

# INPUT

Q&A

## WTF is an NFT? Allow Linkin Park's Mike Shinoda to explain

The rapper/producer talks to Input about launching his new single, "Happy Endings," via a blockchain-backed auction site.

<https://www.inputmag.com/culture/linkin-park-mike-shinoda-happy-endings-nft-interview>



**V**erifiable digital scarcity is, suddenly, all the rage. **NFTs** — non-fungible tokens, or digital collectibles that use blockchain technology as authentication — are everywhere.

The centuries-old auction house [Christie's is getting in on the action](#); for the first time, it's accepting cryptocurrency for a NFT piece by the digital artist [Beeple](#). Artist Chris Torres just [sold a one-of-a-kind, slightly modified NFT version](#) of his famous GIF [Nyan Cat](#) — you know, the animated flying feline with a Pop-Tart body — for nearly \$600,000. And earlier this month, Lindsay Lohan [sold an image of her face](#) as a digital asset; since changing hands a couple of times, it's now valued at almost \$50,000.

Last Friday, Linkin Park cofounder Mike Shinoda became the first major-label artist to launch a single — the buoyant Endings," featuring iann dior and UPSAHL — via [NFT auction](#). A 75-second clip of the song, accompanied by Shinoda's animation of artwork by contemporary

artist [Cain Caser](#) and the musician himself, was sold in an edition of 10 on the online marketplace Zora. Here's number 10 of 10, which went for 4 [WETH](#) (around \$6,600):



All of Shinoda's proceeds from NFT sales — now and, since he retains partial ownership of works, in the future — go to ArtCenter College of Design in Pasadena, Calif. According to [the terms of sale](#), NFT owners “have no right to license, commercially exploit, reproduce, distribute, prepare derivative works, publicly perform, or publicly display the NFT or the music or the artwork therein.” Or, as writer Matty Karas of MusicREDEF puts it, “you’re basically getting a [digitally autographed MP3](#).” (However, it should be noted that early “Happy Endings” NFT owners will receive a physical print of the single artwork signed by Shinoda and Caser.)

The 44-year-old Shinoda, who also has a hip-hop side project called Fort Minor, recently spoke to *Input* via Zoom about his “Happy Endings” NFTs and what’s on the non-fungible horizon. The following conversation has been edited for length and clarity.

### **How did you get into NFTs?**

I’ve been watching NFTs for a while. Linkin Park have like a VC arm, and a few years ago we did a bunch of meetings with different companies about investment and the idea of creating blockchain-related merchandise. And I was like, “I feel like we’re ready for it. But fans aren’t ready for it. Nobody’s going to buy it.” So we just stayed away from it. And it wasn’t until this year when I was like, “Oh, people are ready.” Regular people really are collecting this stuff. And it’s not just a couple of billionaires getting involved.

### **What do you think has made regular people ready for NFTs?**

Sometimes it’s just like the conversation moves in that direction. Part of it is the big headline sales, like the Beeple stuff or [FVCKRENDER](#). I think that the [Gods Unchained](#) [game on the Ethereum blockchain] thing is really cool. Even [CryptoKitties](#) — I think those are great. And all

of those little things add up, and it just has to hit your radar in a way that you go, “Oh, that’s something I would buy. I’d collect that.”

**Lots of people have no idea what an NFT is. How do you convince people that they’re an actual thing, since they’re not tangible?**

Creators always come to me with “Wait, what are our rights?” And it’s like, “Okay, well, here’s what I think your rights are. Your rights are what you tell people your rights are — tell them what you’re selling, and then that’s what you’re selling.”

There’s nobody who is serious about NFTs who really humors the idea that what you’re selling is the copyright or the master. That’s generally a tall order for anybody who’s a creator. And on the rare occasion where that’s the case, they will make a big deal out of it. In other words, if you buy an MP3 of a song as an NFT, you don’t own the song. It’s the equivalent of buying a print of a piece of artwork or buying an original piece of artwork. Just because you buy a print of Mickey Mouse doesn’t mean that you get to put Mickey Mouse on everything.



The average person has a really hard time wrapping their head around the idea that you can take something that you posted on Instagram, and then post the exact same thing on Zora and make \$1,000. They’re like, “Wait, why the hell would my video make \$1,000 on Zora since I’m already posting it for free everywhere else? I don’t understand.” It’s like, just because you don’t understand — just embrace it. It’s not about the physical item. It’s about the concept of ownership. It’s the concept of what is valuable to a collector.

**From a collector’s point of view, I could imagine fans saying, “I can stream your song on Spotify for free as much as I want. Why should I bother buying this NFT?”**

From a collector’s point of view, if an MP3 of a song is a one of one, and I trust that creator that they’re going to keep it one of one, then the value is maintained or the value increases. If somebody’s an opportunist crooked jerk, and they go, “This is a rare thing,” and then they go,

“Just kidding, I’m making five more — I’m effectively decreasing the value of your thing,” that’ll get around. Eventually, there will be systems that will help people rate creators in that sense.

**And since you're kind of a household name, I presume people don't think that you're going to be an “opportunist crooked jerk” about this.**

I hope not! I’ve tried music and visual as an NFT. I’ve tried just visual; I’ve tried GIFs. Those have all performed differently. I’ve yet to do one that’s just the music NFT, like a full track beginning to end, one of one. That’ll be soon. I’ll do that and see how it goes.

I always put some version of an explanation of what you’re buying, like a product description. You can resell it, but you can’t duplicate it and mass-produce it. You don’t have a right to then like make CDs out of my MP3 and go sell them. Same as YouTube, by the way. You can’t just rip an Avengers movie and put it up and expect Disney to not issue you a takedown.



**“MANAGEMENT** was  
like, ‘You’re **CRAZY.**”



**So tell me about the sale of the NFTs of “Happy Endings.” What was the price range for those 10?**

I don't quite know right now, but I can guess. So here’s the way it worked: I had already put up a couple things on Zora, and I have this I had this single called “Happy Endings” coming out. It’s basically like a pop single. So we’re all ramped up for this big release. And I said to management, “I want to debut it with an NFT,” and they’re like, “You’re crazy. How in the world are we going to make that happen?” My attitude is like, “I know the timeline’s short, but we can work it out.” And that's what we did.

The highest bid was five Wrapped Ethereum [around \$8,000]. The lowest was a couple hundred dollars. And as soon as the initial sales were over, I said, “Surprise, everybody who owns one as of tomorrow is going to get a signed, one-of-10 print of the art. So you have 24 hours if you want to resell it. But whoever owns it at this time tomorrow gets a print.” I kind of expected somebody to go to the person who only spent 200 bucks and be like, “I will give you \$15,000 for that NFT that you spent 200 bucks on.” I expected it to change hands. And it didn’t change hands.

**What do you ascribe that to?**

I think the people who bought them were legit fans.

**What do you make of the whole NFT market right now? Is it a bubble?**

In that world, they call the bubble very “frothy.” Did you ever read [The Long Tail](#) book? So I think it turns into a lot more of a longtail, where you get certain things that are really worth it, like a great product or a great piece of art that will earn that kind of big price tag. And then everything else will go down very sharply, like this NFT was \$50 or \$20. There’ll be more of that.

**That animated cat GIF just sold for almost \$600,000.**

Dude, I was so happy about that one. I loved that. Because I can’t imagine in my in my wildest dreams that that person earned the money that they deserve for creating Nyan Cat. Nyan Cat’s like a ubiquitous internet image. It’s like Pepe the Frog and all those other memes. Nyan Cat is a funny piece of art, but it’s like *world famous*. And there’s not even any words to — it’s the perfect NFT. I thought it should go for *more*. I bet \$600K is just the starting block for the value of that piece.

**You look at that and a lot of people think that this is just going to be the province of the rich.**

I think the big stuff, which people decide has real value, will be fewer and farther apart as we go. I think it’ll be more like skins for video games and prints and art. Like when [Shepard Fairey](#) releases a new painting or a new image, he might do a one-of-kind hand-stenciled piece. And then he might do multiples of the same thing that are stenciled by other people. He might photograph it, make a print, sell those cheap, right? Let’s just say the original is \$100,000. The prints are like 100 bucks, right? I think that’ll happen. That seems to me to be an inevitable place that NFTs end up, where you get some things of high value and high rarity, like Shiny Pokémon card style. And then you get things that are common cards.

