

In the End (2000)

Linkin Park

LISTEN FOR

- Heavy metal: textures, vocal quality of chorus, imagery (in video)
- Rap: turntablism, vocal delivery in verses
- Layered textures

CREATION

<i>Songwriters</i>	Bradford Delson, Chester Bennington, Joseph Hahn, Michael Shinoda, Robert Bourdon
<i>Album</i>	<i>Hybrid Theory</i>
<i>Label</i>	Warner Bros.
<i>Musicians</i>	Chester Bennington (vocals), Rob Bourdon (drums), Brad Delson (guitar, bass), Joseph Hahn (sample keyboard, turntables), Mike Shinoda (rapping)
<i>Producer</i>	Don Gilmore
<i>Recording</i>	Soundtrack (New York, NY); 2000;
<i>Charts</i>	Pop 2

MUSIC

<i>Genre</i>	Nu metal, rap rock
<i>Form</i>	Contrasting verse-chorus
<i>Key</i>	E-flat major
<i>Meter</i>	4/4

LISTENING GUIDE

Time	Form	Lyric Cue	Listen For
0:00	Introduction (8)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Piano riff with reverb • Scratchy white noise • Sampled beat reminiscent of 80s hip-hop
0:19 0:37 0:46	Verse 1 (8+4+4)	"It starts with one"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapping vocal delivery • Heavy low end and high bell tones reminiscent of gangsta rap texture • Bell tones don't resolve, creating tension
0:56	Chorus (8)	"I tried so hard"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Melodic resolution creates sense of arrival, completion • Thick, metal guitar chords • Processed vocals, aggressive quality recalls hard rock (had previously been the "sweeter" voice)
1:15 1:32 1:42	Verse 2 (8+4+4)	"One thing, I don't know why"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Piano riff returns • Sustained, high backing vocals
1:51	Chorus (8)	"I tried so hard"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As before
2:10 2:29	Bridge (8+8)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on introductory piano riff; personal, almost confessional vocal quality. • Texture of chorus: thick, distorted guitar; aggressive vocal quality (but solo track)
2:48	Chorus (8)	"I tried so hard"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different guitar chords?
3:06	Close		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return of introductory piano riff and scratching. • Scratching dies out, leaving guitar feedback and piano cadence that ends on dissonant note that wants to—but does not—resolve. Lack of resolution captures the song's message about losing it all.

LYRICS

[Verse 1: Mike Shinoda & Chester Bennington]

It starts with one
One thing, I don't know why
It doesn't even matter how hard you try
Keep that in mind I designed this rhyme to
explain in due time

(All I know)

Time is a valuable thing
Watch it fly by as the pendulum swings
Watch it count down to the end of the day
The clock ticks life away
(It's so unreal)

Didn't look out below, watched the time go
right out the window

Trying to hold on, didn't even know

I wasted it all just to watch you go

I kept everything inside

And even though I tried it all fell apart

What it meant to me will eventually be a
memory of a time when I

[Chorus: Chester Bennington]

I tried so hard and got so far

But in the end, it doesn't even matter

I had to fall to lose it all

But in the end it doesn't even matter

[Verse 2: Mike]

One thing, I don't know why

It doesn't even matter how hard you try

Keep that in mind, I designed this rhyme to
remind myself how

(I tried so hard)

In spite of the way you were mocking me

Acting like I was part of your property
Remembering all the times you fought with me
I'm surprised it got so [far]
Things aren't the way they were before
You wouldn't even recognize me anymore
Not that you knew me back then
But it all comes back to me in the end
I kept everything inside and even though I tried,
it all fell apart
What it meant to me will eventually be a
Memory of a time when I (tried so hard)

[Chorus: Chester]

I tried so hard and got so far

But in the end, it doesn't even matter

I had to fall to lose it all

But in the end it doesn't even matter

[Bridge: Chester] (2X)

I put my trust in you

Pushed as far as I can go

For all this

There's only one thing you should know

I put my trust in you

Pushed as far as I can go

For all this

There's only one thing you should know

[Chorus: Chester]

I tried so hard and got so far

But in the end, it doesn't even matter

I had to fall to lose it all

But in the end it doesn't even matter

SOURCES

- John Covach and Andrew Flory, *What's That Sound*, 4th ed. (New York: W. W. Norton, 2015), 548–49.
- Joseph Schloss, Larry Starr, and Christopher Waterman, *Rock: Music, Culture, and Business* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012), 350–51.
- <http://genius.com/Linkin-park-in-the-end-lyrics>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/In_the_End
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