Listening Log - Love and Sex

Peter Rauscher

Intro

The track I listened to this week was Prince's "Gett Off", an intentionally mispelled track from his 1991 album "Diamonds and Pearls".

Description

The track starts with a bassline and a drum beat that pulse and set a steady frequency for the rest of the song. The electric instruments create a body-moving sensation that begs listeners to groove along. Prince's signature falsetto add a layer of sensuality to the track, though the lyrics are overtly sexual as well, with explicit language and blunt euphemisms describing his sexual desires. The imagery in the music video accompanies this as well. The track concludes with an extended instrumental outro that builds in intensity, much like another experience well known in sexual encounters.

Experience

I'm not personally the target audience for this kind of song. Though "Gett Off" is provocative and energetic, I find sexual experiences to be more interpersonal and sensual than overtly animalistic like depicted here. Prince's use of explicit language and metaphors causes me to cringe in my seat as I listen. However, though the lyrics are certainly explicit, I did find myself occasionally grooving along to the guitar riff and bassline in particular, as I do usually love that funk. Overall, "Gett Off" is a song that I can see sexual themes in, but does not relate very well to my own experience with sexuality.