

IDEA # 9

Live Show Song Requests

I am going to do this when I become famous.

I have always found, whenever I cough up the cash to go see a band perform live, they NEVER seem to play the one song that I absolutely love on their album. Now for the most part I do have strange taste in music, so I usually end up liking the random song on the CD that no one else seems to like. Maybe everyone else just has bad taste in music and I have great taste (note likely). But it's the one thing that usually deters me from going to concerts. Well, that one thing and the fact that they are usually super crowded and hot and stuffy and otherwise uncomfortable. Why do people go to concerts? It's the same idea of just seeing a really hot girl 10 feet in front of you, but knowing you'll never be able to date her. The sad reality of life that most things are dangled in front of us that we can't have. Like the kid in line at the store today that wanted a toy but the more he whined to his mom the more she got annoyed with him and said no. Obviously kids have a lot to learn about persuasive arguments. I think when I have kids I will ask them WHY they want the item that they want. If they can't offer up at least 5 solid reasons for why I should buy it for them, then they don't get it. Then after I do buy it for them, I will require a 2 page typed essay as to how that item has made their life better or more enjoyable. Of course no kid thinks like this. So that just confuses them and makes them either A: forget about what they wanted in the first place, or B: is too much work so they simply decide they can do without item X.

Back to the topic, I think that it would be very awesome and super cool if bands would start allowing a song request with each ticket purchase. Simply provide a field that allows you to write in your one song request that you really want to hear super bad at the show. I think that more people would be willing to go to more shows if they knew they had a chance to hear their favorite tune. This way the bands can focus their set list more around what the fans want to hear and less around what they "think" the fans want to hear. Because let's face it, bands are nothing without their fans... so really I think the term bands should be renamed to more accurately depict the reality of the situation, fans. It's more of a relationship, and I am sick and tired of this one way street thing that has been going on for so long.

So the way it works is: each person who purchases a ticket gets to fill out a request of what song they want to hear super-duper bad. Then the request goes into a calculation machine type thing. After all the data is collected and run through some sort of statistical analysis program it is handed to the band. Who then most likely loses it because they are too drunk and or stoned to remember what the heck is going on. But let's just say for the sake of argument that the band really is semi coherent. They take the slip of paper and decide their playlist from that. The slip will basically give out in order of most common responses to least common. So if 15 people ask for the same song A and 12 people asked for the same song B then Song A will show up first on the list and Song B second. This will be followed by Song C which was asked for by 8 different people, and etc. etc.

This may also be a good way to figure out which of their songs are truly most popular instead of simply listening to some hot top charts DJ or music critic snob that thinks they know what's what. This is straight from the source, the fans.