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# The Apocalyptic Playlist

## 1) [Heartaches - Al Bowlly](#)

Al Bowlly's 1931 classic "Heartaches" has a sweet sadness to it, which makes for a great theme for when The Man dreams of his wife due to its strongly melancholic tone. The song was given a new meaning in 2019 in *Everywhere at the End of Time* by The Caretaker, who sought to musically explore the progression of dementia. The opening song heavily samples *Heartaches*. This gives the song a second meaning beyond simply melancholy, it symbolizes how many people in the world of *The Road* have forgotten previous societal norms (such as not eating people).

## 2) [Hip to Be Square - Huey Lewis and the News](#)

This song lives in infamy for its usage in *American Psycho* during Patrick Bateman's murder of Paul Allen. The scene has become popular in modern meme culture due to its quotability and the strangely deep analysis of the song's themes by Bateman as he prepares to murder Allen with an ax. It would make good use during a montage of the cannibals eating their former comrade after the man shot him.

## 3) [Pergolesi: Stabat Mater, P. 77 - I. Stabat Mater](#)

When I first heard this song, I immediately thought of the section where The Man's wife walks off into the forest intending to commit suicide. The picture in my head is this: she has made her decision clear to the man, she turns and walks out of the cabin. The door closes behind her. The man goes to the window, and watches her disappear into the mist. He turns and sits down on the floor, beginning to cry. After a few minutes he collects himself and goes to wake the boy.

## 4) [Lacrimosa - Mozart](#)

The slow pacing, the haunting vocals, give Mozart's *Lacrimosa* its contemplative horror. The Belorussian war film, *Come and See*, effectively uses this piece during its final scene and credits as you watch belorussian partisans march of into a dark forest. I've found myself comparing *The Road* to *Come and See* while reading it. There's a lot of similarity. Much of *Come and See* is spent by the main character, Flyora, running around the Belorussian countryside trying to survive. The Dirlwanger Brigade, the main antagonists of the film, are akin to the various cannibals The Man and The Boy encounter. Their depravity seems to have no end. In fact when I read the section of the column of cannibals marching with their slaves the picture in my head was like that of the Dirlwanger brigade as depicted in *Come and See*. The film's climax is showing a recreation of the Khatyn Massacre. My description doesn't do the movie justice, I could write a whole other essay on just that one scene.

## 5) [Dust in the Wind\(Burmese\) - Unknown Artist](#)

*Dust in the Wind* has become a sort of anthem for pro-democracy protests in Myanmar. It was first used back in 1988 and has become popular once again with the 2021 coup d'etat. It, like many of the other songs I've chosen, has a very somber tone to it. But this one is different in that while being somber, it's also kind of fed up. They sang this once in 1988, and now have to sing it once again in 2022. To me it would be perfect for when the man is talking to god, and is in despair, asking where he went. Asking why he let things go so wrong.