

Oliver's Journal

Magazine for Music, Books, Film, and Art

K. Oliver's Top 5 Choices
in Music, Film, Books,
Art, and TV!

K. Oliver's Review of The
Game by PENTAGON





Music

TOP 5 SONGS!

THE GAME BY PENTAGON

THE SONG BY BTOB

PITY PARTY BY JAMIE

I HATE YOU BY WOODZ

ABOUT DAMN TIME BY LIZZO

Books

TOP 5 BOOKS!

THE PHONE BOOTH AT THE EDGE OF THE WORLD BY

LAURA IMAI MESSINA

THE HUNGER GAMES BY SUZANNE COLLINS

A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS BY KHALED HOSSEINI

THE FAMILY UPSTAIRS BY LISA JEWELL

WHERE THE CROWDAD SINGS BY DELIA OWENS

Top Media!

Top 5 Choices Highly Recommended by
K. Oliver!

Film

TOP 5 MOVIES!

ENCANTO

TURNING RED

THE DARK KNIGHT

DUMPLIN'

KNIVES OUT

TU

TOP 5 TV SHOWS!

IT'S OKAY TO NOT BE OKAY (SK)

ITAEWON CLASS (SK)

THE MAGICIANS

CAROLE AND TUESDAY

13 REASONS WHY

Art

TOP 5 ARTIST!

PEARFLEUR

KIM JUNGGI

SCOTT CHRISTIAN SAVA

LITTLE THUNDER

HEIKALA

If you want to recommend
your TOP 5 choices, tag
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Facebook with your favorites!



The Game by Pentagon

This is The Game.

Review by K. Oliver

Lascia ch'io, sorte, sospiri la libertà

The harmonic soprano voice chants the phrase “Let it that I, fate, sigh freedom,” to begin the song, opening the door to a new world. I enter through the door without hesitation and all I see is a water trolley, docked in a space with stagnate lights. The introduction ignites my heart, pumping blood to rush through my veins, and my soul wakes up and rises from her slumber. I see no driver, so I ignite the engine and drive it forward, with the voice guiding me with ease going deeper into the space. Just as I drive on, the lights start pulsing into the first verse.

The next few voices start singing after each other as I drive, their melodies and tones creating an intense feeling so low yet so overwhelming, my heart works double time pumping blood, and my soul vibrates her waves anticipating what comes next. All the while, my mind releases all the brain cells to bounce around in my head as I begin to see visions of flowers blooming and fireworks sparking. I press on the pedal more as I speed up the pace of the boat during the pre-chorus, anticipating the explosion that’s about to come.

The chorus explodes and shuffles the space with lights of assorted colors, chaotic and passionate as the voices’ chants drive my soul out of my body and causes my heart to start begging to escape from my ribcage. The flickering of colorful lights dances around as the voices chant and bellow with all their might, sharing their story of their ongoing challenge with playing their game called life. When I hear a voice sending a shush sound, I slow down transitioning into the second verse.

The voices and colors are bouncing after each other, exchanging their strategize in a coded message, not to give too much away as to not compromise their position and giving themselves away to the opponent. The voices are

calm yet anxious with how they will make their next bet, and I get to witness everything. Just as they sing the pre-chorus again, the goosebumps rise, and I ignite once again as I pick up the pace of the trolley.

After the glorious and chaotic return of the chorus, and even go through the whirlpool of the post chorus, I arrive at the bridge and the voices begin to rest as the colors dim down, preserving the energy they have left, and gives me enough time to collect myself. A voice whispers to me that the game has been fun, and now it’s all or nothing. Then I ask, “Am I ready for more?” My mind, heart, and soul rise and shout at the same time, “Yes!” Immediately, I hear a maniacal laugh and then a voice announces that this is the game. Suddenly, I’m hit with the familiar, spontaneous explosion of voices chanting and belting all at once. I can almost hear the galaxies sing along as we come to a finish, and I’m mesmerized with the power of melodies, harmonies, and sharp beats consuming me at a level I never thought I could reach. The guitar ends the song nice and sharp as I slow down the trolley to a stop. A song that’s just not only about ending the game but winning it as well.



