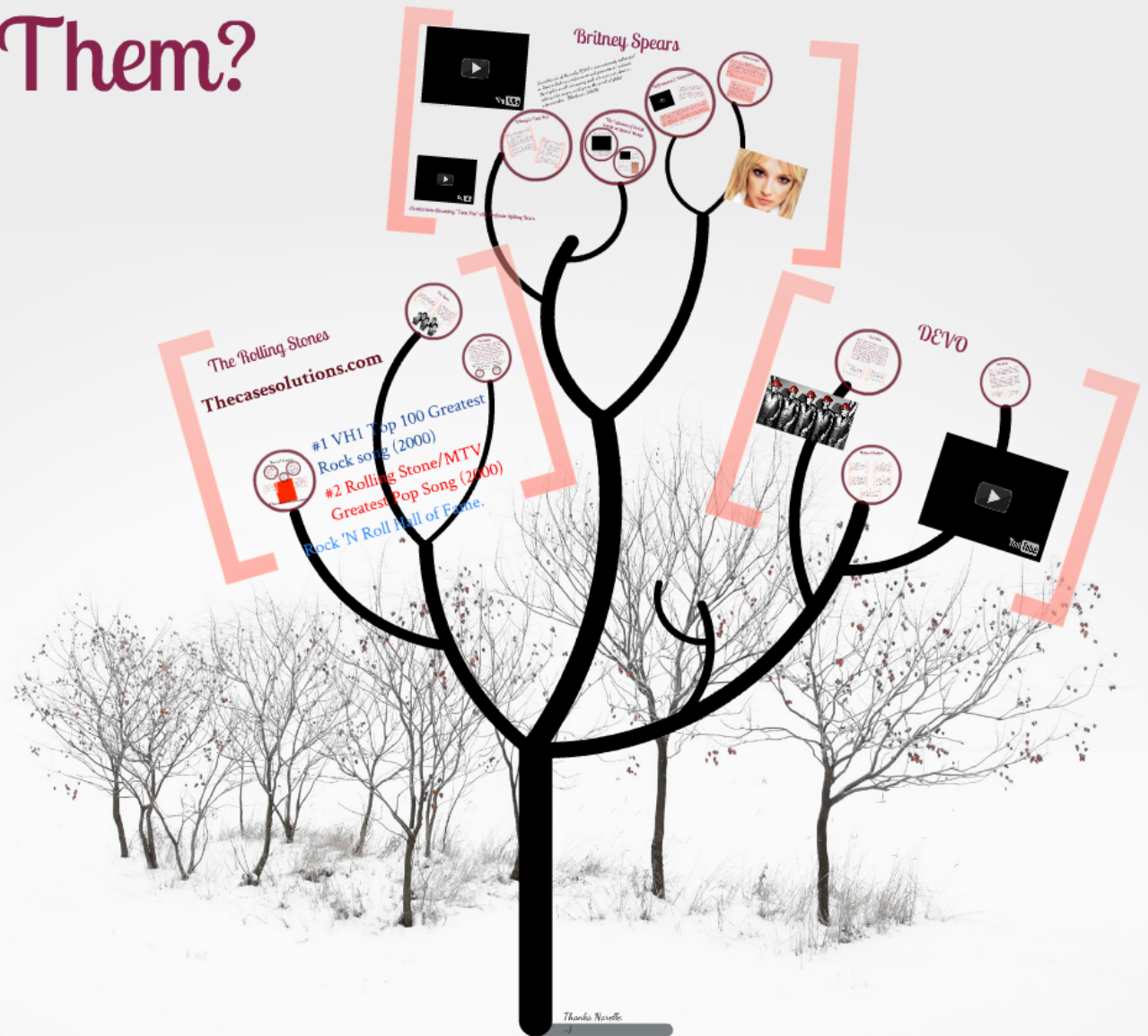
