

# Taking Sides: Joan Jett vs Pat Benatar

I've only heard a song or two of either on VH1 Classic. I'm gonna pick Fox cuz she sounds more consistently absurd.

— Anthony Miccio (Anthony Miccio), Wednesday, 2 April 2003 22:31 (nineteen years ago) [link](#)

Joan Jett vs Pat Benatar -- Joan Jett."Cherry Bomb" (the JJ & the Blackhearts version) alone pushes Joan Jett over the edge.

Samantha Fox vs Lita Ford -- Lita Ford.How can you compare Lita to a Page Three Girl? (Also, how weird was it that Fox co-hosted a Brits with MICK FLEETWOOD, of all people?)

— Dee the Lurker (Dee the Lurker), Thursday, 3 April 2003 02:04 (nineteen years ago) [link](#)

Kiss Me Deadly is correct Kenny...

— jm (jtm), Thursday, 3 April 2003 03:06 (nineteen years ago) [link](#)

Har har har, on my first date with Handsome Soundartist, we were sitting in the Foundry and someone put Pat Benatar's Love Is A Battlefield on. What was more embarrassing - the fact that he was really getting into it, or that \*I\* knew immediately who it was?

But duh. Joan Jett. PB not even in the same league.

— kate, Thursday, 3 April 2003 06:33 (nineteen years ago) [link](#)

stop look listen 2 my heartbeat

— dave q, Thursday, 3 April 2003 08:31 (nineteen years ago) [link](#)

I saw Joan Jett live last year. She was fucking awesome. Her backup band were lame posers, but her voice sounded great. So Joan Jett.

— Nick A. (Nick A.), Thursday, 3 April 2003 11:11 (nineteen years ago) [link](#)

JJ and PB = too different to compare, really, aside from the fact that they made "hard rock" in the "eighties." PB's a great singer; JJ's a great looker. JJ's covered "Pretty Vacant"; PB's covered "Wuthering Heights." PB = associated with the surface-skimming past-mining of dumb college girls. JJ = associated with those hipster shitheads at Don Hill's who go around telling people the MC5 were the greatest band ever, never mind that they only had maybe two or three good songs and a cool manager and a cool logo and THAT'S IT.

Pat Benatar.

Fox over Ford, too.

— Jody Beth Rosen (Jody Beth Rosen), Thursday, 3 April 2003 11:22 (nineteen years ago) [link](#)

jody whats the dealio, you sort of seem to be turning into dave q

— duane, Thursday, 3 April 2003 12:05 (nineteen years ago) [link](#)

could it be that methedrine you're usin

— duane, Thursday, 3 April 2003 12:05 (nineteen years ago) [link](#)

dude "do" calum

— duane, Thursday, 3 April 2003 12:19 (nineteen years ago) [link](#)

huh-huh. huh-huh

— duane, Thursday, 3 April 2003 12:20 (nineteen years ago) [link](#)

sokay i'd rather just listen to some dead moon and drink until i pass out

— joduane (Jody Beth Rosen), Thursday, 3 April 2003 12:32 (nineteen years ago) [link](#)

I have a lot of time for Benatar. Loads of good LP tracks, besides the 45s.

— the pinefox, Thursday, 3 April 2003 12:48 (nineteen years ago) [link](#)

Joan Jett is much cooler, obviously, and I never feel any urge to listen to her records, whereas Pat made the luminous (albeit heavily of-its-period) Seven the Hard Way and a bunch of other records I would listen to again of my own independent volition.

The Ford/Fox thing is just silly. Ford by a mile.

But if we're trying to consolidate, I might take Fiona over all four.

— ara, Thursday, 3 April 2003 13:56 (nineteen years ago) [link](#)

Gotta be Joan Jett, though I do like scattered Pat Benetar tracks - particularly "We Live For Love."

— mike a (mike a), Thursday, 3 April 2003 14:40 (nineteen years ago) [link](#)

Fucking close call. I love 'em both to death, but... I dunno. Wendy O. Williams would snap those thin little bitches in half with a look, though.

— martt

Being a kid in the early 80's, Joan was primarily known for I Love Rock and Roll, whereas Pat was considered the big female pop/rock singer for a few years when the 80's MTV pop style replaced her more 70's singing.

by Anonymousreply 8August 30, 2015 2:45 PM

Non-millennials confuse the two, too.

by Anonymousreply 9August 30, 2015 3:00 PM

Hmm. weak. do they confuse Pat Benatar and Kate Bush, too?

by Anonymousreply 10August 30, 2015 3:08 PM

JJ = one-hit wonder

by Anonymousreply 11August 30, 2015 4:00 PM

Never much of a Jett fan. Benatar was way more talented.

by Anonymousreply 12August 30, 2015 4:02 PM

Which one did "My Baby Takes the Morning Train," r10?

by Anonymousreply 13August 30, 2015 4:17 PM

Go sit down, R13.

by Anonymousreply 14August 30, 2015 4:33 PM

What R7 said.

by Anonymousreply 15August 30, 2015 4:35 PM

Joan Jett started out as part of a commercially packaged act targeted at dirty old men turned on by jailbait. She grew up to have a credible career in rock and roll and I admire her for that.

