



Crappy music abounds in waste-filled 1985

1985 was a good year for bad music. The charts abounded with various sorts of waste matter. It was a tough decision, but here are my picks for the worst songs of '85. I've listed them alphabetically since, like a pretty good rocker once said, "Bad is bad."

Chris McCubbin

- "Bang A Gong (Get It On)," Power Station — Ruining classics was a "Neat Thing To Do" this year. The year's worst cover was Molly Hatchet's marathon massacre of "Freebird," which, praised be, never became a hit. This song is a close second.

- "Sussudio," Phil Collins — Collins is talented enough to write a mega-hit without even trying, so he doesn't

even try. This song is the best example of Collins' formula: 1) Find a beat. 2) Get a hook. 3) Plug in any words that fit.

- "Separate Lives," Phil Collins and Marilyn Martin — The single biggest trend in top-40 hits this year was whining. This song is by far the whiniest.

- "Miami Vice Theme," Jan Hammer — This song has no melody, no harmony, no hook, no words. Why bother?

- "Boy In The Box," Corey Hart — More whining. Also, anyone who rhymes "box" and "socks" in this decade deserves whatever he gets. Fabian did 25 years ago everything Corey Hart's doing now and combed his hair.

- "Saving All My Love For You," Whitney Houston — Houston is a remarkably talented person who probably has a brilliant career ahead of her. But this song is tedious, strident, depressing, (guess what) whiny and features the most offensively sexist pop lyric since "You're Having My Baby."

- "Party All The Time," Eddie Murphy — I'd like to know who told Eddie Murphy he could sing.

- "We Built This City," Starship — This is the single most annoying song of the year, possibly the decade.

- "Burning Heart," Survivor — Kindly keep your propaganda off my radio. "Seems like freedom's up against the ropes." What kind of lyrics are those?

Just to prove I'm human, here are my five biggest guilty pleasures of the year, those songs that I really shouldn't enjoy as much as I do, offered here without explanation or apology.

1. A-ha — "Take On Me"
2. David Bowie and Mick Jagger — "Dancing In The Streets"
3. Heart — "What About Love" and "Never"
4. The Pointer Sisters — everything they do
5. Twisted Sister — "Leader Of The Pack"

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