**Back to song itself. The lyrics of “Happy Endings” talk about how the last year was a “shitshow.” How shitty was Mike Shinoda’s year?**

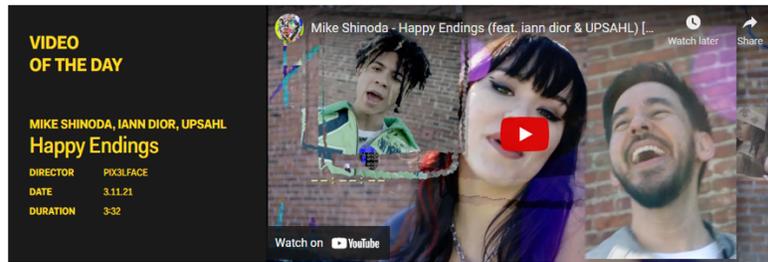
It’s been okay. I tend to be very optimistic and try to look for silver linings. To the annoyance of my wife, by the way. She’s like, “Really? You’re gonna ‘silver lining’ me right now on this thing that sucks?” So yeah, if we’re real, 2020 was pretty garbage. I can’t imagine another time in my whole life when I would just wrap up a whole year and say, “That year sucked.” And last year completely deserved it.

The thing about that song is that I felt like I had really funneled a lot all of that anxious, negative energy into it. And did it in a kind of playful way. Which felt like the right tone to me. So was it that bad of a year? I mean, worse for some other people than for me. But I don’t like being stuck inside.

**SPIN**

## VIDEO OF THE DAY

<https://www.spin.com>



## Los Angeles Times

### \$69 million for digital art? The NFT craze, explained

<https://www.latimes.com/business/technology/story/2021-03-11/nft-explainer-crypto-trading-collectible>



Before there was Beeple, there was William Shatner.

Last July, the “Star Trek” actor, singer and “TekWar” author created a series of trading cards featuring images from his career — a telegram from a producer, a photo from his first modeling shoot, an X-ray of his teeth — and listed them as unique digital tokens for sale online — so-called NFTs.

Within nine minutes, the entire run of 125,000 tokens sold out, for approximately a dollar each. At the time, it seemed like a lot of money for digital artifacts with no real-world value. Now, not so much.

Known as NFTs, such tokens have taken off in recent weeks in what’s either an ecologically destructive speculative bubble or a promising new funding model for art and media, depending on who you ask.

In the months since Shatner’s tokens hit the market, companies have sprung up to create trading cards out of popular NBA highlight clips, and artists have rushed to cash in on the craze. On Thursday, a digital

collage by graphic artist Mike Winkelmann, who goes by Beeple, [sold](#) in a Christie’s auction for \$69 million. The auction house declared Winkelmann “among the top three most valuable living artists,” but the escalating value of his work — as recently as last month pieces were going for single-digit millions — reflects a wider frenzy around all things NFT.

The basic idea of the technology is fairly straightforward. An NFT — which stands for non-fungible token — is like a certificate of authenticity for an object, real or virtual. The unique digital file is stored on a blockchain network, with any changes in ownership verified by a worldwide network and logged in public. That means that the chain of custody is marked in the file itself permanently, and it’s practically impossible to swap in a fake.

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Mike Shinoda, one of the original members of Linkin Park, the rap-rock nu metal band that spawned its [own venture capital firm in 2015](#), became one of the first musicians to launch a single in parallel with an NFT in late February. Buyers paid thousands of dollars for one of an edition of ten 75-second clips of the song “Happy Endings,” accompanied by an animated illustration, with proceeds going to ArtCenter College of Design in Pasadena.

In Shinoda’s case, the buyers also got a physical signed copy of the album art in the mail. But the real world is besides the point. “Just embrace it. It’s not about the physical item,” Shinoda said in [an interview with Input Magazine](#). “It’s about the concept of ownership.” Sure, why not?



## MIKE SHINODA DROPS “HAPPY ENDINGS” VIDEO WITH IANN DIOR AND UPSAHL

The new visual is raising money for MusiCares.

<https://www.altpress.com/news/mike-shinoda-iann-dior-upsahl-happy-endings-video/>

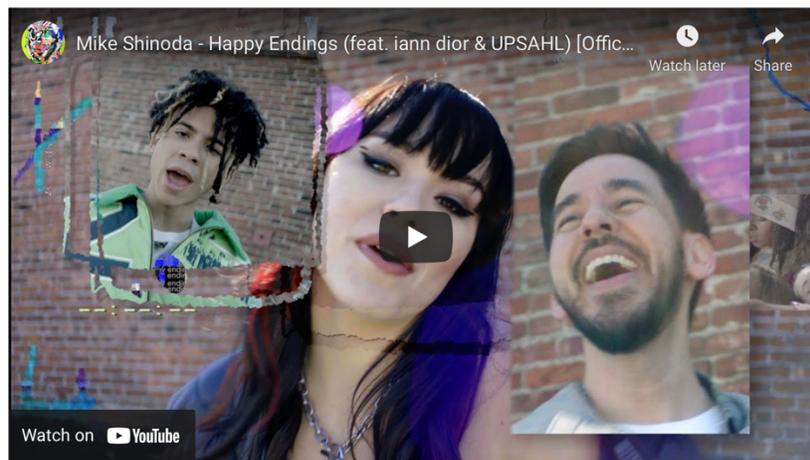


Last month, [Mike Shinoda](#) made history with his new single “Happy Endings” which features [iann dior](#) and [UPSAHL](#). After its debut, [Shinoda](#) became the first major label artist to successfully launch a single through NFT Auction. All of the proceeds from the auction were donated to the [ArtCenter College of Design](#) in Pasadena, California.

Now, the trio are raising money for another cause with their colorful new ‘90s-inspired video for “Happy Endings.” Through the lively visual, donations are being collected for [MusiCares’ COVID-19 Relief Foundation](#).

For the “Happy Endings” video, Shinoda teamed back up with [dior](#) and [UPSAHL](#). Directed by [PIX3LFACE](#) ([Skrillex](#), [the Used](#), [Steve Aoki](#)), the dynamic visual was shot in downtown Los Angeles and features some throwback cartoon animations that were hand-drawn by Shinoda. Alongside UPSAHL’s strong emotional hooks and dior’s distinct vocals, Shinoda brings his own signature rhymes fans will instantly recognize. Together, the trio created a powerful genre-bending collaboration that flows together seamlessly all while set in front of an urban backdrop.

The new video was launched as part of [MusiCares’ COVID-19 Relief Foundation](#). Through their partnership with [the Recording Academy](#), the organizations aim to support musicians and artists struggling as a result of the [global pandemic](#). Fans are able to donate through the “Happy Endings” [YouTube video link](#) or can direct their donations [here](#). So far, the video has raised over \$500 for the cause since premiering on Thursday.



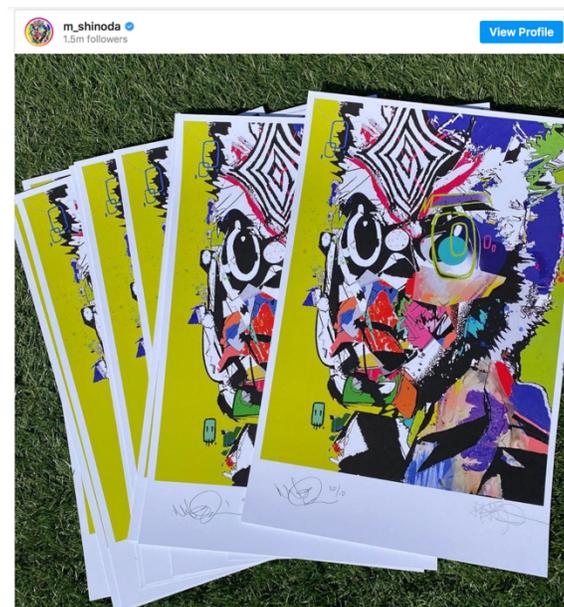
Along with [MusiCares](#), Shinoda, dior and UPSAHL also raised money for the ArtCenter College of Design with “Happy Endings.” Last month, Shinoda launched the new collab through NFT Auction, an avenue of selling digital art that has grown in popularity over recent months.

Non-fungible token (NFT) [is a cryptographic token](#) that is made up of unique information that cannot be interchangeable, unlike the cryptocurrency Bitcoin. Most NFTs are part of the Ethereum blockchain and can really be anything in a digital form such as paintings and music. These days, the technology is largely being used to sell digital art, making all of this a new way of collecting.