Pat Benatar is a really good rock and roll singer who just happens to have been gorgeous, but her career was always about her voice first and foremost, not her face or ass.

by Anonymousreply 16August 30, 2015 4:56 PM

Joan Jett - 3 Billboard Top Ten hits:

I Love Rock and Roll - 1

Crimson and Clover - 7

I Hate Myself for Loving You - 8

Pat Benatar - 4 Billboard Top Ten hits:

Hit Me with Your Best Shot - 9

Love is a Battlefield - 5

We Belong - 5

Invincible - 10

by Anonymousreply 17August 30, 2015 5:16 PM

Two totally different approaches -- Joan was the girl who could rock as hard as the guys, with a punky edge, while Pat was a more straight-up rock singer.

by Anonymousreply 18August 30, 2015 5:39 PM

Damn, R17! I'm surprised Pat had so few top 10s. It seemed for a while there that you heard her songs constantly!

by Anonymousreply 19August 30, 2015 5:52 PM

Pat is a giver - inspiring billions with her pterodactyl tit-shaking dance.

Joan inspired emotional depth in a Twilight actor.

by Anonymousreply 20August 30, 2015 5:58 PM

Pat Benatar gets a lifetime pass for the "Love Is A Battlefield" video.

by Anonymousreply 21August 30, 2015 6:22 PM

[quote]Being a kid in the early 80's, Joan was primarily known for I Love Rock and Roll

That's what she's primarily known for today.

by Anonymousreply 22August 30, 2015 6:28 PM

Well, Jett and her band are in The Rock Hall of Fame. But that doesn't mean shit. Both are great , yet very different.

by Anonymousreply 23August 30, 2015 6:36 PM

Couldn't really tell them apart in the 80s, or now.

by Anonymousreply 24August 30, 2015 6:39 PM

The original "I Love Rock n Roll" by the Arrows. It's a superior vocal and superior sound.

Offsite Link

by Anonymousreply 25August 30, 2015 6:44 PM

Love Pat's music but her autobiography, while well written, was too tame for a rock star. No drugs, little sex, and the biggest scandal was when she slammed the toilet seat down in anger in front of her husband.

Why doesn't R4's list have Love is a Battlefield, her biggest hit?

by Anonymousreply 26August 30, 2015 7:29 PM

[quote] Which one did "My Baby Takes the Morning Train," [R10]?

Thank you! That's what the rest of us want to know, too. All this quibbling over two non-divas. There's Madonna, Donna Summer, Cher, Liza, Grace Jones, Barbra, Beyonce, Janet, Gaga, Rihanna, Whitney, Diana Ross, Xtina, Mariah and that's all...no one else matters.

by Anonymousreply 27August 30, 2015 7:41 PM

Excuse me, R27?

by Anonymousreply 28August 30, 2015 7:42 PM

"We Belong" holds up...it's an indisputable classic.

So per r25, "I Love R&R" was a cover for JJ...? I did not know that.

by Anonymousreply 29August 30, 2015 7:54 PM

r19 Pat had plenty of top 40 songs - Heartbreaker, We Live for Love, Treat Me Right, Fire and Ice, Shadows of the Night, All Fired Up. She got lots of play on rock stations.

by Anonymousreply 30August 30, 2015 8:10 PM

Wikipedia on Love Is a Battlefield:

"Originally a ballad, the single was Benatar's second American million seller and is tied with "We Belong" as her highest charting single in the United States. It topped Billboard's Mainstream Rock Tracks chart for four weeks and peaked at #5 on the Billboard Hot 100 in December 1983."

by Anonymousreply 31August 30, 2015 8:18 PM

R29, So many of Joanie's hit and semi-hit songs were covers, hence R5's quip about her being a karaoke act -- I Love Rock 'n' Roll (Arrows); Crimson and Clover (Tommy James & the Shondells); Do You Wanna Touch Me? (Gary Glitter); Summertime Blues (Eddie Cochran); Everyday People (Sly Stone); Dirty Deeds (AC/DC); Love Hurts (Everly Brothers); Have You Ever Seen the Rain? (Creedence)

Pat, at least, was an original.

by Anonymousreply 32August 30, 2015 8:18 PM

Also, Joan's glam rock bad girl persona was a rip off of Suzi Quatro. Suzi supposedly called her imitator Clone Jett.

