

# Under the Graveyard

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**Under the Graveyard** The track marked a significant return for Ozzy after health struggles and served as the lead single from the album.

## Key Details:

- Release Date: November 2019
- Album: Ordinary Man (2020)
- Genre: Hard Rock / Heavy Metal
- Lyrics: Reflect on mortality, regret, and personal struggles.

## Song Meaning:

- "Under the Graveyard" deals with themes of despair, self-destruction, and facing one's own mortality. The lyrics suggest a struggle with inner demons and the consequences of a reckless lifestyle.
- **The title itself**
- **symbolizes being buried**
- **by one's own mistakes**
- **and darkness.**

## Reception:

- The song was well-received
- as a powerful comeback for Ozzy,
- showcasing his signature dark,
- emotional vocal delivery.
- The music video, directed by Jonas Åkerlund, features eerie visuals reinforcing the song's themes.

## Lyrical Themes A Descent Into Darkness

- Ozzy sings from the perspective of someone who feels trapped by their past mistakes, with lines like:
- "Yesterday I was looking
- for tomorrow / But yesterday's dead,
- and now I'm buried too"
- Suggests a loss of hope,
- as if the future has been swallowed
- by past failures.
- A metaphor for self-sabotage—Ozzy has often battled addiction and personal demons.
- The chorus ("Under the graveyard / We're all rotting bones") reinforces the inevitability of death, possibly reflecting Ozzy's own near-death experiences (including his Parkinson's diagnosis and severe health issues before the album).

## Musical Style & Production

- Sound: A mix of modern hard rock with Ozzy's classic doom-laden vibe. The guitar riffs (by Andrew Watt) are heavy yet melodic, reminiscent of Blizzard of Ozz-era Ozzy.
- Vocals: Ozzy's voice sounds weathered but powerful, adding to the song's raw emotion.

## Collaborators:

- Duff McKagan (Guns N' Roses) – Bass
- Chad Smith (Red Hot Chili Peppers) – Drums
- Andrew Watt (Producer/Guitarist) – Co-writer
- This lineup gives the song a fresh yet timeless feel, blending Ozzy's legacy with a contemporary edge.
- Music Video Symbolism (Directed by Jonas Åkerlund)

### **The video is dark and surreal, featuring:**

- Ozzy in a gothic funeral setting.
- A doppelgänger (possibly representing his past self or inner demons).
- Imagery of decay, coffins, and graveyards—mirroring the song's themes.
- This visual storytelling reinforces
- the idea of being "buried alive"
- by one's own choices.

### **Connection to Ozzy's Life**

- Health Struggles: Before *Ordinary Man*, Ozzy faced severe complications from a fall, pneumonia, and his Parkinson's diagnosis.

### **Reflection on Legacy:**

- Ozzy has spoken about how this album was
- made with urgency, knowing his time might be limited.

### **Place in Ordinary Man Album**

- "Under the Graveyard" sets the tone for the album, which deals with:
- Regret ("Ordinary Man" feat. Elton John)
- Defiance ("Straight to Hell")
- Redemption ("It's a Raid")
- The Making of *Ordinary Man* 2020 A Miracle Album
- After years of setbacks (including canceled tours, near-fatal illness, and depression), Ozzy wasn't even sure he'd record again. But a chance studio session with producer Andrew Watt (Post Malone, Justin Bieber) sparked a creative rebirth.

### **Key Facts About the Album:**

- Recorded in just 4 weeks – Ozzy worked at breakneck speed, fueled by a "now or never" mentality.

### **Star-Studded Collaborations:**

- Elton John ("Ordinary Man") – A piano-driven ballad about fame's emptiness.
- Slash ("Straight to Hell") – A sinister, Sabbath-esque banger.
- Sound: A mix of modern production (Watt's punchy guitars) and classic Ozzy doom.

### **Ozzy's Health Struggles & the Album's Urgency**

#### **Before Ordinary Man, Ozzy endured:**

- A near-death fall in 2019 (aggravated his spinal injury from a 2003 ATV crash).
- Hospitalization for pneumonia (he later said, "I thought I was dying").
- Parkinson's diagnosis (2019, revealed in 2020) – Though he clarified it was a mild form (PRKN-2).
- The Legacy of "Under the Graveyard" & *Ordinary Man*
- Proved Ozzy Could Still Make Vital Music – At 71, he delivered his most personal work in decades.
- Bridged Generations – Collaborations with Post Malone and modern producers introduced him to new fans.
- A Farewell (That Wasn't) – Many thought this was Ozzy's last album, but he defied expectations with *Patient Number 9*.

### **What's Next for Ozzy?**

- Retirement from Touring (due to health) but still recording.
- Possible Final Album? –
- He's hinted at more music
- but says touring is over.
- Biopic in Development – Directed by Joker's Todd Phillips.

### **Key Facts About the Album:**

- Released: September 9, 2022
- Featured the most guest stars of any Ozzy album—including:

### **Jeff Beck (title track)**

- Tony Iommi (Black Sabbath reunion on "Degradation Rules")
- Eric Clapton ("One of Those Days")
- Zakk Wylde (returning after 13 years)

### **Musical Style & Themes**

- A throwback to Ozzy's classic '80s/'90s sound (think No More Tears meets Blizzard of Ozz).
- Lyrics about paranoia, survival,
- and defiance
- (e.g., "Patient Number 9"
- is about a man trapped in a mental asylum).
- Some of Ozzy's heaviest riffs in decades ("No Escape from Now" could be a lost Sabbath track).

### **Reception & Legacy**

- Debuted at #3 on Billboard 200 (his highest charting solo album since 2007).
- Won 2 Grammy Awards (2023) – Best Rock Album & Best Metal Performance ("Degradation Rules").
- Proved Ozzy wasn't done yet—
- despite retiring from touring.

### **Ozzy's Health Battles & Resilience**

#### **Recent Health Challenges**

- Spinal Surgery (2022) – For injuries dating back to his 2003 ATV crash.
- Nerve Damage in Hands – Made playing guitar difficult (hence why guest musicians were crucial).

### **Parkinson's (PRKN-2) Management**

- – He's stated
- it's "not a death sentence,
- " but limits his mobility.

### **How He Still Records**

- Vocals done in short bursts – Due to breathing issues from past pneumonia.
- Lyrics adapted to his range – His voice is deeper, more weathered, but still powerful.
- Reliance on collaborators – Andrew Watt, Zakk Wylde, and others help shape the music.

### **The Future: Is There More Ozzy Music Coming?**

- Despite retiring from touring, Ozzy hasn't ruled out another album. Here's what we know:

### **Possible Final Album?**

- He's hinted at "one more"
- in interviews (2023).
- Would likely feature Tony Iommi again (their Patient Number 9 reunion was a highlight).
- Could be a farewell record – A bookend to his solo career.

### **Upcoming Projects**

- Under the Graveyard Biopic – Starring Johnny Depp? (Rumored, but not confirmed).
- Documentary – About his final years in music.
- Black Sabbath's Legacy – Reissues, tributes, and possible AI-assisted unreleased material.

### **Ozzy's Influence on Modern Metal**

Even at 75+, Ozzy's impact is undeniable:

### Who He's Inspired Recently

- Ghost – Tobias Forge cites Ozzy as a major influence.

### His Place in Metal History

- Only artist to be inducted
  - into the Rock Hall twice
  - (Sabbath + solo).
  - Final Verdict: Ozzy's Late-Career Comeback is Unmatched
  - Few artists have had such a powerful resurgence in their 70s. Ordinary Man and Patient Number 9 weren't just victory laps—they were essential additions to his legacy.
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