For the “Happy Endings” auction, Shinoda collaborated with contemporary artist [Cain Caser](#) who created 10 animated artworks that were accompanied by a 75-second clip of the new song. The pieces were then sold through the online marketplace [Zora](#).

Shinoda told [Input Mag](#) that the bids for the “Happy Endings” pieces really varied in price. One of the art pieces did sell for 5 Wrapped Ethereum (WETH) which is equivalent to around \$8,000. Meanwhile, the lowest bid was for a couple of hundred dollars. After the auction closed, Shinoda gave the winners a chance to resell the digital art pieces by announcing he would be personally signing art prints for them.

“As soon as the initial sales were over, I said, ‘Surprise, everybody who owns one as of tomorrow is going to get a signed, one-of-10 print of the art. So you have 24 hours if you want to resell it. But whoever owns it at this time tomorrow gets a print,’” Shinoda told Input Mag. “I kind of expected somebody to go to the person who only spent 200 bucks and be like, ‘I will give you \$15,000 for that NFT that you spent 200 bucks on.’ I expected it to change hands. And it didn’t change hands.”



Although Shinoda is the first major label artist to successfully launch a single through NFT Auction, he certainly won’t be the last. Over the past few months, various creators have been getting more involved in the cryptocurrency art market.

Earlier this month, [Grimes launched a cryptocurrency art collection](#) that featured one-of-a-kind art pieces. She even included a few unreleased songs from [her possible upcoming album](#) in some of the digital artworks. In the end, [Grimes’ auctions](#) grossed nearly [\\$6 million in just 20 minutes](#).

As well, [Kings Of Leon are the first band to ever release an entire album](#) as an NFT. On March 5, the band put out their new LP [When You See Yourself](#) in the form of a non-fungible token. Meanwhile, [Shawn Mendes also recently launched a collection of digital goods as NFTs](#). Based on the past success of these NFT Auctions, it’s no surprise the tech is becoming more popular each and every day. In fact, Shinoda already has more [artwork up for auction on Zora](#).

## More on Mike Shinoda, iann dior and UPSAHL:

Last year, Shinoda didn't let the global [COVID-19](#) pandemic keep him from making music. In fact, he found a way to connect with his fans more than ever during a time when most felt disconnected.

Every morning, he took to [Twitch](#) and social media to livestream and teach music production. As well, he teamed up with his fans to produce new tracks using both their ideas and feedback. As a result, Shinoda put out three [Dropped Frame](#) albums, [each compiled of songs created on Twitch](#).

"Every day I was coming to the studio and making stuff," Shinoda exclusively told [Alternative Press](#) in July. "At one point, I realized I just needed to connect with people. So I turned on my phone and went live on [Instagram](#) and shared that writing session with the fans. They loved it, and the chat was really fun and vibrant, so I did it again."

Amid all of this, Shinoda also helped celebrate the 20th anniversary of [Linkin Park's](#) debut album [Hybrid Theory](#). After [dropping some throwback merchandise](#), [they sent fans on a cryptic scavenger hunt](#) before releasing [the Hybrid Theory demo "She Couldn't"](#). Shortly after, they [also released an early version](#) of ["In The End" which is one of many unheard demos off](#) of the [Hybrid Theory \(20th Anniversary Edition\)](#).

Of course, Linkin Park weren't the only ones celebrating the [Hybrid Theory](#) anniversary. [FEVER 333](#) frontman [Jason Aalon Butler](#) and [grandson debuted renditions of two classic songs off of the album](#) for [Spotify's](#) Singles series. As well, producer and keyboardist [Jordan Fish revealed just how much Hybrid Theory has inspired Bring Me The Horizon's](#) upcoming music.

"Even with the record we're doing right now, we still reference them," Jordan Fish told [NME](#) last year. "They're [Linkin Park] one of those bands that I always have in the back of my mind when we're thinking about where a song should go next. It's the Bible for [heavy](#), catchy music that combines [electronic](#) and [pop](#) music, which is our brief. They just covered so much ground and did it with such class on that album."

As for dior, he's been staying very busy this past year, too. Last year, he joined forces with [Travis Barker](#) and [Machine Gun Kelly](#) for ["Sick And Tired"](#), off of dior's new album [I'm Gone](#). Not long after, [he collaborated with the duo again](#) for ["nothing inside"](#), off of [Tickets To My Downfall](#). In September, he also joined [Carlie Hanson](#) on [her politically-charged single "Ego"](#).

Although this past year was full of explosive collabs for dior, he also took part in plenty of other projects. He appeared alongside [MGK](#), [Tommy Lee](#) and [24kGoldn](#) among others [for the musical podcast HALLOWEEN IN HELL](#). For the podcast, dior was featured on various songs including ["Empty Souls"](#) and ["In Hell It's Always Halloween."](#) Last month, dior also starred alongside [phem](#), [Tyler Posey](#), [Oliver Tree](#) and [jdxn](#) in [another musical podcast called Valentine's Day In Hell](#).

For UPSAHL, "Happy Endings" isn't the only new collab she's released this year. In fact, 2021 has already been pretty busy for her. Earlier this month, she collaborated with [DREAMERS](#) and [Big Boi](#) on ["Palm Reader."](#) As well, [she revisited her song "Drugs"](#) for a new collab with [blackbear](#) and debuted her sole single ["STOP!"](#) this year.

All of these tracks follow up her 2020 EP [Young Life Crisis](#) which was released back in October. As it turns out, the new EP was a result of the COVID-19 crisis. Last November, UPSAHL told [Women In Pop](#) how coronavirus lockdown led her to write the latest release.

"I've learned more about myself this year," she told Women In Pop. "I've grown more as a person than ever before. 2020 has sparked an existential crisis for all of us, so here's mine. 21-years-old, trying to figure out what the fuck I'm doing, and raging through it all."

What are your reactions to Mike Shinoda's new video with iann dior and UPSAHL? Let us know in the comments below.

# billboard

## 10 Cool New Pop Songs to Get You Through The Week: Jorja Smith, Against The Current, Meg Myers & More

<https://www.billboard.com/articles/columns/pop/9541065/10-cool-new-pop-songs-jorja-smith-against-the-current-meg-myers/>



### Mike Shinoda, iann Dior, Upsahl, "Happy Endings"

Okay, who had a collaboration between a Linkin Park star + a Hot 100 No. 1 hitmaker + a Dua Lipa "Good in Bed" co-writer on their 2021 bingo card? We predict that the feel-good "Happy Endings" will be in rotation all summer long.

# NME

## Mike Shinoda names most polarizing Linkin Park album

"It wasn't as commercially successful as the earlier ones because nothing could be"

<https://www.nme.com/news/music/mike-shinoda-names-most-polarising-linkin-park-album-2899864>



[Linkin Park's Mike Shinoda](#) has discussed which of the band's albums he thinks is the most polarizing.

Speaking in a new interview with Anthony Fantano, Shinoda talked about the band's back catalogue and which one of their seven albums seems to divide fans the most.

Shinoda revealed: "A Thousand Suns' which was our fourth record, it wasn't as commercially successful as the earlier ones because nothing could be – that would be impossible."

He continued: "It was very polarising. It got one or five stars by everybody, so we ended up with three-star ratings all over the board because half the people hated it with all of their heart and soul."

Even though the 2010 album was viewed by fans as a big change in direction and the furthest they had veered from their breakout 2000 album 'Hybrid Theory', it still debuted at Number One on the Billboard album chart.



Shinoda then talked about how fans have come around to the album. "Now we're at a point where if you ask the average person who's relatively familiar with the band what their favorite record is, a lot of them say that one," he said. "It's changed, the whole relationship with the band has changed."

“People go, like, ‘Man, that was like the first album I ever bought, that’s how I learned to play guitar! And then I moved on to guitar that was harder...’ And that was part of the thing we were like, ‘Yeah, Brad [Delson] could actually play much more difficult stuff...’ But we loved how that sounded and we wanted to make stuff that a kid who couldn’t really play guitar, and he’d be like, ‘Yeah, let’s play this riff!’”

He concluded: “I appreciate that being older. I do love the idea of being in a position to maybe be a good teacher or a role model if I know something that somebody else doesn’t know.”



