

“The Phoneys” Sample Dialogue

Max: Good evening!...Unlike that *other* award show, which caters only to the passing trends of current “popular music”, the Phoneys honors those who have shaped the evolution of music into the litigious and petty landscape we now enjoy.

Abbey: With the help of Alabama’s Occult and Pagan Communities, we’ve managed to bring the stars of recorded music, both currently alive, and formerly dead, together for one night only.

Max: Abbey, tonight is a musical mishmash on par with some of the more pathetic mixtapes I made for Sarah Gettinger in middle school.

Abbey: As you attempted to demonstrate back then, music can have tremendous power. Not only the power to manipulate, but also the power to confuse and infuriate. Our first two presenters have spent their careers harnessing these very powers.

Max: *She’s* an enigmatic Icelander whose fascination with the natural world has made her a fashion icon, and *he’s* a genre-defying, boundary-ignoring virtuoso whose all instrumental albums warranted parental advisory stickers, please welcome Bjork and Frank Zappa!

Bjork: Hello. We are here today to acknowledge the songwriters who tried very hard to express themselves creatively, but perhaps too much creatively, which can be dangerous because sometimes people do not understand us and we can become sad.

Zappa: When the United States Government blatantly infringes upon its citizen’s First Amendment Rights, when artistic expression must first pass through a conservative lobbying group, when musicians who simply want to write songs about ***series of bleeps*** are seen as enemies of children, then we have to rethink the way we present ourselves. The ***bleep*** in this category have all found a clever loophole, opting to share their words incoherently and avoid detection, rather than sing clearly and be ***bleeped***.

Bjork: The nominees for “Least Understandable Lyrics” are...

Nirvana—Smells like Teen Spirit

Joe Cocker—With a Little Help from My Friends

The Clash—Rock the Casbah

Zappa:

...and the winner is: Nirvana—Smells Like Teen Spirit!