Offsite Link

by Anonymousreply 33August 30, 2015 8:33 PM

Christ, Gary Glitter sang "Do You Wanna Touch Me"?!?

the 70s really were a different time.

by Anonymousreply 34August 30, 2015 8:38 PM

And here's the answer to your question: Sheena Easton did "(My Baby Takes The) Morning Train". It went to #1, earned her a gold record, and was her very first hit record back in 1981.

by Anonymousreply 35February 4, 2017 6:09 AM

Pat Benatar sang "Hit Me With Your Shit-Bra"

Joan Jett didn't.

Easy peasy.

by Anonymousreply 36February 4, 2017 6:23 AM

Pat came first.

by Anonymousreply 37February 4, 2017 7:53 AM

Joan had more rocker cred - she was considered a godmother of sorts to riot grls int he early 90s (and even produced a Bikini Kill single). Soprano training would have been irrelevant to what she was trying to do.

by Anonymousreply 38February 4, 2017 8:03 AM

Can't I adore both?

The French Song - Joan Jett

You Better Run - Pat Benatar

Screw critics, I like what I like.

by Anonymousreply 39February 4, 2017 9:46 AM

What? Millennials DO NOT mix up Benatar and Jett, OP. That was Shitney Spears 10 years ago in that interview everyone knows about.

Nice try tho'

by Anonymousreply 40February 4, 2017 10:48 AM

I love Rock and Roll was #1 for 7 weeks! Its hard to top that. Pat had consistent albums with a top ten hit and several great albums tracks on them.

by Anonymousreply 41February 4, 2017 11:02 AM

OP question is a non-starter.

These 2 artists have nothing in common.

by Anonymousreply 42February 4, 2017 12:38 PM

R27 is recovering from a double-wristectomy.

A kind word, some flowers maybe..

by Anonymousreply 43February 4, 2017 12:53 PM

I loved all of Pat's hits but I never understood why she would sing the line 'hell is for children.' I mean, I hate kids just as much as the next guy, but she went too far.

by Anonymousreply 44February 5, 2017 12:24 AM

I received Pat's albums Crimes of Passion and In the Heat of the Night for Christmas 1980. I Love Rock N Roll hit in the summer of 1981 so Pat was well established by the time most people had even heard of Joanie. Pat was already a staple on AOR radio by 1980.

by Anonymousreply 45February 5, 2017 1:16 AM

R44 I read Pat's memoirs and she explained the meaning behind her song "Hell Is For Children". She became aware of some of the awful abuses that children go through by their parents and other people, so she wrote the song as an ode to these abused kids and a plea to treat children decently, in a non abusive way. She has 2 daughters, loves them very much, and says that being a mother is her favorite job.

by Anonymousreply 46February 6, 2017 4:04 AM

Joan Jett's "I Love Rock And Roll" was a massive hit. It was #1 for seven weeks and wound up #3 for the year behind ON-J's even bigger hit "Physical".

by Anonymousreply 47February 6, 2017 4:11 AM

## Joan Jett or Pat Benatar

1. timb2 and Jake like this.
- 2.
3. Don't do live shows with heels on! Maybe i should have found a different video of Pat Benatar with some better movement.
4. i like pat's voice better.

i met joan once but i did not tell her that.

5. Benatar had much better voice talent and her Husband was a great accompanist on the guitar. Joan had that raw sex appeal, though I don't think she had much interest in the bull pen.
6. IMO FWIW, PAT. Nukes love acronyms.
- 7.
8. Not a fan of "Clone Jett" who has made a career out of covering other people's material. And please don't mention the Runaway's, their music was so primitive they made KISS sound like Rush by comparison. Gotta go with Pat and her hubby Neil Giraldo. Saw them in 1980 and they put on a great little show. She has done more for women in rock than ANYONE in the Runaways could ever dream.
9. I saw Joan Jett live in the early 80's and she got boo'ed relentlessly. She was opening for ZZ Top on the Eliminator Tour, in their hometown of Houston. It was the 3rd night of a 3 day stand, the previous 2 shows had the crowd rush the stage, a few minor injuries but nothing like what happened recently, but they had a bunch of extra security.

The crowd was amped up and they wanted ZZ Top and out comes poor Joan Jett with her Vanilla Rock, she was boo'ed immediately and relentlessly. When she finished her set the crowd cheered, mostly because she was done..... or so we thought. She comes back out for an encore and the boos rained down even louder than before. I'd never seen anything quite like that before and even though I was never a big fan of hers, I felt a little sorry for her. To be fair that was gonna be a tough spot for just about anybody as an opener, but Joan Jett was definitely a poor choice.

10. Pat but I do like Joan
11. Joan Jett when she was in the Runaways with Lita Ford

Sarek and Jake like this.

12. Benatar
13. Saw Pat in 1981 and 2001....she is awesome!!!
14. Pat seemed like she had to pretend to be tough. Joan did not ~~and~~ 19 e Neil Gir19!X9!Xeme 1X8o 1dNa d eite lik tha ed to J  fo