Meanwhile, [Mike Shinoda has shared his brand new single ‘Happy Endings’, featuring iann dior and UPSAHL.](#)

# LOUDER

## Mike Shinoda on the album that split the Linkin Park fanbase in two

Mike Shinoda has discussed which Linkin Park album he thinks is the most polarizing  
<https://www.loudersound.com/news/mike-shinoda-on-the-album-that-split-the-linkin-park-fanbase-in-two>



[Mike Shinoda](#) has revealed which [Linkin Park](#) album he believes to be the most divisive among the band's fans.

Shinoda discussed Linkin Park's back catalogue in a new interview with Anthony Fantano, and which one of their seven albums seems to polarize fans the most.

Shinoda said: “A Thousand Suns which was our fourth record, it wasn’t as commercially successful as the earlier ones because nothing could be – that would be impossible.

“It was very polarizing. It got one or five stars by everybody, so we ended up with three-star ratings all over the board because half the people hated it with all of their heart and soul.”

Shinoda went on to say that over time, fans have come around to the album, which was released in 2010.

“Now we’re at a point where if you ask the average person who’s relatively familiar with the band what their favorite record is, a lot of them say that one,” he said. “It’s changed, the whole relationship with the band has changed.

“People go, like, ‘Man, that was like the first album I ever bought, that’s how I learned to play guitar! And then I moved on to guitar that was harder...’ And that was part of the thing we were like, ‘Yeah, Brad Delson could actually play much more difficult stuff...’ But we loved how that sounded and we wanted to make stuff that a kid who couldn’t really play guitar, and he’d be like, ‘Yeah, let’s play this riff!’

“I appreciate that being older. I do love the idea of being in a position to maybe be a good teacher or a role model if I know something that somebody else doesn’t know.”

You can watch the full interview below.



# LOUDER

## Mike Shinoda shares music video for Happy Endings single

Linkin Park co-founder Mike Shinoda releases music video for his single Happy Endings

<https://www.loudersound.com/news/mike-shinoda-shares-music-video-for-happy-endings-single>



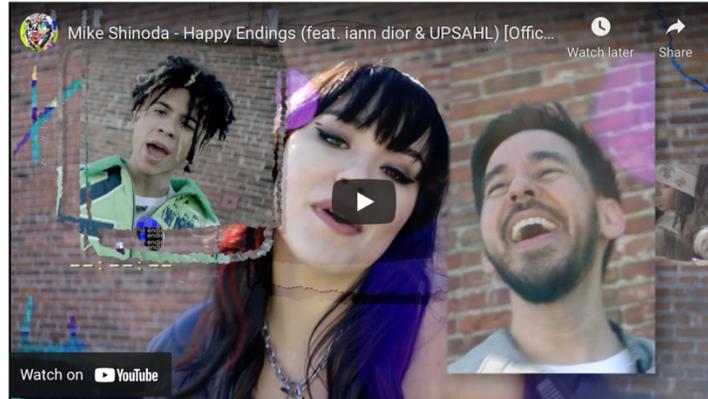
[Mike Shinoda](#) has shared a new music video for his single Happy Endings, featuring Phoenix, Arizona pop star UPSAHL and Puerto Rican-born, Texas-based rapper iann dior.

The psychedelic video was directed by PIX3LFACE, who's also worked with Travis Barker and Fever 333, and features illustrations that were hand-drawn by Shinoda.

The [Linkin Park](#) co-founder launched the Happy Endings single via [NFT auction](#) in February, with proceeds from the auction benefitting the ArtCenter College of Design. Shinoda released the multi-album project [Dropped Frames](#) in 2020, and also teamed up with Matt Heafy last month for a collaboration that was streamed on [Twitch](#).

The video has been released as a fundraiser for the MusiCares Covid-19 relief foundation, with Shinoda saying "MusiCares provides a safety net of critical assistance for music people in times of need."

Fans can donate to the cause via the video link. Check out the video below.



# **LOUDWIRE**

## **Mike Shinoda Issues Kaleidoscopic Video for 'Happy Endings' With Upsahl + Iann Dior**

<https://loudwire.com/mike-shinoda-happy-endings-lyrics-upsahl-iann-dior/?influencer=hindsight>



*Update: Mike Shinoda has now issued a new video for his "Happy Endings" collaboration with Iann Dior and Upsahl. Take a look at the bottom of this post.*

[Linkin Park](#) musician [Mike Shinoda](#) is pushing forward with more solo music, though he has some help on his brand new single "Happy Endings." The track is a collaboration featuring rising vocalist Upsahl and alt-pop star [Iann Dior](#).

The new song starts off with a strummy guitar and Shinoda sharing vocals with rising vocalist Upsahl before giving way to rapped verses from Shinoda and Dior. The song itself is upbeat in nature, but also serves as a self-reflective vent not to be too hard on oneself during these trying times.

With the new track, Shinoda is the first major label artist to launch a new single via an NFT (non-fungible token) auction. Shinoda has revealed the new song "Happy Endings," his collaboration with Upsahl and [Iann Dior](#), and he's used the cryptocurrency as a new avenue to promote his music.

Shinoda paved the way for "Happy Endings" earlier this week via his social media and Twitch platforms as well as through cryptocurrency authorities. Teasing out its impending arrival in groundbreaking fashion, he becomes the first major label artist to launch a single via [NFT auction](#).

The initial 75-second song tease immediately piqued interest among fans, with the final top 10 bidders in the auction each receiving an original print of the single artwork signed by Shinoda and contemporary artist Cain Caser. Proceeds from the auction will benefit ArtCenter College of Design.

Shinoda recently got involved with creating crypto art using the NFT cryptocurrency. His first offering was a [digital art piece titled "One Hundredth Stream."](#) The composition's highest bid came in at 18,000 DAI, a stablecoin cryptocurrency that closely parallels the U.S. dollar — meaning users valued it at around \$18,000. Later that same day, Zora announced that Shinoda had [accepted a bid equaling \\$30,000](#) (200 WETH), and the musician plans to donate that to charity.

"Happy Endings" is currently available [here](#) via the platform of your choosing.





iGEN by Ted Volk

**THE PLACE WHERE RADIO AND RECORDS COME TOGETHER WITHOUT TALKING**

<https://hitsdailydouble.com/igen&id=325495&title=YOUR-RADIO-ADD-RECAPS>



### **YOUR RADIO ADD RECAPS**

AWAL's girl in red takes the Most Added honor this week, pulling close to 40 stations on "serotonin." Other winners include Warner's Nessa Barrett's with "la di die" f/jxdn, Sumerian's Meg Myers with "The Underground," Warner's Mike Shinoda with "Happy Endings" f/iann dior and UPSAHL, Mom+Pop's Ashe & FINNEAS with "Till Forever Falls Apart" and Glassnotes' The Strumbellas with "Greatest Enemy."

**mxdwn.com**  
ALL THAT MATTERS IN MUSIC

## **Mike Shinoda Shares Trippy New Music Video for "Happy Endings" Featuring Iann Dior and UPSAHL**

<https://music.mxdwn.com/2021/03/11/news/mike-shinoda-shares-trippy-new-music-video-for-happy-endings-featuring-iann-dior-and-upsahl/>



There's a new music video for "[Happy Endings](#)," the recent single from Mike Shinoda of Linkin Park featuring Iann Dior and UPSAHL. The single was the first song to be released during a [Non-Fungible Token auction](#) by an artist on a major label, Warner Records.

The video was directed by PIX3LFACE, and involves a whole lot of visual effects, drawings, glitches, overlapping frames and transitions. Behind the busy editing are Shinoda, Dior and UPSAHL lip-synching the track in front of a brick wall. There's a skate video aesthetic to the video, due to Shinoda running across rooftops and hopping over rails, plus some actual skateboarding footage.



"Happy Endings" is an especially catchy song, built on Iann Dior's pre-chorus and UPSAHL's two-part chorus, "Hey, at least in my mind/I'm feeling like I'm/The hero that saves me/There, I hold my head high/Get

everything right/Delusional maybe/If I'm pretending/why not write happyendings/Where I'm better than we both know I could be, oh/Still At least in my mind/I'm feeling like I'm/The hero that saves me."

