

Bruce Springsteen fans: best memories on being a Springsteen fan

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Author's note: As a part of the Bruce Springsteen fan behavior and identification research, the participants were asked to write their best memory of being a Springsteen fan. By answering the question in the survey, the participants gave their permission to publish their best memory. As these answers do not fit into being published in a scientific article, they are published here. The best memories described by the fans are presented individually in no particular order below, with also information of the respondent's age, place of residence, duration of being a fan, gender and number of show attendances.

"The best thing is that I have a reason to travel and see new places when attending to shows by Bruce Springsteen. I get to meet new people and experience things I couldn't do if I didn't go to see the shows. I've travelled all around the world to see him play, and that's something I am very proud of. First show I saw was in Germany, that is a highpoint of course. I saw the Super Bowl halftime show in the stadium. I've visited places like Belfast, Trieste, Tampa, New York etc. I've seen him play with the E Street Band, I've seen him play solo, and it's always great. No, it's beyond great. The whole experience as being a Bruce Springsteen fan is the best thing. I cannot name one single thing. Springsteen is probably the person who has most affected in my life, and I have not even met with him. My life would be very different and much more boring if I wasn't a Bruce Springsteen fan."

A 39-year-old male fan from Finland. A fan for 30 years, with 25 show attendances.

"March 2016 Oakland, CA River Tour Show. We were lucky with the pit lottery, there were maybe 40 people entering in front of us, so we were really close. He did the crowd surf during Hungry Heart and passed right over us. The whole show was special because it was my "reward" for going through a year of breast cancer treatments in 2015. I was still very tired from the chemo and radiation but being there, meeting all those Bruce tramps who were standing in line in the rain (and it was raining hard all day) was just wonderful and made me feel alive."

A 48-year-old female fan from Canada. A fan for 30 years, with 11 show attendances.

"My first Springsteen concert was in 1981. I had just turned 16. It was the closest I've ever been to the divine. The divine spirit moved in me and through mentally, physically, and psychologically. I spent the next 30 odd years searching all over for this ""spirit"". Went through Christianity, Buddhism, yoga, studying for the ministry. Searching, searching, searching. I'm 52 now. It took me until my 40s before I realized that it was rock and Bruce Springsteen that is what I believe in. Have faith in. This is my "religion". So, it took me decades to come full circle. This is where I belong. This is G-d (for me). I am where I should be. I'm home."

A 52-year old male fan from Canada. Fan for 40 years, with 12 show attendances.

"Meeting him in Perth in 2013 & him signing my shoulder & then getting a tattoo of it :)"

A 49-year-old fan from Australia. A fan for 30 years, with 9 show attendances.

"Meeting Bruce at the Stone Pony in Asbury Park. It was after Light of Day in 2000. I was shaking. He told me to settle down and patted my arm. It is important because I know first-hand that he is just like us in many ways, down to earth and genuine."

A 60-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 30 years, with 105 show attendances.

"I won a golden ticket to The Promise Carousel shoot in Asbury Park. It was an opportunity to stand in the middle of the band while they played. It was thrilling to hear and experience the musicians up close. I stood by Roy and Garry, Clarence, and of course Bruce put the mic in my face to sing a bit of nonsense syllables which I can hear on the recording. It was just a magical once in a lifetime experience. When it was over Bruce mingled with the crowd. I told him that I loved watching him work. He gave me a hug and a kiss and said, "Thank you darling". And since it was December, I got the Santa hat to prove it. Although he did not sing that song, we wore them as Bruce sang Blue Christmas."

A 59-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 49 years, with 59 show attendances.

"The first time I saw Bruce live in Moncton, New Brunswick Canada in August 2012. I was in the front row of the pit and seeing him in person brought tears to my eyes. They started playing "No Surrender" and I struggled to keep myself from breaking down completely. I waited for this moment for 30 + years. For one brief moment, he looked directly at me and smiled. I will never forget that moment or the look. It is embedded in my soul! At that moment, we were the only two people in the universe. It was perfect."

A 53-year-old female fan from the Canada. A fan for 35 years, with six show attendances.

"My best memories are from the 2012 tour. It was the first time I met fans around the world and also travelled abroad myself. The Gothenburg shows combined to the Helsinki show are

the best experiences ever. The feeling of being a member in a big family of fans, is something I will always carry with me."

A 43-year-old female fan from Finland. A fan for 30 years, with 18 show attendances.

