



KEEPER //

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Where does Keeper come from?

“So Keeper comes from a video game. To be honest, the entire Keeper history is from video games.

I only started this project playing Minecraft with my mates, where I met my producer, Jon. After faffing about on Minecraft, I started to send Jon some guitar samples that he could use to produce hip-hop and trap beats for his clients, it was then we realised our similar tastes in music and started to work on my solo stuff that I had been writing.

The name itself comes from Monster Hunter.

Monster Hunter is set in a distant world, where huge creatures roam the globe. The games are about fighting these monsters in forests, deserts, and tundras. Harvesting their resources and collecting minerals as you craft better and more deadly armour and weapons, in an attempt to fight even deadlier enemies.

Keeper is a character that allows me to live out these fantastical stories, discovering planets, fighting monsters, building towns, and exploring the world with my friends.

It's a form of escapism, if you will. A better version of myself, that does all things I couldn't ever do.”

Backstory

“My parents got me playing instruments quite young. First, it was the piano, did that for a year or so, but I never really picked it up again. It took a few years until I picked up another instrument and I went with guitar.

In the early days, it always felt like a chore. It just never clicked. My pre-teen mind always thought of it as homework. It wasn't until I was about 15 when my own musical taste really started kicking. Only then did I even consider it as a career. It always felt unachievable.

Thankfully, I have not only an incredibly supportive family but also a very musical one, (if we're excluding my Dad lol).

They all try to attend my gigs, listen to my songs and share my videos. My sister always goes above and beyond. She's studying law at the moment, with the dream of being a music lawyer, her undergrad was in music business. So she's made it her personal mission to help me succeed. From grammar-checking texts like this to building an EPK in the next room, she's always been there for the Keeper project, even doing artwork for the singles. Honestly, without her, I wouldn't be anywhere near as "successful" (if you can say that) as I am now.”

Influences

“Pop, metal, hip-hop, Rock, and DS music. I love my pop and I love my metal and rock. I also love my weird sounds and samples. So anything from people like Dorian Electra, 100 Geecs, Neck Deep, and Nothing Nowhere, is really up my alley.

Obviously, from years of playing guitar for rock and metal bands, any riff or melody I come up with that sounds like it's off a 2008 posthardcore album. So, me and Jon Cass, try our best to use all the various other instruments to alter the main sound. It takes a while, but it works.

The new stuff is far more Rock orientated. It's made to be played live. While still keeping with the "Keeper" vibe. So, I'd call it alternative pop with a rocky twist. Aka, HyperPunk. I'm trying to keep it as modern as possible. The "Warped scene" has been asking for a change for a while, and whilst there are plenty of new bands doing the modern sound, I'm just trying to do my own spin, like so many others.”

Songwriting

“I'm a guitarist first. It's what I've always been. So when I write songs, I always start off with a riff or chord pattern that I like. Then I'd build on top of that.

As the guitar is the main melody, I add drums next, and then synth for texture. You get the gist.”

Blue eyes

"This song has to be one of my favourites of the first EP. I tried developing my writing style with this one, focusing on metaphors and ways of distorting lyrics to make them ambiguous. The song, from my point of view, is a back and forth between the voices on your shoulder, arguing with the bad in hopes of reaching the 'good'.

Something, which given the current issues, I think is extremely prevalent. It's quite literally telling the despair to 'Fk off' .

Music is a creative outlet that lets me express myself and create and tell stories verbally because my English skills are awful”

Frog

"Frog, it's the more experimental track off of the EP. Or at least it was for me.

I wanted something with a huge, explosive chorus. Something that really demonstrates my love for the pop-punk genre. I think I got that.

Frog, the song, is about teamwork. When life gives you lemons, you open a lemonade stand with your mates. That although problems, upsets, and issues will always be prevalent in life, it's through trial, perseverance, and the people around you that allow you to push through. The lessons from Pokémon, basically.

The song's called Frog, cause I wrote it next to a frog, btw."

Soul

"Soul came about from listening to a bucket ton of Ed Sheeran, Polyphia and 100 Gecs.

Soul came about from a really cool session with Jon Cass. We managed to pump out like 3 tracks in 3 hours. Started working on the lyrics instantly after writing the instrumental.

Dope Day."

FML

"The song's about standing up for yourself. Biting back.

I'm not always very good at that. I tend to just go with the flow, but I've made a promise to myself to look after myself more.

FML is about the climate crisis and wealth disparity. Poor getting poorer, rich getting richer. How the vast majority of us will feel the brunt of global warming, on top of the ever-increasing cost of living, whilst people in power will only really look after themselves.

For the video we took a camera, a speaker, and a pair of ski goggles and just walked around London. Specifically the Waterloo section, with the Eye, the bridges, and the station itself. I am super socially awkward, singing in public, even if it's quiet, is super embarrassing."

Rabbit Punch

“Rabbit Punch began with a cool riff and grew from there. We recorded the guitar first, layered the rhythmic dance 808s on top, and even threw in some cowbell. So we had a very punk, guitar-driven instrumental, and I wanted lyrics that reflected the emotions that the music was giving. I wrote the lyrics during the start of the Partygate scandal, and like many, I was feeling angry and let down. The themes and emotions I was feeling tied in with the angst-filled mood of the track. The lyrics flowed easily and gave the track an old-school punk style, paying homage to angry political punk from the 1970s but with a modern hyper-pop twist.

I believe that everyone is entitled to a home, clothes, to be able to eat, a place to study, to be given a healthy chance at life, and to have enjoyment from life, whether that be material or experiences.

The idea that we lock medical treatment, safety, food, and water behind an artificial paywall is moronic. We've deemed people that have less to be a burden and inconsequential. That their struggles and hardships are but products of their own doing and not the circumstances that have been bestowed upon them by the system. If you can't control where you're born, how can you ever have full control of the opportunities you get?

We don't live in a meritocracy. Pulling yourself up by your bootstraps is a myth; no matter how hard you work, you won't be given the same opportunities as others. For most, life is a continuous uphill struggle. We all face various setbacks, so we must understand each other. Allow for repercussions and system support, otherwise, we won't truly live in a fair and balanced system.”

I SPY

“ISPY is about opening up to the world and feeling more confident in my skin and personality.

I've always been a bit of a loner. Far too goofy, and far too weird. I've never had loads of friends, but I made sure that the ones I do have are good. It took me a while to be confident with my personality. I was always shy when meeting new people. I'd try to hide away. Be as quiet as I could in hopes that they wouldn't notice I was there.

I've never been the biggest person, the loudest, or very aggressive. I don't like sport, I'm not keen on drinking. I love the colour pink, I like painting my nails, I like watching cartoons and anime, Dresses are cool, and unisex clothes are always better than straight-up men's clothes.

I've never felt very confident in myself. Never fully allowed me to like what I liked, in fear of people's thoughts and opinions.

But I've learned to trust myself more. If people like me, they like me. If they don't, they don't.

ISPY is about stopping the people pleasing and being truer to myself and who I am. I'm here. And this is me.

We tried hard to make the music video have the same feel. We wanted to give it a lighter feel. I embrace my inner anchorman, to beat the bad guy and save the power rangers.”