The song as a whole is about "kicking yourself for the things you say," and Shinoda's rapping touches on current topics such as the COVID-19 lockdown. As is true for many artists, quarantine heavily impacted Shinoda's music throughout this past year. He turned to [Twitch](#) to work on music directly [in collaboration with his fans](#) and released three albums throughout the year, a trilogy called [Dropped Frames](#), Vol. 1-3. Last year, he was also celebrating the 20th anniversary of Linkin Park's debut album Hybrid Theory, and revealed a previously unreleased demo from 1999 called "[She Couldn't](#)."

Iann Dior was doing well on SoundCloud already, but really blew up after his collaboration with 24KGoldn, "[Mood](#)," rose to the top of the Billboard Hot 100. His latest album I'm Gone came out in June 2020. UPSAHL is likewise a new artist, best known for her song "[Drugs](#)" and her massive popularity on TikTok. Her most recent solo single "STOP!" released last month.

# VENTS

M A G A Z I N E

## MIKE SHINODA OF LINKIN PARK SHARES KALEIDOSCOPIC MUSIC VIDEO FOR NEW SINGLE "HAPPY ENDINGS" FEAT. IANN DIOR & UPSAHL

<https://ventsmagazine.com/2021/03/11/mike-shinoda-of-linkin-park-shares-kaleidoscopic-music-video-for-new-single-happy-endings-feat-iann-dior-upsahl/>



Today, Linkin Park's multi-platinum GRAMMY® Award-winning singer, songwriter, and producer Mike Shinoda reveals the music video for his new single "HappyEndings" featuring genre-bending, platinum-selling artist iann dior & Arizona pop disruptor UPSAHL. Watch it [HERE](#). "Happy Endings" is available [HERE](#) via Warner Records.

Directed by PIX3LFACE [A\$AP Rocky, PARTYNEXTDOOR, Saint JHN], the video oozes with throwback vibes and nineties-style cartoon animation, some hand drawn by Shinoda himself. Against its sunny Downtown Los Angeles backdrop, Shinoda rhymes with hunger and heart as UPSAHL sings the unshakable hook between emotive bars from iann dior. With its kinetic editing and intimate closeups, the visual bottles the song’s upbeat spirit with just the right amount of tension and release.

“Happy Endings” took flight right out of the gate. Impacting major markets coast-to-coast, it stands out as the #1 Most Added Song at Alternative Radio. Making headlines, Shinoda recently spoke to [Input Magazine](#) about the groundbreaking launch of “Happy Endings” through an NFT on [Zora](#). Additionally, he sat down with frequent collaborator, longtime friend, and legendary producer Rick Rubin for an episode of the “Broken Record” podcast. Listen [HERE](#).

## HIP-HOPVIBE.COM



### Mike Shinoda ft. iann dior and UPSAHL – “Happy Endings” [VIDEO]

<https://www.hip-hopvibe.com/2021/03/11/mike-shinoda-ft-iann-dior-and-upsahl-happy-endings-video/>





# MIKE SHINODA PREMIERES “HAPPY ENDINGS” FT. IANN DIOR & UPSAHL (OFFICIAL MUSIC VIDEO)

<https://frontrowliveent.com/mike-shinoda-premieres-happy-endings-ft-iann-dior-upsaahl-official-music-video/>



Mike Shinoda premieres the official music video for new single “Happy Endings” featuring Iann Dior and UPSAHL.

Watch the official music video below.



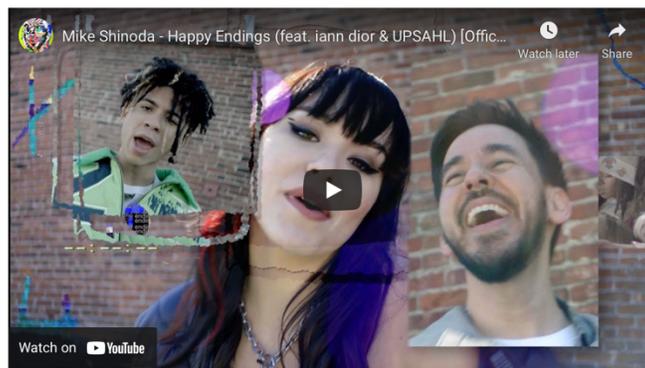


## MIKE SHINODA OF LINKIN PARK SHARES KALEIDOSCOPIC MUSIC VIDEO FOR NEW SINGLE “HAPPY ENDINGS” FEAT. IANN DIOR & UPSAHL

<https://rockyourlyrics.com/mike-shinoda-of-linkin-park-shares-kaleidoscopic-music-video-for-new-single-happy-endings-feat-iann-dior-upsahl/>



Today, Linkin Park’s multi-platinum GRAMMY® Award-winning singer, songwriter, and producer Mike Shinoda reveals the music video for his new single “Happy Endings” featuring genre-bending, platinum-selling artist iann dior & Arizona pop disruptor UPSAHL. “Happy Endings” is available [HERE](#) via Warner Records.



Bouncing with frenetic energy, this upbeat anthem manages a pitch-perfect story of frustration with the start of 2021. Shinoda once again challenges sonic boundaries, inviting iann dior and UPSAHL to join him at a nexus between alternative, hip-hop, and pop in an intimate and inimitable

collaboration. “Happy Endings” culminates on the powerful, provocative, and pensive refrain, “Still at least in my mind, I’m feeling like I’m the hero that saves me.”

Directed by PIX3LFACE [A\$AP Rocky, PARTYNEXTDOOR, Saint JHN], the video oozes with throwback vibes and nineties-style cartoon animation, some hand drawn by Shinoda himself. Against its sunny Downtown Los Angeles backdrop, Shinoda rhymes with hunger and heart as UPSAHL sings the unshakable hook between emotive bars from iann dior. With its kinetic editing and intimate closeups, the visual bottles the song’s upbeat spirit with just the right amount of tension and release.



“Happy Endings” took flight right out of the gate. Impacting major markets coast-to-coast, it stands out as the #1 Most Added Song at Alternative Radio. Making headlines, Shinoda recently spoke about the groundbreaking launch of “Happy Endings” through an NFT on Zora. Additionally, he sat down with frequent collaborator, longtime friend, and legendary producer Rick Rubin for an episode of the “Broken Record” podcast. Listen [HERE](#).

Last month, Shinoda paved the way for “Happy Endings” via social media, [Twitch](#), and cryptocurrency authorities. Teasing out its impending arrival in groundbreaking fashion, he becomes the first major label artist to launch a single via [NFT auction](#). The 75-second clip immediately piqued interest among fans and tastemakers; the final top 10 bidders will each receive an original print of the single artwork signed by Shinoda and contemporary artist Cain Caser. Proceeds from the auction will benefit ArtCenter College of Design.

Shinoda has spent the better part of the past year creating brand new music with fans and teaching production live each morning on Twitch, and, in recent weeks, producing tracks by fans—a dream come true for the artists, mostly found on social media.

Stay tuned for a lot more from Mike Shinoda very soon!



## Linkin Park's Mike Shinoda releases new song "Happy Endings" featuring iann dior & UPSAHL

<http://abcnewsradioonline.com/music-news/2021/2/19/linkin-parks-mike-shinoda-releases-new-song-happy-endings-fe.html>

Linkin Park's Mike Shinoda has released a new solo song called "[Happy Endings.](#)"

The track features 24kGoldn's "Mood" collaborator iann dior and pop musician UPSAHL. You can download it now via digital outlets.

A press release promises that the video for "Happy Endings," as well as "more" from Shinoda, will arrive "very soon."

Shinoda released his debut solo album, Post Traumatic, in 2018. Last year, he released a trio of albums as part of his Dropped Frames project, which consisted of mostly instrumental music he created during his daily Twitch livestreams.



## Mike Shinoda, iann dior, & Upsahl Deliver Good Vibes On "Happy Endings"

<https://www.hotnewhiphop.com/mike-shinoda-iann-dior-and-upsahl-deliver-good-vibes-on-happy-endings-new-song.1990378.html>



Mike Shinoda teamed up with iann dior and Upsahl for a brand new track.

Mike Shinoda has had a legendary career in the music industry thanks to his time with Linkin Park. When Shinoda isn't working with the band, he can be found doing his own thing and offering up some solo projects. His latest effort is a single with young artist iann dior, as well as the singer Upsahl. The track is called "Happy Endings" and it turns out to be a unique blend of styles.

The production has a lot of rock elements here as the guitar loop in the back helps deliver a pop-punk vibe. From there, Shinoda delivers emotional verses about struggle and triumph, while Upsahl and iann dior handle the hook, where melodies are aplenty.

