

Lit Log #1: APOCALYPTIC PLAYLIST

By Alex Pompey

Song #1: "The Legend of the Wind" (Nausicaa of the Valley of the Wind)

Artist(s): Joe Hisaishi

Link: <https://music.youtube.com/watch?v=UXdl6mREKQI&feature=sha>

Nausicaa of the Valley of the Wind is a studio Ghibli film about a princess who saves her people from gigantic insects and an ever expanding toxic jungle. The movie takes place 1000 years after humanity is nearly incinerated by giant warriors who turned on their creators. This song plays at the beginning of the movie as it flashes back to the disaster. Reading the road made me think of that scene, especially since we know that there was a lot of fire involved. It's also a great song to walk around while listening to, and there are plenty of scenes where the man and the boy are just walking.

Song #2: "The Beast" (Neon Genesis Evangelion)

Artist(s): Shiro Sagisu

Link: <https://music.youtube.com/watch?v=8KKkdIODSok&feature=share>

In very simple terms, Evangelion is an anime where giant robots called "Evas" are piloted to fight against giant aliens. But since the Evas are built using alien tissue, they occasionally go berserk. This theme (or some version of it) played when Eva Unit-01 went berserk for the first time. I think this song would go perfectly with the scene on pages 110-111 where the man and boy stumble into that basement full of people. It's scary to imagine holding a lighter and looking around seeing people who are going to be eaten begging for help, and it's also scary to imagine being trapped inside a giant rampaging monster, so I think the song fits.

Song #3: "You may call me Marth" (Fire Emblem 13)

Composers: Rei Kondoh/Hiroki Morishita

Link: <https://music.youtube.com/watch?v=q8beEGwb4o0&feature=share>

FE13 is a video game made by nintendo. It follows a group of knights as they fight to save the world from a dragon and its army of monsters. They are aided by a swordsman who comes from a dark future where the knights failed and the world was overrun with destruction. This is the song that plays when the swordsman tells their grim version of the future to the knights. I think this song would go well with the final conversation between the man and the woman on pages 55-58. Like the future swordsman from FE13, the woman in *The Road* also lived in a shattered world.

But she didn't have the option to go back in time and change things. Her only options were to struggle through life or die, and throughout the sad conversation, the woman makes it obvious which path she intended to follow.

Song #4: "Thrill of the Hunt" (Deepwoken)

Artist: Naktigonis

Link: <https://music.youtube.com/watch?v=jEufEiXyuxU&feature=share>

Deepwoken is a video game where the players have to survive in a dying world after a catastrophe leaves everything in shambles. You can get attacked by monsters or other players at any time. This battle theme from the game could perfectly fit any of the confrontational scenes in the book, whether it's the man with the knife, the thief, the man with the bow, or just any scene where the man and boy have to run away from something.

Song #5: "Sadness and Sorrow" (Naruto)

Artist: Yasuharu Takanashi

Link: https://music.youtube.com/watch?v=_kr7pv2fin8&feature=share

In extremely simple terms, Naruto is an anime about a ninja who wants to become the hero of his village. This theme plays at really sad points during the show, like during a sad flashback or when someone dies. Not to spoil the book or anything, but there's a very sad scene on pages 277-281 that would go great with this theme.