"My best memory isn't actually any specific event, it's an idea, kind of collection of real events mixed and put together. It's a Springsteen & The E Street Band concert in Ullevi, because Ullevi has the best crowd I've ever witnessed. Also, somehow, it feels like home for me. Every time I go to Gothenburg it feels like homecoming. Hot day (Saturday) in July is turning into the evening. Me and group of other Finnish fans have stayed in the que the whole day. We have good numbers in the pit que and we have good places in the pit. Lights go out and the band comes in. The most exciting moment in the gig, for me, is when band starts playing. That feeling is the best feeling in the world. It makes me happy, it connects me to my life and gives me memories that stay with me as long as I live."

A 37-year-old male fan from Finland. A fan for 32 years, with 42 show attendances.

"My best memory is when Bruce and Steven played "We shall Overcome" at the memorial after the 22nd of July terror attacks in Oslo. Two friends of mine were killed by the terrorist, and seeing my idol play at the memorial was an extremely moving and emotional moment. I love how Bruce, unlike many other superstars, takes the time to be there and show solidarity and compassion with people who have fallen on hard times. To me, this is the most beautiful thing about Bruce and his music, and my memories from the 22nd of July memorial is a great example of this."

A 24-year-old male fan from Norway. A fan for 12 years, with one show attendance.

"Columbus Ohio April 12, 2016. My son made a sign 'you at 21. Today I'm 21, will you do a shot with me?' We had a pic of Bruce with his long hair as a young man. Bruce saw the sign when we were in the pit and he smiled but he proceeded to invite an older lady up to the stage to dance. It wasn't until Tenth Ave Freeze Out that we ran to the side and pulled out two airplane size bottles of tequila and the rest is history. Bruce stopped and did the shot with my son! Michael was so excited and as Bruce walked off, he turned and looked back and smiled at

me. I mouthed thank you. Bruce was all smiles too! My son later said Mom I know you do this stuff all the time but that was so cool!! It was important to me because I have followed Bruce for close to 40 years and to share this experience with my son was just incredible. The video still brings a smile to my face!!"

A 55-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 38 years, with 100 show attendances.

"The best memories I have, are from his concert in Barcelona, 18th May. It was my 1st time to go for a concert to other country and I have never had better time. His show was awesome, for example the song Shout at the end of the show when all 40 000 people went down on his request. Strong memories. Love you Bruce!"

A 20-year-old male fan from Czech Republic. A fan for 19 years, with three show attendances.

"The feeling when I turned up at Wembley on a Thursday evening to join the que and realised I was number 7. The camaraderie in the pit que over the next few days, the feeling of belonging to the Springsteen community, watching the concert from the rail and the ongoing friendships since the concert."

A 53-year-old male fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 30 years, with 11 show attendances.

"Among the countless memories I have, I think the most significant one is when I saw him in San Siro on June 28th, 2003. I was not there in 1985, so seeing him on that stage was like it was my first time... I saw him 10 days before in Florence but when Morricone music started playing and it's almost like we are a family, a very big family. What I mean is that when we fans meet as a group in his concerts, we are tied together by an invisible wire of joy. "

A 48-year-old female fan from Italy. A fan for 36 years, with 13 show attendances.

"My first concert in 1985. I was in a deep depression and had started therapy 9 months before. When I came into the session after the concert, my therapist said "Wow, it must have been a

great concert because I've never seen you smile before." I was a convert to the energy I would need to stay alive through my 20s and 30s with severe depression and PTSD. After my first partner died of cancer when I was 40, I listened to "Living Proof" and it kept me alive. Bruce has been an additional therapist, advocate, ass-kicker and reality-check-maker. When he asks, "Is anybody alive out there?!?!?" I can yell "YES!!" And it's with great thanks to him. I got to meet him at a book signing last November and I had 100 clever things I wanted to say. When I saw him all I could do was cry and say thank you over and over. My heart was so full of gratitude for the gifts he has added to my life to help me survive and thrive. I couldn't do anything but be there and have years of emotions rush over me. The authenticity of his work, the stories, the characters, they have been helpers to me. I've been able to not make the mistakes of some of them and I have found acceptance for me and my humanity in others. In his songs and work, I find my voice when it can otherwise be hard to understand complex emotions."

A 51-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 32 years, with 41 show attendances.