Song Credits: The Game

Performed by PENTAGON

Written by Wooseok

Co-composed by Wooseok, NATHAN, yunji, HOHO

Arranged by NATHAN, yunji



PENTAGON for their 12th Mini Album IN:VITE U. Available now on Spotify and Apple Music!

Let's Play Funny Game.

(continue)

My Perspective:

Between the release of the track list to the reveal of the album snippet, I looked at the title of the song The Game and I would have thought it would be a Hip-Hop vibe and I didn't know why. However, when I heard the string instruments (the violin and guitar) along with the percussion and chanting, I learned that I would be Rock vibe and I was screaming for the song to be released already the b-sides. I will be honest, I enjoy all the songs, but The Game was the most shocking song in the entire album! The fans have referred to anime shows, cartoon memes, Alice in Wonderland, and even the game of chess with the songs because of how moving the song is, but I did have my own perspective while listening to the song.

I have listened to this song for months since the release of the album and all I've been repeating to myself was, "Wooseok unhinged that brain and went mad." I love how Wooseok incorporated Lascia Ch'io Pianga, Bohemian Rhapsody, and Don Quixote into this song to emphasize the tension of the song, and even pulled a brilliant move with adding allegory of Rocinante to stress the importance of running like a devil. I imagine that he's the game creator who craved excitement and chaos, and his goal was for the listeners to be driven mad as they experience the song. The more I listened to it, the more insane I became as every note and beat flowed into my veins, and I welcome them. Just before writing this review, I had to listen to the song about ten, maybe more, times to examine the song so I can properly put the words together as I give my viewpoint. It was worth it, though. The song is just THAT good.

While listening to the song, my perspective is that life is a game and I'm the player that must go through various levels before I can win. However, I don't find myself as just a regular player who abides by the rules. In life, sometimes I must go mad and laugh in every level the longer I play. It sounds crazy, even over the top, but I could never imagine myself having to see the world in black and white. The type of player I decide to play in this game is the player that sees all the colors in all shades and to have fun painting the town in the game. This song is basically the enhancement I needed while I play, just like the song says, "Let's play funny game."



My Review:

To call this song a masterpiece must be emphasized with my whole chest. I must scream it to the world as I keep talking about it. I never get tired of listening to it, even when putting the song on repeat. It entices me to do more with intensity, to act more with passion, to behave more insanely, and to have more confidence. What I enjoy the most is how heavy the song is with the instrumentals and vocals, rising the soul from its daily nap and igniting the heart with burning excitement. I lose all self-control as I listen to the song, and I chant along with the group as they perform the song, telling their own story of how they play this game.

Not a lot of people may agree with me, but the song is full of passion, drive, and climatic energy where my insides explode into shiny confetti, and they become dusk in the universe. It blows my mind to a point where I don't know how I can keep myself together, and I would ask if I really wanted to. I want

my voice, let alone my life, to sound and feel like this song: chaotic, free, and energetic. This song takes me into another realm where I can be as free as I want, and I wouldn't dare to look back.

For a song to be three minutes and 4 seconds long, it feels like a dream that lasts eternity and I would have to fight whoever has the audacity to wake me up. I've expressed countless times that I want to win, to have purpose in this

lifetime just as I dream of my victory. Even when I feel exhausted just by trying to exist in this lifetime, this song gives me the freedom where if I want to win, or accomplish anything, do it like a maniac and have fun in every level. It's striking, moving, and impactful in every way possible, a song with not just one voice, but a million all at once.

The Game is a world where it welcomes everyone to play, and everyone can win. As we play this eternal game, we sigh our freedom, bet it all with our gut feeling, and run like a devil. It's either now or never.

References

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