

# “Pretty Out There”

## FACT SHEET

### KEY INFORMATION

**Song title:** Pretty Out There  
**Album title:** Destruction / Reconstruction  
**Band name:** Mexican Radio  
**Release date:** 20 September, 2019  
**Band:** Nathaniel Fregoso (vocals, keys, effects)  
Dyan Valdés (vocals, keys)  
Hannes Neupert (vocals, drums)  
**Production:** [Mischkah Wilke](#) (production, engineering and mixing)  
[Arne Ziemann](#) (mastering)  
**Artwork:** [Timm Hartmann](#) (artwork and layout)  
[Petra Valdimarsdóttir](#) (photography)  
**Studios:** [Studio B](#), Kaulsdorf (recording)  
[Kozmic Sound](#), Weißensee (mixing)  
[Oakfield Mastering](#), Regensburg (mastering)  
**Label:** R.I.P. Ben Lee Records

## LYRICS

*written by Nathaniel Fregoso*

Chasing boys in Budapest  
I'm pretty out there  
Buggery in Paris  
I'm pretty out there

Expat in a steam bath  
All I wanna do is grab some ass  
Europe's made for desperate men

I'm pretty out there

I'm pretty out there  
Na na na na na na na

Selling junk in NYC - out there  
Developing a taste for morphine- I'm pretty  
I just got married to a woman addicted to Benzedrine  
Temporary psychoses - I'm out - lout lout

I'm pretty out there  
Na na na na na na na  
And I never want to be too straight

I like men men men men men

Waving a gun in Mexico  
I'm pretty out there  
Getting off with rancheros  
I'm pretty out there

My wife, well she drinks too much  
I can't stand to touch that lush  
Playing a game of William Tell  
Can you tell? I'm pretty out there

I'm pretty out there  
Na na na na na na na  
And I never want to be too straight

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

*answered by Dyan Valdés*

## ***What is “Pretty Out There” about?***

“Pretty Out There” was inspired by [William S. Burroughs](#), an American author from the [Beat Generation](#). Burroughs wrote highly confessional books about his prolific drug use, homosexuality, troubles with the law and general debauchery. He accidentally shot and killed his wife during a drunken attempt at a “[William Tell](#)”-style stunt in Mexico. He was a counterculture icon and really pushed the envelope with his lifestyle and his work, which were inseparable from one another.

The song is sung from his perspective, unapologetically recounting his misadventures as he drinks, doses and fucks his way around the world. It’s a declaration, a refusal to conform to society’s expectations of normalcy. Throughout the whole thing he insists that he’s “pretty out there,” and above all, that he’s “never gonna be too straight.”

## ***Tell us about the music.***

Nathaniel and I came up with the music for this song when I was playing a piece by Chopin on the piano one day. I thought it would be wickedly subversive to steal something from Chopin and turn it into a synth punk song, so as I played, Nathaniel got out the laptop to start recording. We stripped the main melodic theme down piece by piece, until all that remained were the few introductory notes (you can hear these in the “never gonna be too straight” melody) and a two-note bassline.

On top of my parts, Nathaniel plays a flanged synth part with lots of wah, which I think really gives the feeling of a space-out. Added to Hannes’ stiffly unchanging drum part and the “nananana”s that sound like the voices of mocking sirens, the whole thing sounds a bit like the hazy low of a drug trip.