"Was lucky enough to have "elbows on the stage" (actually, one of the portions of the stage that jutted out in the pit) at a concert. During one of his songs where he plays the harmonica, Bruce walked out to where I was standing, bent down to play his harmonica, looked me in the eye and....stepped on my hand. It took me a second to realize what was causing the pain and when I did, I pulled it out from underneath his boot. I am pretty sure it was unintentional :-)"

A 64-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 42 year, with 24 show attendances.

"Finally meeting him during his book tour"

A 61-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 45 years, with 100 show attendances.

"Queuing all day for my only Bruce Springsteen concert in Johannesburg 2014. Was right at the front of the pit and got to touch the neck of his guitar during BTR."

A 47-year-old male fan from South Africa. A fan for 30 years, with one show attendance.

"There are two memories which are equally good. The first took place at the Birmingham show on 16 May 1999 where I was with my wife and my son who was 11 and my daughter who was 6. We sat near the back of the arena when a guy who worked for Bruce asked us if we wanted to go to the front. They are known as men in black and the front 2 rows were kept empty and they gave the tickets to fans in less good seats. Of course, we jumped at the chance. During the concert the band noticed my kids and waved to them. In the interval Bruce's head of security gave them harmonicas, saying "Bruce wants the kids to have these". When the band came back on-stage Bruce looked at me and said "did you get them". I replied yes thanks and he said you are welcome. Shows how much he cares for his fans.

The second good memory is from the show in Glasgow on 18 June 2013. My daughter made a sign asking to dance with Jake. During Dancing in the Dark Bruce came and helped her on to the stage and she danced with Jake. Bruce danced with a woman and her mother and then came back to the centre stage and got a guitar for my daughter to play. She was carrying her camera and Bruce took it and took her photo with the guitar. They then played and sang (she can play guitar). At the end she took a selfie with Bruce. When she came back to us she was crying her eyes out. Great memories. (the video is on youtube)"

A 66-year-old fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 40 year, with 55 show attendances.

"Every concert I have ever been to has left me feeling amazing, just love him and all he stands for"

A 63-year-old male fan from Scotland. A fan for 40 years, with 14 show attendances.

"Too many! Dancing with him, meeting him, making friends all over the world, when he sang with Glen Hansard in Kilkenny."

A 43-year-old male fan from Ireland. A fan for 35 years, with 74 show attendances.

"It is very difficult to choose a best moment. I dream of getting the opportunity to meet him and have a chat with him. If that happens that will be my best memory. For now, it is the moment

that his music moves me in a certain way. It may make me sad, it may make me happy. This song can be on the radio, on my iPod or played by the man himself on a concert. Every time he "moves" me, is a very good moment. My first concert, hearing Trapped on the first concert after my divorce, getting goose bumps as he plays Jungleland."

A 45-year-old female fan from Belgium. A fan for 32 years, with 25 show attendances.

"Having my sign finally played after 20 plus shows last year in Philly! Unbelievable"

A 25-year old male fan from United States. A fan for 15 years, with 40 show attendances.

"My wife and I have made many friends around the world following Bruce including a family from Valkeakoski where we now visit on holiday to meet up with them and see Bruce Springsteen together. We were lucky enough to be in Helsinki for the famous 4hr 7 min concert! My best memory of being a fan though, is being upgraded to the front row at Madison Square Garden during the 2000 reunion tour. My second-best memory is having my story about that experience being used in the documentary Springsteen & I. I have seen Bruce Springsteen so many times and that has led to many great friendships that will last forever thanks to Bruce. A Bruce fan once said to me "have you noticed that Bruce fans are the nicest people you ever meet?" It made me laugh and I try to be but he was so right. They just are!"

A 55-year-old male fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 40 years, with 55 show attendances.

"I won a contest in Canada (the only Canadian winner) that sent people from all over the world go to see Bruce in LA when he was promoting Lucky Town and Human Touch. It was a private concert held in a Hollywood studio. There were only about a couple hundred people there, so it was quite the experience. Afterwards, Bruce came out and said hello to everyone. I was able to give him a hug and a kiss and tell him what a big fan I was, and he signed his autograph. It's a memory that I will always treasure"

A 52-year-old female fan from Canada. A fan for 39 years, with 30 show attendances.

