

HALSEY RAG'N'BONE MAN ED SHEERAN LORDE CHAINS MOCKERS

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Rag'n'Bone Man

The Names Behind *the Music*

Halsey

was born as Ashley Frangipane in Clark, New Jersey, where she was raised. She is the daughter of Nicole, who works for security in a hospital, and Chris Frangipane, who manages a car dealership. She is of Italian, Hungarian, and Irish descent on her mother's side and African-American on her father's side. Halsey has two younger brothers, Sevan and Dante. Growing up, Halsey played the violin, viola, and cello until moving onto the acoustic guitar when she was 14. In one of her first interviews, Halsey stated she was diagnosed with bipolar disorder around the age of 16 or 17. When she was 18, Halsey encountered financial trouble and music became a way to pay her rent. She played numerous acoustic shows in different cities under various stage names. She chose «Halsey» as her moniker because it is an anagram of her real name as well as a street in Brooklyn where she spent a lot of time as a teenager. Halsey originally planned on going to college to major in fine arts, but after realizing she could not afford it, she instead enrolled in a community college as a creative writing major.

Halsey began her career by posting cover songs on YouTube under her real name. In 2012, she recorded a parody of Taylor Swift's «I Knew You Were Trouble» called «The Haylor Song» about Swift's relationship with One Direction member Harry Styles, and posted it on her Tumblr account. In 2014, Halsey recorded a song called «Ghost» and posted it on SoundCloud. The song gained Halsey attention and she signed with the Astralwerks record label. She subsequently released her debut EP titled *Room 93* on October 27, 2014. Four of the five

songs on the extended play contained an accompanying video.

Halsey is an electropop artist. Growing up, Halsey's father listened to The Notorious B.I.G., Slick Rick, Bone Thugs-n-Harmony, and 2Pac while her mother listened to The Cure, Alanis Morissette, and Nirvana. She says this has influenced her. She has called Panic! at the Disco the «band that changed [her] life» and credits Lady Gaga for giving her the strength to be herself. Halsey has mentioned Long Island rock band Brand New as both an influence and a favorite of hers, once changing her biography on Instagram to «the devil and God are raging inside me», a reference to their third album of the same name. The biggest influence on her live performances is Adam Lazzara, the frontman of Taking Back Sunday, as she said «One of the most inspiring things I've ever seen is watching [Taking Back

Sunday] live and watching Adam use that microphone as a prop and I thought yep, I'm gonna do that. «Halsey's other influences include Kanye West, The Weeknd, Amy Winehouse, and Bright Eyes, as well as the film directors Quentin Tarantino, Harmony Korine, and Larry Clark. She has said «there's plenty of musicians that I love and respect, but I think that I'm the most inspired by cinema.»



Graham was born in Uckfield, East Sussex on 29 January 1985. He attended the school Ringmer Community College, and was then expelled and enrolled at Uckfield Community Technology College. At the age of 15, he MCed with a drum and bass crew using the handle Rag 'N' Bonez, inspired by watching repeats of the 1970s British sitcom Steptoe and Son. When he moved to Brighton, his friend Gi3mo formed the Rum Committee and invited him to join the group as well. He started performing at Slip-jam B, where he met a lot of people who helped him to start his

musical career. Over the next few years, they supported hip hop artists Pharoahe Monch and KRS-One at Brighton's Concorde 2, and released their own album through Bandcamp.

At 19, encouraged by his father, Graham sang at a blues jam in a local pub. Graham self-released a vocal EP called Blues Town. He got booked for acoustic gigs, including one supporting Joan Armatrading at Brighton Dome.

Around 2011, Graham started working with UK hip hop label High Focus,

releasing a number of recordings with them such as; a collaboration E.P with MC/Producer Leaf Dog under the name (Dog 'n Bone E.P [2013]) and also a project with MC/Producer Dirty Dike under the name (Put That Soul On Me [2014]).

Shortly afterwards Graham began to collaborate with record producer Mark Crew, who at the time was working on Bastille's debut album Bad Blood. In 2013 Graham signed a publishing deal with Warner Chappell which enabled him to pursue his music career full-time.

In 2014, working in collaboration with Mark Crew, Graham released an EP, Wolves through Best Laid Plans Records, containing nine tracks with guests including rapper Vince Staples, Stig Of The Dump, and Kate Tempest. The follow up, in 2015 was the Disfigured EP, also released through Best Laid Plans Records. Lead track «Bitter End» was supported, then play-listed on BBC Radio 1 Xtra, and made it onto BBC Radio 1's 'In New Music We Trust' playlist.

His first hit single «Human» was released on Columbia Records in July 2016. It peaked at number one in the Official Singles Charts in Austria, Germany, Belgium and Switzerland. It was certified Gold in Germany, Italy, Sweden, Switzerland, Austria, Belgium and the Netherlands.

Rag'n'Bone Man