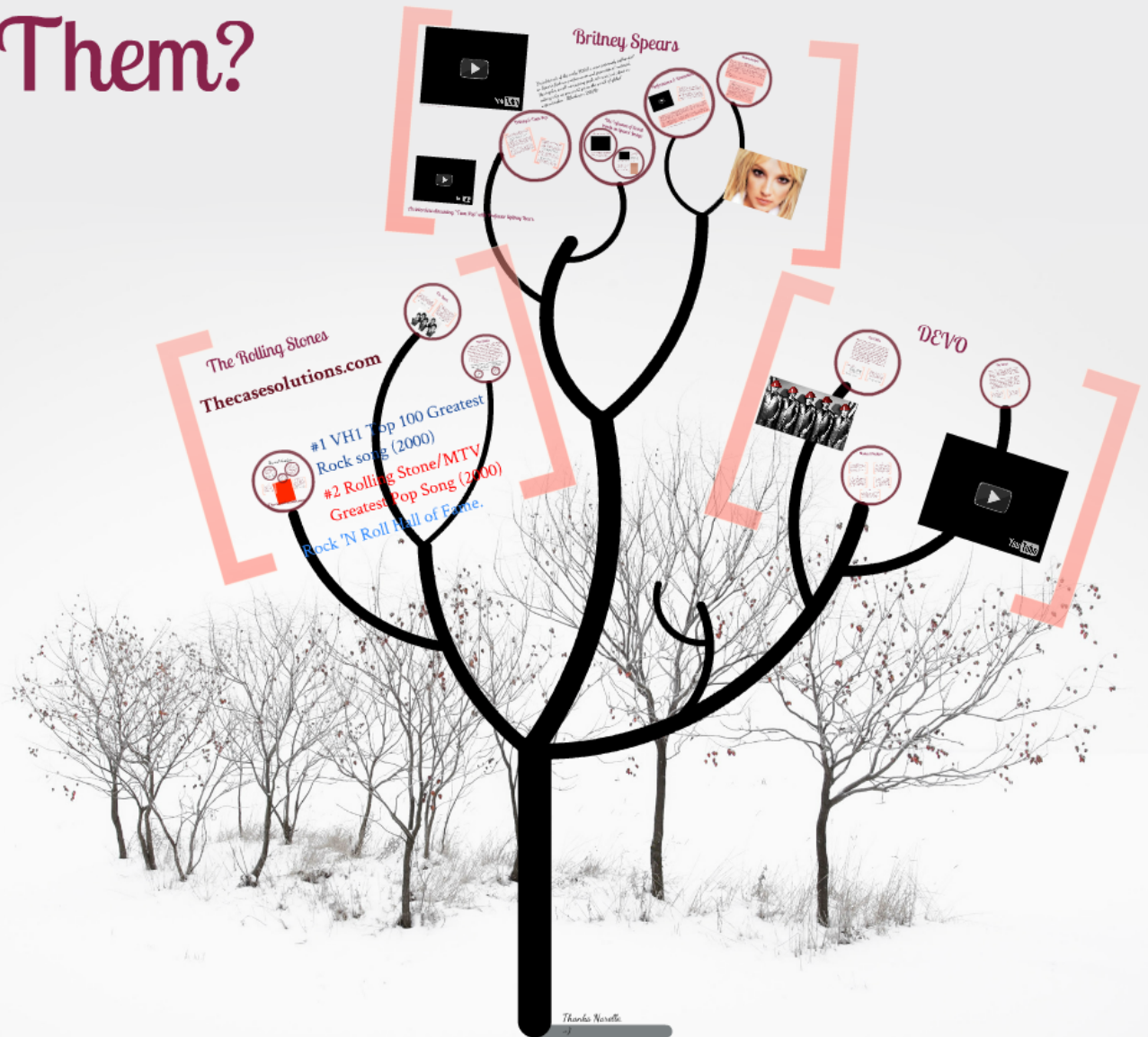