"Over the years spending time with my nephew, he was about 9 years old when he took an interest in Bruce and would suggest songs to play in the car. We would sing Bruce, he liked Cadillac Ranch, the Price You Pay, and others but his favourite was Born In The USA. In 2016 I was able to take him to see Bruce here in Kansas City on The River Anniversary tour. It was awesome to see him just light up when he got to see the Boss. He didn't get Born In The USA but he wasn't disappointed. Sadly, my nephew passed away this past June 2017 at the young age of 12. We are forever together in Bruce's music and I will never forget that night."

A 60-year-old male fan from the United States. A fan for 42 years, with ten show attendances.

"I just turned 10 years old and got LIVE 1975-85 as a present. I enjoyed the live version of Born in the USA so much, that I wanted to share my excitement for the music with everybody else..... So, me and a friend began doing prank phone calls with Bruce Springsteen. We dialed up random numbers, put the phone on the loudspeakers, and cranked up Born in the USA as loud as possible."

A 40-year-old male fan from Denmark. A fan for 30 years, with 11 show attendances.

"It was in Turku 2013. I had this special feeling that he sings just for me alone and all the other people are just bystanders. Well that happens every time but during that particular concert I experienced it in an extremely strong way. It was the kind of feeling that is called Stendhal syndrome in art, but I think you can get the feeling also during a rock concert..."

A 54-year-old female fan from Finland. A fan for 15 years, with five show attendances.

"It has to be Bruce's pre-show in Helsinki 2012. Bruce came out early to play a few songs with his guitar for us fans in the pit waiting for the concert. He wanted to give something for us tramps who had loyally followed him around Europe, and he managed to make a special connection with us with his music on a nice summer weather. During that moment we who were able to be there formed a community of mutual understanding and appreciation of Bruce's art, and Bruce himself was a part of that ad hoc community sharing that moment and waiting something special to happen later on that evening. In a similar way, other pre-shows I've been lucky to witness on place belong to the best memories as a fan, although there are plenty of

other great moments, too: hearing my first live Jungleland in 2003, my first Racing in the Street in 2013, my first and only The Promise and Incident in 2016."

A 45-year-old male fan from Finland. A fan for 33 years, with 20 show attendances.

"In 2000 my wife and I travelled to NY on our honeymoon 3 months in advance of our wedding to see Bruce and ESB in Madison Square Garden on the 2nd last night on the reunion tour."

A 43-year-old male fan from Denmark. A fan for 32 years, with 21 show attendances.

"Walked into a new bakery in Charlotte, NC, wearing my Born In The USA t-shirt. The man behind the counter remarked about the shirt and then told me that he is Bruce's cousin. We had a nice conversation. The next time I went in I shared some photos a friend sent from Bruce's concert in Louisville. He was happy to have them, and I was pleased to be able to share them with his family. This likely happened in 1985 or 86."

A 68-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 40 years, with 7 show attendances.

"In every concert there is a moment I feel like I'm alone in the venue, Bruce just performing for me. Every concert I get goose bumps."

A 47-year-old female fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 33 years, with 25 show attendances.

"Becoming a fan in 1985: wasn't interested in the Born In The USA tour that much, after the tour I listened to his second album in a record store and the fever started! The other 6 albums came soon. I felt there are other places and landscapes and other lives on earth than just my hometown."

A 51-year-old male fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 32 years, with 7 show attendances.

"I have many wonderful Bruce experiences. I've been very lucky. In Melbourne 2017 I made a sign for Promised Land. It read 'THE DOGS OF OZ HOWL COS THEY UNDERSTAND. PROMISRED LAND. It was personal to me & a lot of my Bruce friends because I included

photos of our dogs on it. I held it up at the first show I went to in Australia, I was front row of the pit. I put the sign down & Bruce played it a couple of songs later. For a moment I was disappointed, I'd hoped he would take the sign from me. As he started singing he walked toward me. He stopped & asked "where's the dogs?". I was so excited! He took the sign & held it up. After the harmonica solo at the end he came back & gifted the harmonica to me. A very special moment indeed!"

A 49-year-old female fan from Australia. A fan for 30 years, with 26 show attendances.