Shinoda's voice will definitely make you feel some nostalgia, so be sure to give this track a listen.

**Quotable Lyrics:**

I place blame everywhere that it shouldn't go  
And that's what's keeping me up  
Fallin' apart, man, I keep it a buck  
You still act like I'm holding you up  
I still feel like I'm folding up



# LOUDWIRE

## Mike Shinoda Releases Upbeat New Song 'Happy Endings' With Upsahl + Iann Dior

[https://loudwire.com/mike-shinoda-happy-endings-lyrics-upsahl-iann-dior/?utm\\_source=tsmclip&utm\\_medium=referral](https://loudwire.com/mike-shinoda-happy-endings-lyrics-upsahl-iann-dior/?utm_source=tsmclip&utm_medium=referral)



[Linkin Park](#) musician [Mike Shinoda](#) is pushing forward with more solo music, though he has some help on his brand new single "Happy Endings." The track is a collaboration featuring rising vocalist Upsahl and alt-pop star [Iann Dior](#).

The new song starts off with a strummy guitar and Shinoda sharing vocals with rising vocalist Upsahl before giving way to rapped verses from Shinoda and Dior. The song itself is upbeat in nature, but also serves as a self-reflective vent not to be too hard on oneself during these trying times.

With the new track, Shinoda is the first major label artist to launch a new single via an NFT (non-fungible token) auction. Shinoda has revealed the new song "Happy Endings," his collaboration with Upsahl and [Iann Dior](#), and he's used the cryptocurrency as a new avenue to promote his music.

Shinoda paved the way for "Happy Endings" earlier this week via his social media and Twitch platforms as well as through cryptocurrency authorities. Teasing out its impending arrival in groundbreaking fashion, he becomes the first major label artist to launch a single via [NFT auction](#).

The initial 75-second song tease immediately piqued interest among fans, with the final top 10 bidders in the auction each receiving an original print of the single artwork signed by Shinoda and contemporary artist Cain Caser. Proceeds from the auction will benefit ArtCenter College of Design.

Shinoda recently got involved with creating crypto art using the NFT cryptocurrency. His first offering was a [digital art piece titled "One Hundredth Stream."](#) The composition's highest bid came in at 18,000 DAI, a stablecoin cryptocurrency that closely parallels the U.S. dollar — meaning users valued it at around \$18,000. Later that same day, Zora announced that Shinoda had [accepted a bid equaling \\$30,000](#) (200 WETH), and the musician plans to donate that to charity.

"Happy Endings" is currently available [here](#) via the platform of your choosing and the song's very relatable lyrics can be viewed below. An official video for the song will follow shortly.

### **Mike Shinoda Featuring Upsahl + Iann Dior, "Happy Endings" Lyrics**

(Intro Hook)

Hey, at least in my mind  
I'm feeling like I'm  
The hero that saves me  
There, I hold my head high  
Get everything right  
Delusional maybe

(Verse 1)

This whole last year was a shit show  
Just finding out now what I didn't know  
Seems like each time when I get low  
I place blame everywhere that it shouldn't go  
and that's what's keeping me up  
Falling apart man I'll keep it a buck  
You still act like I'm holding you up  
I still feel like I'm totally nuts so  
Tell me what I should've said and I'll pretend to know that  
Things come out my mouth that I should probably learn to hold back  
Why do I expect to have the patience that I don't have  
Over and over expecting a different result yeah

## CHORUS

Hey, at least in my mind  
I'm feeling like I'm  
The hero that saves me  
There, I hold my head high  
Get everything right  
Delusional maybe  
If I'm pretending  
why not write happy endings  
Where I'm better than we both know I could be, oh  
Still At least in my mind  
I'm feeling like I'm  
The hero that saves me

## (Verse 2)

They're like  
Ay Mike  
You can't keep kicking yourself for the things you  
say, like  
There are some people that you could never  
Make right  
Really do I wanna sweat shit, no  
and I don't know why I don't let this go  
I hold it inside let it take control  
Tell me what I should've said and I'll pretend to know that  
Things come out my mouth that I should probably learn to hold back  
Why do I expect to have the patience that I don't have  
Over and over and over and over and oh my God

## CHORUS

Hey, at least in my mind  
I'm feeling like I'm  
The hero that saves me  
There, I hold my head high  
Get everything right  
Delusional maybe  
If I'm pretending  
why not write happy endings  
Where I'm better than we both know I could be, oh  
Still At least in my mind  
I'm feeling like I'm  
The hero that saves me

## BRIDGE

I keep telling myself to stop caring  
cause they live for keeping me staring  
and they'll drag it on to make me respond  
to get more retweets and more sharing

I don't need the manager no Karen  
cause what's wrong it seems so apparent  
cause i'm too alive for bad fucking vibes  
and I'm so damn sick of being stuck inside  
(side SIDE SIDE YEAH)

CH:

Hey, at least in my mind  
I'm feeling like I'm  
The hero that saves me  
There, I hold my head high  
Get everything right  
Delusional maybe  
If I'm pretending  
why not write happy endings  
Where I'm better than we both know I could be, oh  
Still At least in my mind  
I'm feeling like I'm  
The hero that saves me  
If I'm pretending  
why not write happy endings  
(X4)

# LOUDER

**Hear Linkin Park's Mike Shinoda marry alt.pop, hip-hop  
and the hope of a 2021 to remember on Happy Endings**  
Pop star Upsahl and rapper Iann Dior join Mike Shinoda for smart state-  
of-the-world address Happy Endings

<https://www.loudersound.com/news/hear-linkin-parks-mike-shinoda-marry-altpop-hip-hop-and-the-hope-of-a-2021-to-remember-on-happy-endings>



“This whole last year was a shit show...”

Credit to [Mike Shinoda](#), he knows how to make an entrance. [Linkin Park](#)’s frontman returns to the fray with new single Happy Endings, an upbeat, wry reflection on shaking off the new year blues and taking 2021 by the horns.

Paired with Phoenix, Arizona pop star Upsahl and Puerto Rican-born, Texas-based rapper Iann Dior, Shinoda’s new single hangs around the optimistic chorus lyric, “Still, at least in my mind, I’m feeling like I’m the hero that saves me”, and offers hope that maybe the year ahead might just be one worth celebrating, a welcome shot of positivity we could all appreciate right now.

Shinoda’s PR team have proudly informed us that, this week, the LA-based rapper became the first major label artist to launch a single via [NFT auction](#). This, apparently, has something to do with cryptocurrency authorities, but we’ll level with you here, they might as well have told us that Shinoda composed the song by synthesising unicorn urine and uploading the stem files into ProTools. Whatever, the final top 10 bidders will each receive an original print of the single artwork signed by Shinoda and contemporary artist Cain Caser, with proceeds from the auction benefitting the ArtCenter College of Design, which sounds like a good thing. So, well done everyone.

# HIP-HOPVIBE.COM

## Mike Shinoda ft. iann dior and UPSHAL – “Happy Endings” [Official Lyric Video]

<https://www.hip-hopvibe.com/2021/02/20/mike-shinoda-ft-iann-dior-and-upshal-happy-endings-official-lyric-video/>



**mxdown.com**  
ALL THAT MATTERS IN MUSIC

## Linkin Park's Mike Shinoda Reflects On The Past Year In New Single "Happy Ending" Featuring Iann Dior And UPSAHL

<https://music.mxdown.com/2021/02/20/news/linkin-parks-mike-shinoda-reflects-on-the-past-year-in-new-single-happy-ending-featuring-iann-dior-and-upsahl/>



Award winning singer songwriter and co-founder of Linkin Park Mike Shinoda is back with new single "Happy Endings" featuring Iann Dior and UPSAHL. With the launch of this single, Shinoda becomes the first ever major label artist to release a song via a [NFT Auction](#). NFT, or Non-fungible token, being a type of cryptographic currency.