# SomPack: If You Can't Beat Them, Join Them?



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# The Rolling Stones

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#1 VH1 Top 100 Greatest  
Rock song (2000)

#2 Rolling Stone/MTV  
Greatest Pop Song (2000)

Rock 'N Roll Hall of Fame.



# Musical Analysis

## Instrumentation

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The Stones' original features Electric Lead Guitar, Rhythm Guitar, Electric Bass, Drums, Tambourine, and two-part vocals with lead and harmony. The lead Guitar features a 'Gibson Maestro Fuzz-tone' effect, which was hugely popular with fans and admiring guitar players. The effect...

*"...transformed the song into a guitar rock number. It was the first fuzz-tone guitar that the masters (Gibson) had made and due to the popularity of the song, they'd sold out of them by the end of that year."*

## Melody

Guitar Riff: 

With a menacing sound (due to the fuzz-tone and low register), Richards' riff features not just as an introduction, but also as a refrain throughout most of the piece. With a strong, syncopated accent on the highest and longest note, it gives the song its R&B/Rock energy, driving it forward. *"If sound can enter, then it does so in this riff..."*

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Jagger's Vocals are simple and repetitive, ranging from Db4 - Ab5, and often mimicking the 3 note tonal quality of Richards' guitar riff. Jagger even stays put for most of the chorus with a yelled quality in the tone of E.

## Rhythm/Structure

Looking at the rhythm of this song...  
Concrete time, overdubbing rock beat are the obvious and obvious guitar. Using these as a foundation, the lead guitar, free bass lines, tambourine and melody provide an active balance to the heavy rock beat with strong, energetic guitar.

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The song itself has a typical rock & roll structure of the era...  
...with the song starting with a verse, then leading to the chorus, which includes a bridge or instrumental. When the chorus is repeated, the title phrase serves as the song's repeating phrase. The song includes a full verse, which is a beautiful piece of music. The song ends with a concluding line, which is the phrase 'Nervous'. The song is a classic of the era, and the song is a classic of the era.

## Lyrics

The lyrics of this song are quite sexual, with "I can't get no satisfaction" (can be taken in regards to sexual satisfaction) as the re-occurring lyric. Professor Tumble-Pebble has much more to say on the topic...

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## Harmony

The chords of this song remain simple, alternating between the four chords A, E, D and B7. This simplicity reflects many other rock songs of the 60s, from bands such as 'The Beatles' and 'The Monkeys'. (Blah Blah)  
The song is a representative of the era not only because it was a frontrunner of new sounds and technologies such as the fuzz-box, but thanks to the music, the Rolling Stones, who became one of the most famous and popular bands of all time, were set up as the bad boys of Rock 'N Roll.

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*"Every aspect of the song — the title, the lyric, its melody and form, Jagger's singing and Richards's guitar playing, the sound of the band, and the rebelliousness of its beat — embodied the rebellious image the band wanted to project."*

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## Instrumentation

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*"...transformed the song into a gutsy rock number. It was the first fuzzbox guitar that the makers (Gibson) had made, and due to the popularity of the song, they'd sold out of them by the end of that year."*

## Melody

Guitar Riff:



With a menacing sound (due to the fuzz-tone and low register), Richards riff features not just as an introduction, but also as a refrain throughout most of the piece. With a strong, syncopated accent on the highest and longest note, it gives the song it's R&B/Rock energy, driving it forward. *"If sound can sneer, then it does so in this riff..."*

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Jagger's Vocals are simple and repetitive, ranging from Db4 - Ab5, and often mimicking the 3 note tonal quality of Richards' guitar riff. Jagger even stays put for most of the chorus with a yelled quality in the tone of E.

## Rhythm/Structure

Laying down the rhythm of this song's Common-time, unrelenting rock beat are the drums and rhythmic guitar. Using these as a foundation, the lead guitar, free bass lines, tambourine and melody provide an active balance to the heavy rock beat with strong, energetic syncopation.

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The song doesn't feature a typical rock & roll structure of the era...

*"...a rock-era song typically begins with a verse, then builds toward the chorus, which includes at least one vocal hook. Here, the sequence is reversed. The title phrase comes where the verse typically appears. The music builds toward a high point, which is sustained for several measures. In a song with a conventional form, this would be the chorus. However... the lyric is verselike... (changing every time)".*

The song follows an A, B, A, B1, A, B2, A1 structure.

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*"Every aspect of the song – the title, its lyric, its melody and form, Jagger's singing and Richards's guitar playing, the sound of the band, and the relentlessness of its beat – embodied the rebellious image the band wanted to project."*