"My best memory was my first Springsteen concert in 2003, which changed my life immediately. We decided to attend the concert in a long, drunken night. No one of us knew exactly what to expect and so we sat there in the Happel Stadium in Vienna and waited for the concert to begin. The next 3 hours changed my complete life, my understanding of music, my personal values and my future. After this concert I was extremely obsessed with the music of Springsteen. I bought all of his CDs, listened to them, read the lyrics while listening and enjoyed it very much. I also started to playing music myself. When my parents were on a vacation I secretly bought a guitar with my pocket money and learned "how to make it talk". I now have a band and we are playing music together and enjoying life. I met a lot of people who also are addicted to the music of Bruce Springsteen. A lot of them are one of the best friends I've found in my whole life. We met each other on a regular basis via theriver.at Springsteen-Forum and once in a year we make a trip to a small hut in the mountains where we sit together, sing, play and enjoy! I'm very interested in music in general since my first Springsteen concert. It really changed my whole life, which is now a very musical life :-) I'm very grateful for that and I'm very glad to have seen Bruce a lot of times life. Bruce showed me a lot of countries and a lot of wonderful people. I'm a happy man and a lot of this happiness comes from the music of the one and only Bruce Springsteen! Thank you, Boss!"

A 33-year-old male fan from Austria. A fan for 12 years, with 21 show attendances.

"My first concert in Munich in 2016. Suddenly, he stood right in front of me. This and the whole night made the day the best day in my life"

A 41-year-old female fan from Germany. A fan for 27 years, with one show attendance.

"Walking out after my first show as a 15-year-old fan in aware of what I had just witnessed, knowing I would never see music or the world the same again! And holding his hand while he played 10th Avenue Freeze Out from the pit 38 years later... it felt just as electric and soul moving as it was that first night!"

A 53-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 40 years, with 46 show attendances.

"We were at the front of the stadium, and he came up close to us. It was incredible, not exciting to some, but was amazing."

A 52-year-old female fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 32 years, with 14 show attendances.

"Any Bruce concert is important to me as I go to them with my sister and cousins so it's a great social, as we live all-round the place. The best with this group was queuing for pit in Dublin Radio Nowhere tour, lashing rain all day but we enjoyed it and had the best front row position ever. We were soaked through but got right up the front and beside Springsteen. The ultimate show was the final night of European tour 2009 Barcelona Nou Camp with my husband. Loved the crowd, the heat, the atmosphere, the Spanish fans were universally amazing. Best night ever, and we were in seats in stands at back, but the stadium atmosphere was electric."

A 44-year-old female fan from Ireland. A fan for 32 years, with 28 show attendances.

"Devils and Dust Tour. In Dublin I was 5 rows back from the stage right in front of Bruce. While singing Dream Baby Dream he looked straight at me and sang to me. I was totally lost in that moment, mystified by Bruce. Loved it and will never forget my moment with Bruce."

A 54-year-old female fan from Ireland. A fan for 34 years, with 30 show attendances.

"Meeting Bruce Springsteen by accident on the beach in Cape Town and being able to talk to him for 2 mins."

A 40-year-old male fan from Germany. A fan for 26 years, with 40 show attendances.

"In 1978 a colleague brought me a tape with the new album Darkness on the Edge of Town of a guy named Bruce Springsteen and told me I would like this music. At work we were always talking about music. Never heard about Bruce Springsteen, but while listening to it, it did blow me away. It felt like he did write it for me! The sad and dark songs of people who lived on the edge and how they somehow worked themselves out of this darkness. That's what I like about his music, it's always about people that could be you or me. Traveling all over the world to see his concerts, brought me to beautiful places and friends for life."

A 57-year-old female fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 39 years, with 108 show attendances.

"I don't have any specific memories, every show I've seen are great memories. And even though it sounds totally unimportant, touching his hand during a show gives such a great feeling... Which I find very stupid, why is it so special to me that I have touched him?? He is just a man.... Oh no wait... He's not just a man, he is GOD!!!"

A 34-year-old female fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 14 years, with 25 show attendances.

"Milan July 3rd, 2016, after 12 hours queuing I was able to get into the pit and immediately after he showed up to sing Growin' Up during preshow, it was an unparalleled emotion, and then during the show as well, when he comes a few inches from you and he looks you in the eyes... "

A 43-year old male fan from Italy. A fan for 14 years, with nine show attendances.

"I met him at the end of a concert in Zurich back in 2012, it was just a brief moment, I thanked him and I saw a man who looked like a child and who absolutely didn't want to stop doing what he was doing. Thanks Bruce, thanks E Street Band!"

A 48-year old male fan from Italy. A fan for 35 years, with seven show attendances.

