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## What's Your Favorite "One Hit Wonder"?

Only so many artists and bands manage to rise to the top of the charts with songs that the whole country gets stuck in their heads. So, to have a 2nd or 3rd hit is all the more rare. For every Madonna or Rolling Stones, there are musicians like Norman Greenbaum and groups like Dexys Midnight Runners who topped the charts and were barely heard from again. Yes, they are the infamous one-hit wonders.

But just because they never managed to reach the success of their biggest hits again, doesn't make their songs any less legendary. Let's see which ones you remember.

#### "Tequila" - by The Champs (1958)

This catchy single only has three words and they're all "tequila." Ok, so the lyrics aren't particularly novel, but the song still brought the group massive success in the late '50s.

#### "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" - The Tokens (1961)

While '90s kids know this song from the *The Lion King*, long before

Timon & Pumbaa, there was this 1961 version. While The Tokens continued to make music in the '60s and '70s, none of their other songs came close to this success.

#### "Hey! Baby!"-Bruce Channel (1961)

If you're a child of the 1980s, you likely remember this song from the movie "Dirty Dancing", particularly the scene in which Johnny & Baby practice their dance routine on a log in the lake.

#### "Monster Mash" - Boris Pickett & the Crypt-Kickers (1962)

This graveyard smash is а testament to just how much people in the 1960s went nuts for a song with crazy choreography. added With the theme of Halloween and Pickett's spot-on impersonation of Boris Karloff, this one was a surefire hit!

#### "Wipe Out" - The Surfaris (1963)

Even if you don't recognize this song by its title or by band name, you'd certainly know it by its introduction—the sound of a breaking surfboard & a maniacal laugh—and its iconic drum solo (which Carol can play for you). Everyone from The Beach Boys to Animal from *The Muppets* have covered this legendary surf track, which was the first and final hit from this California-based band.

# **"96 Tears"-Question Mark and the Mysterians (1966)**

This is a surprisingly catchy hit about too much crying. It brought this garage rock band some fleeting success, but it wasn't enough to keep them in the limelight.

#### "But It's Alright" - J. J. Jackson (1966)

This song not only landed on the *Billboard* Hot 100 chart when it was originally released in 1966, but it made its way back in 1969 when it was re-released. The bad news? Jackson didn't see much chart action after that. But, to quote the singer himself, "it's alright (alright, girl)."

### "Sugar, Sugar" - The Archies (1969)

In 1969, a fictitious cartoon rock band managed to earn the top spot on a *Billboard* Hot 100 chart—and kept it for a month! It was such a shocking success, it's no wonder The Archies weren't able to duplicate it. The band, of course, came courtesy of *The Archie Show,* an animated TV adaptation of the Archie Comics, which premiered in 1968. Though they released a couple of songs during the show's run, this was their most successful by far.

#### "Na Na Hey Hey Kiss Him Goodbye" - Steam (1969)

It's pretty crazy to think that one of the most commonly played songs at sporting events came from a one-hit wonder. It spent two weeks at the top spot and the band never had another hit. In 1977, the organist at a White Sox game played the song to taunt the visiting team and soon, the band became part of baseball history. (And yes, there are more lyrics than the part we all know.)

#### "It Never Rains in Southern California" - Albert Hammond (1972)

Albert might have had a smash hit about the rain in California, but it was hardly pouring hits for him as a performer in the '70s. He never managed to repeat the success as a singer, but he found massive success as a songwriter. He co-wrote Whitney Houston's "One Moment in Time" and Starships' "Nothing's Gonna Stop Us Now," with the legendary Diane Warren.

#### "Me and Mrs. Jones" - Billy Paul (1972)

Of course, we don't condone cheating, but it's hard not to get caught up in the story of Mrs. Jones when Billy Paul croons about her. The 1972 track spent three weeks at the #1 spot, but it was a flash in the pan. He never managed to have another hit crack the top 10.

#### "Hooked on a Feeling" - Blue Swede (1974)

Long before this song had new life courtesy of *Guardians of the Galaxy,* '70s kids were walking around singing "ooga-chaka oogaooga" (whatever that means). Still, this is the only hit the Swedish rock band ever had.

### "Magic" - Pilot (1974)

Do the lyrics of this magical song about daybreaks & lazy days in bed have any sort of rhyme or reason? Hardly. And yet, it made it to #5 on the charts. When it was first released, you couldn't go five feet without heading someone sing, "Oh, ho, ho, it's magic!" Unfortunately, the band failed to recreate the magic, but the song continues to be featured on TV shows & in movies, from *Happy* Herbie: Fully Gilmore to the Loaded reboot. It has also made it's way as the theme song of a TV commercial for a diabetes medication called Ozempic.

#### "Play That Funky Music" - Wild Cherry (1976)

It was fate, really, that brought this song into existence. In the 1970s, the band, whose name was inspired by a box of cough drops, was performing at a club when someone in the audience "play screamed. some funkv music, white boy!" The rude request inspired front man Rob Parissi to pen this song, which has allowed us to lay down that boogie ever since. Sure, it was the band's only hit, but it was a massive one!

#### "The Boys Are Back in Town" -Thin Lizzy (1976)

Amazingly, this song almost didn't make it onto the airwaves. It was not originally slated to be on the album at all, but management heard it and liked it. Thank goodness, since that's the only successful song the band has ever had.

There are many more, but now we're getting into the disco era, and NOBODY wants to live through that again!



## Now on to really "important" stuff...

#### The 4th week of September is:

-National Ballroom Dance Week -Clean Up the World Week -Farm Animal Week -International Clean Hands Week -National Dog Week -Indoor Plant Week -National Bike to Work Week

#### Some fun only lasts a day.

22nd-First Day of Autumn Car Free Day **Elephant Appreciation Day** Ice Cream Cone Day Hobbit Day White Chocolate Day 23rd-Sign Language Day **Great American Pot Pie Day Snack Stick Day** 24th-Bluebird of Happiness Day **Punctuation Day** 25th-Hug a Vegetarian Day National Doodle Day National Lobster Day **One-Hit Wonder Day** National Quesadilla Day Save the Koala Day **26th-**Fish Amnesty Day **International Lace Day International Rabbit Day** National Dumpling Day **Ghost Hunting Day** Save Your Photos Day Johnny Appleseed Day

27th-Ancestor Appreciation Day Crush A Can Day National Scarf Day

**28th-**Family Day National Drink Beer Day Good Neighbor Day Fish Tank Floorshow Night

Have a great week & call if you need anything!

Serving Him & Loving it!

### Carol

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