“Happy Endings” is bright and clear in its subjectivity, that is, to pursue one’s own ambitions and to strive to write one’s fate out. It is a clear-cut proclamation of independence. There is a relevancy to the lyricism too, its flourishes include witty bars on the current state of the pandemic and “Karen’s.” iann dior pops in and out, providing a concise break for Shinoda, who steers the ship primarily, only playing back and forth with the chorus section courtesy of UPSAHL. There is a mélange of genres boding well here, with alternative, hip hop and pop intermingling.



iann dior rose quickly to prominence after the insurmountable success of his billboard number one collaboration with 24KGoldn titled “Mood.” dior inked a deal with Elliot Grainge’s label 10K Projects in April 2019. UPSAHL utilizes social media platform TikTok to generate buzz on her trending tracks like “Can You Hear Me Now” and “Drugs.” Today, she has nearly 2,000,000 TikTok videos, reaching number six on the TikTok Viral Chart.

Shinoda has spent the past year creating brand new music with fans and teaching production live each morning on [Twitch](#), and, in recent weeks, producing tracks by fans. One of the tracks that procured from this was the single [“Open Door.”](#)



## **MIKE SHINODA OF LINKIN PARK CAPTURES THE MOMENT WITH NEW SINGLE “HAPPY ENDINGS” FEAT. IANN DIOR & UPSAHL**

<https://rockyourlyrics.com/mike-shinoda-of-linkin-park-captures-the-moment-with-new-single-happy-endings-feat-iann-dior-upsahl/>



Linkin Park's multi-platinum GRAMMY® Award-winning singer, songwriter, and producer Mike Shinoda returns with a brand new single entitled "Happy Endings" featuring genre-bending, platinum-selling artist iann dior & Arizona pop disruptor UPSAHL. "Happy Endings" is available [HERE](#) via Warner Records.

Bouncing with frenetic energy, this upbeat anthem manages a pitch-perfect story of frustration with the start of 2021. Shinoda once again challenges sonic boundaries, inviting iann dior and UPSAHL to join him at a nexus between alternative, hip-hop, and pop in an intimate and inimitable collaboration. "Happy Endings" culminates on the powerful, provocative, and pensive refrain, "Still at least in my mind, I'm feeling like I'm the hero that saves me."

Shinoda paved the way for "Happy Endings" earlier this week via social media, [Twitch](#), and cryptocurrency authorities. Teasing out its impending arrival in groundbreaking fashion, he becomes the first major label artist to launch a single via [NFT auction](#). The 75-second clip immediately piqued interest among fans and tastemakers; the final top 10 bidders will each receive an original print of the single artwork signed by Shinoda and contemporary artist Cain Caser. Proceeds from the auction will benefit ArtCenter College of Design.



Shinoda has spent the better part of the past year creating brand new music with fans and teaching production live each morning on Twitch, and, in recent weeks, producing tracks by fans—a dream come true for the artists, mostly found on social media.

Be on the lookout for the official music video and more from Mike Shinoda very soon.



## **LISTEN: Mike Shinoda Debuts 'Happy Endings' Ft. iann dior, UPSAHL**

<https://www.iheartradio.ca/news/listen-mike-shinoda-debuts-happy-endings-ft-iann-dior-upsaahl-1.14607651>



Mike Shinoda has debuted “Happy Endings,” a track featuring iann dior and UPSAHL.

The 44-year-old Linkin Park co-founder teased the single on social media earlier this week.

“Happy Endings” is the first new music of 2021 from Shinoda, who released three volumes of Dropped Frames last year. He was also featured with Canada’s Lights on Steve Aoki’s single “Last One to Know.”

Dior is the 21-year-old Puerto Rican rapper best known for being featured on last year’s chart-topping “Mood” by 24kGoldn. UPSAHL is the 22-year-old daughter of Mike Upsahl, frontman of

post-hardcore/punk band Stereotyperider. She co-wrote "Good in Bed" on Dua Lipa's Future Nostalgia.

Check out the "Happy Endings" lyric video below:



# Upset

**Mike Shinoda has teamed up with Iann Dior and UPSAHL for his new single, 'Happy Endings'**

<https://www.upsetmagazine.com/news/mike-shinoda-single-happy-endings>



Mike Shinoda has teamed up with Iann Dior and UPSAHL for his new single, 'Happy Endings'.

The song was teased earlier this week via social media, Twitch, and cryptocurrency authorities, launched via NFT auction.

A press release explains: "The 75-second clip immediately piqued interest among fans and tastemakers; the final top 10 bidders will each receive an original print of the single artwork signed by Shinoda and contemporary artist Cain Caser."

Proceeds from the auction will benefit ArtCenter College of Design.

Give it a listen below, and keep an eye out for a video coming soon.



**WASTED**  
*ATTITUDE*

## MIKE SHINODA TAPS IANN DIOR AND UPSAHL FOR 'HAPPY ENDINGS'

<https://www.wastedattitude.com/mike-shinoda-taps-iann-dior-and-upsahl-for-happy-endings/>



Mike Shinoda just released his brand new single 'Happy Endings,' featuring hip hop rising star Iann Dior and singer-songwriter UPSAHL. The song is followed by a lyric video which can be seen below.



**stereoboard.com**  
love • live • music

## Mike Shinoda Teams Up With Iann Dior And Upsahl For New Single Happy Endings

<https://www.stereoboard.com/content/view/230910/9>



Mike Shinoda has teamed up with pop artist Upsahl and rapper Iann Dior for a new single, Happy Endings.

The catchy slice of alt-pop positivity marks the Linkin Park musician's first new music of 2021 and reflects on the frustrations of 2020. The track blends elements of pop, rock, and hip hop while the trio combine to deliver an optimistic rallying cry for a better 2021.

It arrives after Shinoda teased the song on social media, including his [Twitch](#) channel, posting a 75-second clip. He's also the first major label artist to preview their music via cryptocurrency through an [art auction](#).

Shinoda's last full-length release under his own name was the 'Dropped Frames' trilogy of albums in 2020.



# NME

## Mike Shinoda shares new single 'Happy Endings' featuring iann dior and UPSAHL

The track was initially previewed on his Twitch channel earlier this week

[https://www.nme.com/en\\_asia/news/music/mike-shinoda-shares-new-single-happy-endings-featuring-iann-dior-and-upsahl-2885231](https://www.nme.com/en_asia/news/music/mike-shinoda-shares-new-single-happy-endings-featuring-iann-dior-and-upsahl-2885231)



Mike Shinoda has shared his brand new single 'Happy Endings', featuring iann dior and UPSAHL – you can hear it below.

The Linkin Park musician has dropped his first new music of 2021 with the single, which was initially previewed as a 75-second clip on [his Twitch channel](#), social media platforms and selected cryptocurrency authorities earlier this week.

The track sees Shinoda linking up with iann dior and rising Arizona artist UPSAHL, and you can hear 'Happy Endings' below following its release today (February 19). An official music video is expected to follow soon.



Shinoda has also launched 'Happy Endings' through an [NFT \[non-fungible tokens\] auction](#), giving his fans the opportunity to bid for a chance to win an original print of the single artwork signed by Shinoda and contemporary artist Cain Caser.

Proceeds from the auction will benefit the ArtCenter College of Design in Pasadena, California.

Last month Shinoda announced his #ShinodaProduceMe initiative, asking fans to submit their own tracks to be in with the opportunity of having the musician produce the track.

Explaining the idea behind the gesture, Shinoda said: “For 2021, I wanted to find a way to give back to my amazing community online. I’m looking for vocalists, rappers, and songwriters who need help getting to the next level.

“If I find someone great, I’ll produce their track, live on my Twitch channel. There’s no formal contest, just an intention. The fans on Twitch will help me find the right vocalists.”

# ***KERRANG!***

## **Mike Shinoda releases Happy Endings featuring iann dior and UPSAHL**

Hear Mike Shinoda, iann dior and UPSAHL team up on infectious new single  
Happy Endings.

[https://www.kerrang.com/the-news/mike-shinoda-releases-happy-endings-featuring-iann-dior-and-  
upsahl/](https://www.kerrang.com/the-news/mike-shinoda-releases-happy-endings-featuring-iann-dior-and-upsahl/)



[Mike Shinoda](#) has joined forces with iann dior and UPSAHL for a relatable and infectious new single, Happy Endings.

The trio’s catchy new jam was previewed via the [Linkin Park](#) man’s huge Twitch channel, and is now out in full along with a vibrant lyric video (an official music video and “more from Mike Shinoda” is coming “very soon”, according to a press release).