"I don't have a particular memory that is stronger than others, and this is just because Springsteen's music has basically accompanied me through my life, from my teenage years up to now. So, in each and every nice and bad moment I lived, there's a bit of Bruce's music in it."

A 43-year old male fan from Italy. A fan for 28 years, with 14 show attendances.

"My first time getting GA tickets was for a show in Nashville, TN. My friend and I were so excited that we got there early to get our wristbands! We were numbers 3 and 4. We did not get in the pit that night but were close to a secondary stage which Bruce came out on and performed during a few songs. We met some great people, I had a surprise run-in with Jake Clemons while wearing a Jake Clemons t-shirt on my way to the bathroom. It was a great night, as is every night spent with Bruce!!!!"

A 48-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 37 years, with 15 show attendances.

"I was 18 years old, then. His music gave me strength to study and to continue studying to pass the examinations for the university."

A 48-year-old female fan from Greece. A fan for 33 years, with no show attendances.

"The best thing we (my husband and I) did was to call our son Bruce (now 23 years old). The bond between his music, the feeling we get from it and the love for live itself has come together in him (our son). He has become a great person, not a very big fan of Bruce Springsteen but proud to wear his name. He always says: I understand why the two of you named me after him."

A 50-year-old female fan. A fan for 35 years, with 10 show attendances.

"Taking a friend who was not familiar with Bruce Springsteen to a concert in Australia in 2017 and watch them become totally engrossed in the lyrics, music and atmosphere and is now a mad fan!"

A 59-year-old female fan from Australia. A fan for 30 years, with six show attendances.

"The first time I saw him and the E Street Band, opening song was Born to Run, simply fantastic."

A 55-year-old male fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 38 years, with 65 show attendances.

"My best memory was watching Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band in Belfast when Bruce and Jake Clemons walked up the steps on the stage, it was such a tender moment as it reminded me of Bruce's love for Clarence Clemons and it seemed like that love was shining through to Jake."

A 55-year-old female fan. A fan for 40 years, with 80 show attendances.

"I am hoping my best memory is yet to come. I will be seeing him on Broadway at the end of October and plan to finally deliver a letter to him in person. I hope to meet him someday."

A 54-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 40 years, with 45 show attendances.

"I had the honour of meeting Bruce at the Coop Bookstore in Cambridge, Massachusetts, on October 10, 2016, when he was on his book tour. I only had a few seconds with him, but it was great to shake his hand, look join in the eyes, and say ""Thank you.""

A 46-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 34 years, with four show attendances.

"On August 25th, my son Chris & I attended the Bruce Springsteen show in New Jersey. It was a great show and it was wonderful to share it with him. We also got to spend a lot of time with other Bruce fans from the east coast before the show."

A 58-year-old male fan from the United States. A fan for 30 years, with 15 show attendances.

"Just seeing him live."

A 51-year-old fan from the United States. A fan for 40 years, with 20 show attendances.

"I met Bruce and Clarence before my first show, and was invited to the soundcheck and backstage, at Frankfurt in 1981. This changed my life."

A 59-year-old male fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 40 years, with 204 show attendances.

"There are many, but I guess I finally have to share this one, the most earthmoving one, that changed my life. My childhood was not always a very happy one. (Do these stories always begin like this?). No details here but maybe just a hint that my father was not a very good man. And Born in the USA was out, and Bruce was a big star. Everybody sort of liked his music and it was everywhere. Me and a couple of my friends became fans too. We also found out that he had done some music even before Born in the USA which was nice to find out, and we studied and liked these earlier albums too. It was all very innocent and easy and just listening to good music without any larger-than-life-experience. But that was about to change.

Than in 1986 I guess the Live Box came out. I was 13 years old and got that box as a Christmas present the very same year. But before Christmas that box was played in radio a lot. The good old times when Bruce was played in radio too. There was even a radio show where they studied the box and played many tracks of the box. And there I was alone in my room on a rainy afternoon with a cassette in a recorder ready to tape any song. And I remember the DJ named Tero Liette, who was a famous Finnish DJ, saying something about Bruce performing different versions of his songs in concerts, and then he played the acoustic version of "No Surrender". And I taped it and played it many many times again and again. And I cried, and I cried. Like the tears had been waiting and collecting for years. And I didn't know why I was crying but I just did, and it felt good. It was the tears of fear, tears of sorrow, tears of longing, tears of anxiety but strange tears of happiness and relief too.

