeah) / And I can put you in (First class, up in the sky)." Regardless of your feelings about the sample usage, you have to admit it's pretty creative. Furthermore, the song has been all over TikTok, so it's sure to do numbers on the charts. "First Class" serves as the second single off of his second studio album, *Come Home the Kids Miss You*, which is set to release on May 6th.

"Crazy What Love Can Do" - David Guetta, Becky Hill, Ella Henderson

Whenever summer begins to roll around, EDM fans should be on the lookout for new David Guetta. The French DJ has dropped massive hits throughout his career, and while "Crazy What Love Can Do" might not have the star power of some of his previous singles, it's incredibly catchy, and can be played at the club, during a party, or in the car.

It's an incredibly versatile song that isn't too hard hitting, but also isn't too soft where it will be perceived as only a radio song. Becky Hill and Ella Henderson lead into the beat drop perfectly with their vocals, allowing Guetta to do what he does best, as creates a drop that makes you want to bob your head, break it down, or enjoy a trip, depending on where you are.



"Hold Ya Head" - The Notorious B.I.G. (feat. Bob Marley)

I understand it's a remix, but a collaboration between two of my favorite artists of all time has to be acknowledged. "Hold Ya Head" is the second single from The Notorious B.I.G.'s *Duets: The Final Chapter*, a remix album released in 2005. The original song is "Suicidal Thoughts," from *Ready to Die*, and the Bob Marley hook was sampled from "Johnny Was" by Bob Marley.

By 2005, both of the music legends had passed away, so the unlikely collaboration was agreed to by their estates, the ethics of which can be debated. Regardless, it's an incredibly cool song in that Marley and Biggie actually complement each other nicely. The two superstars both present real life issues, as Marley laments in the chorus about a mother mourning the death of her child, and Biggie contemplates taking his own life due to the disappointment he's caused his family. Heavy topic for sure, but an amazing collaboration that's worth checking out.