

Summershine © 2012 Kevin Antrobus

Summers are a big part of who I am. I grew up at the lake. My parents were both educators (what went wrong here?) so we got in the car every July 1st and drove to the lake. On August 30th, we came back. So many good memories came from there. Dirt biking, target shooting, water skiing, bush fire parties, hangin' out, and of course, girls.

I met some guys, when I was 15, who had started a band. I had never really considered it before that. My other buddy had a tape with Iron Maiden – The Number of the Beast on one side, and Scorpions – Blackout on the other. It's all we listened to the entire summer. That's when I became a metal head. I'd sing along, and try to figure out the words to the songs. I guess that's when the whole thing started. My sister owns that cottage by the lake now, and I try to get out there once a year to feel the Summershine one more time.

There were some girls at the lake, of course, and one day they had company come out and visit. Two boys. And they were staying with our girls... One of them brought an electric guitar with him, and he was playing with distortion. It sounded pretty cool, and the girls were certainly impressed. I thought, if he can play, I sure as hell can too! So as soon as I got home I saved up my money and bought a crappy black Strat copy from a local music store. Somehow I was lucky enough to get hooked up with [Jack Semple](#) as my guitar teacher. His method was to teach me to play by ear. He taught me how to play Maiden, The Scorpions, Priest, Ozzy, Sabbath, Krokus. What ever I wanted. To this day, I can't read sheet music, but I don't care, because I can play what ever I want. Jack went on to win the national Guitar Wars competition. If you know who Jack Semple is, I don't need to say anymore about him. If you don't, it's your loss.



I wrote Summershine to try and capture how I felt as a wayward youth who got to live a normal life every summer, but that made me the bad ass of the lake. It was kind of my duty to corrupt as many people as I could. All I knew was everything. But you grow up you know, and you can't spend the whole summer at the lake anymore. There's rent to pay, car payments, GUITAR payments! I know it was my last big summer, but I wasn't ready to face it. The ultimate beach song of all time, to me, is Wipe Out, so I stole the feel of the main riff from that song, pumped in some serious distortion, and played it like a rock guy should today.

Lyrics

Bangin' our heads against the heart
Once last summer so let it start
And all I know is everything about it all
All I know is let 'er rip before the fall

And I ain't gonna lie I'm gonna make my play
We got this one last summer don't piss it away
And all I know is everything about it all



McConnell Lake – N. Ontario

All I know is let rip it up before the fall

'Cause when the sun shines down
We'll all be laughin' and a hangin' around
And when the sun shines down
We'll turn it up and then we'll turn it around
But when the night comes down
We're gonna party till the sun comes up again.
Doin' fine in the Summershine

I'm going for broke 'cause my money's spent
The beach and the sky they don't charge no rent
And all I know is everything about it all
All I know is rip it up before the fall