In a 2020 interview with [Forbes](#), Mike explained of how he came to enjoy being so creative on Twitch amid the pandemic, “I decided to start putting some of the things I was doing in the studio live on Instagram and it felt really good. It felt like, ‘Oh there are people out there, we’re not afraid of everybody. We’re all afraid, but we’re all afraid. We have that in common and we want each other to be healthy, we want each other to be safe, we want to share good information and weed out bad information.’ So it was like having a good community helps.

“So I fell into doing Twitch streams weekdays from 10 to one for a number of reasons. Number one, because I love the anchor that it put in my day. Number two, it was challenging and stimulating because a lot of the times my music streams are dictated by fan requests. So the way it works is if you hang out on the stream, you collect points. If you get enough points you can redeem them for a suggestion of a type of music that you want me to try and do. Or a type of drawing or art you want me to try and do. So those are all challenges. It turned my quarantine time from feeling like Groundhog Day to not only looking forward to the stream, but kind of being addicted to the stream. I love going in there at 10 and doing this thing and seeing where it goes. Some days it is hysterically bad and other days it’s super, super fun and goes really well.”

**Listen to Happy Endings below:**



Read the lyrics below:

Intro hook

Hey, at least in my mind  
I'm feeling like I'm  
The hero that saves me  
There, I hold my head high  
Get everything right  
Delusional maybe

Verse 1

This whole last year was a shit show  
Just finding out now what I didn't know  
Seems like each time when I get low  
I place blame everywhere that it shouldn't go  
and that's what's keeping me up

Falling apart man I'll keep it a buck  
You still act like I'm holding you up  
I still feel like I'm totally nuts so  
Tell me what I should've said and I'll pretend to know that  
Things come out my mouth that I should probably learn to hold back  
Why do I expect to have the patience that I don't have  
Over and over expecting a different result yeah

#### Chorus

Hey, at least in my mind  
I'm feeling like I'm  
The hero that saves me  
There, I hold my head high  
Get everything right  
Delusional maybe  
If I'm pretending  
why not write happy endings  
Where I'm better than we both know I could be, oh  
Still At least in my mind  
I'm feeling like I'm  
The hero that saves me

#### Verse 2

They're like  
Ay Mike  
You can't keep kicking yourself for the things you  
say, like  
There are some people that you could never  
Make right  
Really do I wanna sweat shit, no  
and I don't know why I don't let this go  
I hold it inside let it take control  
Tell me what I should've said and I'll pretend to know that  
Things come out my mouth that I should probably learn to hold back  
Why do I expect to have the patience that I don't have  
Over and over and over and over and oh my God

#### Chorus

Hey, at least in my mind  
I'm feeling like I'm  
The hero that saves me  
There, I hold my head high  
Get everything right  
Delusional maybe  
If I'm pretending  
why not write happy endings  
Where I'm better than we both know I could be, oh  
Still At least in my mind

I'm feeling like I'm  
The hero that saves me

#### Bridge

I keep telling myself to stop caring  
cause they live for keeping me staring  
and they'll drag it on to make me respond  
to get more retweets and more sharing  
I don't need the manager no Karen  
cause what's wrong it seems so apparent  
cause i'm too alive for bad fucking vibes  
and I'm so damn sick of being stuck inside  
(side SIDE SIDE YEAH)

#### Chorus

Hey, at least in my mind  
I'm feeling like I'm  
The hero that saves me  
There, I hold my head high  
Get everything right  
Delusional maybe  
If I'm pretending  
why not write happy endings  
Where I'm better than we both know I could be, oh  
Still At least in my mind  
I'm feeling like I'm  
The hero that saves me  
If I'm pretending  
why not write happy endings  
(x4)

## ADDITIONAL PRESS:



Watch video for Mike Shinoda's new song, "Happy Endings"

<http://abcnewsradioonline.com/music-news/2021/3/11/watch-video-for-mike-shinodas-new-song-happy-endings.html>

## GENRE IS DEAD!

Mike Shinoda Shares Kaleidoscopic New Video For 'Happy Endings'

<https://genreisdead.com/mike-shinoda-shares-kaleidoscopic-new-video-for-happy-endings/>



**Linkin Park's Mike Shinoda Releases 'Happy Endings' Video**

[https://www.antimusic.com/news/2021/March/11Linkin\\_Parks\\_Mike\\_Shinoda\\_Releases\\_Happy\\_Endings\\_Video.shtml](https://www.antimusic.com/news/2021/March/11Linkin_Parks_Mike_Shinoda_Releases_Happy_Endings_Video.shtml)



**Mike Shinoda Produces 19th Track "Mixed Signals" by CHANDLER Live on Twitch!**

<https://www.nerdsandbeyond.com/2021/03/12/mike-shinoda-produces-19th-track-mixed-signals-by-chandler-live-on-twitch/>



**Mike Shinoda Names Linkin Park's Most 'Polarizing' Album**

<https://loudwire.com/mike-shinoda-names-linkin-park-most-polarizing-album/>



**RADIO.COM**

**How Mike Shinoda wrecked FINNEAS' phone and made sure he'll always 'remember the name'**

<https://www.radio.com/kmbz/news/how-mike-shinoda-wrecked-finneas-phone>



**Mike Shinoda Accidentally Wrecked Havoc Saving His Number to Finneas' Phone**

<https://loudwire.com/mike-shinoda-accidental-havoc-saving-number-finneas-phone/>



**Finneas' name on his own phone is Mike Shinoda, thanks to Mike Shinoda**

<http://abcnewsradioonline.com/music-news/2021/3/9/finneas-name-on-his-own-phone-is-mike-shinoda-thanks-to-mike.html>



Linkin Park's Mike Shinoda releases new song "Happy Endings" featuring iann dior & UPSAHL

<https://98kupd.com/linkin-parks-mike-shinoda-releases-new-song-happy-endings-featuring-iann-dior-upsahl/>

## GENRE IS DEAD!

Linkin Park's Mike Shinoda To Release New Song This Friday

<https://genreisdead.com/mike-shinoda-happy-endings/>



'HAPPY ENDINGS' THE NEW RELEASE FROM MIKE SHINODA

Shinoda paved the way for "Happy Endings" earlier this week via social media, Twitch, and cryptocurrency authorities.

<https://www.totalintertainment.com/music/happy-endings-the-new-release-from-mike-shinoda/>



NEW MUSIC: Mike Shinoda - 'Happy Endings'

<https://alt1045philly.iheart.com/content/2021-02-19-new-music-mike-shinoda-happy-endings/>



Mike Shinoda Releases New Single "Happy Endings" Feat. iann dior and UPSAHL!

<https://www.nerdsandbeyond.com/2021/02/19/mike-shinoda-releases-new-single-happy-endings-feat-iann-dior-and-upsahl/>



**Mike Shinoda Releases Upbeat New Song 'Happy Endings' With Upsahl + Iann Dior**  
<https://wcyv.com/mike-shinoda-happy-endings-lyrics-upsahl-iann-dior/>



**Linkin Park's Mike Shinoda releases new song "Happy Endings" featuring iann dior & UPSAHL**  
[https://www.98online.com/2021/02/19/linkin-parks-mike-shinoda-releases-new-song-happy-endings-featuring-iann-dior-upsahl/?utm\\_campaign=snd-autopilot](https://www.98online.com/2021/02/19/linkin-parks-mike-shinoda-releases-new-song-happy-endings-featuring-iann-dior-upsahl/?utm_campaign=snd-autopilot)



**First Listen: Mike Shinoda – "Happy Endings" (Feat. UPSAHL & Iann Dior)**  
<https://www.alt1051.com/first-listen-mike-shinoda-happy-endings-feat-upsahl-iann-dior/>



**Linkin Park's Mike Shinoda releases new song "Happy Endings" featuring iann dior & UPSAHL**  
<https://q106fm.com/2021/02/19/linkin-parks-mike-shinoda-releases-new-song-happy-endings-featuring-iann-dior-upsahl/>



**LISTEN: Mike Shinoda drops new song 'Happy Endings' with iann dior and UPSAHL**  
<https://www.x1065.com/entertainment/listen-mike-shinoda-drops-new-song-happy-endings-with-iann-dior-upsahl/KP5XZWTBWJCK3PS6Q2ADYSO4OA/>



**Linkin Park's Mike Shinoda releases new song "Happy Endings" featuring iann dior & UPSAHL**  
<https://www.illinoisnewsnow.com/music/alternative/linkin-parks-mike-shinoda-releases-new-song-happy-endings-featuring-iann-dior-upsahl/>