This may not sound like a big deal, but I think this one moment changed me a lot. In a sense I left my childhood behind that very moment. I realised there was more to it than just good

music. It was art, it was touching, it was emotions. And I also realised that maybe I was not like other people being so sensitive but then again that just would have to do. Very soon I turned more and more into art, literature and poetry in general and I have had some pretty good moments over the decades doing that and getting emotional and crying reading a beautiful poem or seeing a movie or a play. I must say that I'm a little tired of "No Surrender" since he plays it live a lot. But I still think it has one of the most beautiful lyrics in the last verse and whenever I hear the line "...these romantic dreams in my head" it reminds of the very moment I started to see the world and life differently, and of who I am and where I've come from. I'm sure this is not a kind of a story you wanted to hear but I needed to share it anyway."

A 44-year-old male fan from Finland. A fan for 35 years, with 12 show attendances.

"There are many kinds of "best memories". E.g. meaningful lyrics to my life, listening and enjoying his music alone/with others, live show moments and many things there (other fans, pit spirit, my own feelings and flow feeling in certain part of the show/song etc., travelling together with friends, pit queuing, sharing a look with Bruce personally, touching him and shaking hands with him.....). Once again I found it hard to describe this Bruce Springsteen fan thing easily and shortly and/or choose the one and only best memory, sorry! Best memories are those in Helsinki 2012 and all other shows in Europe!"

A 54-year-old female fan from Finland. A fan for 33 years, with 14 show attendances.

"I'm sorry but it's hard to choose just one. Bruce has been the soundtrack to my life from age 14 on. The memories are truly endless. The many, many friendships I have made because of Bruce are priceless. So maybe this one... sometime in 1973, I was walking in a mall with a friend. Greetings was in the record store window. I didn't know who Bruce was at the time but having spent A LOT of time in Asbury Park, from the time I was 2, the cover caught my eye. I thought that was so clever! The following March, 1974, the same friend bought me the album for my 14th birthday. It was love at first listen, and it started a lifelong musical love affair with Bruce and The E Street Band. I am truly grateful for this amazing journey!!"

A 57-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 43 years, with 81 show attendances.

"One of my best memories is the most recent concert in Australia. I was in the pit and met an Italian tourist and two Australian men. We were strangers at the start of the night and best friends at the end of the night. These enduring moments are part of the magic of Bruce. Another friend got on stage and played Max's drums, I got to touch Bruce's leg as he ran along the stage...it was just a magical night"

A 53-year-old female fan. A fan for 33 years, with seven show attendances.

"Being in the pit on Sept 7, 2016. My first time up close and my friend who was with me had gone to get beer but couldn't get back down and find me. It has been recorded as the longest US show ever! (4hrs/7 min?). Anyway, it was a tough time for me as my mom was home on hospice care. Those 4 hours were an escape from the saddest part of my life. He opened with NYC Serenade with a string section."

A 54-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 40 years, with 30 show attendances.

"I'll often go to concerts from different artists, Bruce is one of the few artists you feel a connection with, can give you goose bumps, can make you oh so happy, makes you jump, can make you cry and all of these emotions within 10 minutes. One of the only artists also who bring the same song in so many different ways, he can bring the same number as well in a rocking way or in a touching way. The average time of his concerts is about 3 h 30 min and it always seems just like a few minutes. Think he's one of the few artists who let feel so many people connected and made long time friendships between fans. My special moment: can't pick one, every concert he touches me by a song, give me goose bumps and let me sing out loud. I'll think that the mix of all these items in one concert makes me a Bruce & The E Street Band fan. See you further up the road!"

A 54-year-old female fan from Belgium. A fan for 35 years, with 50 show attendances.

"One of my best memories at the Springsteen concert was in about 1986-87. I was in college nursing school at the time and took three other girls who were in the nursing program with me to a show about 75-80 miles away in my old beat up Chevy Impala with no money to spare, and no tickets to the concert on a rainy slushy snowy night just outside Chicago. I did have my

mortgage money, \$400 and in an attempt to try to find scalped tickets (this was long before the Internet and the availability of secondary market seats) we began the hunt! We got to the arena the show had just started, we could hear the music and there were no people outside selling tickets and I had three other people with me they didn't know anything about Bruce's music and I just wanted them to experience it."

A 56-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 42 years, with 80 show attendances.

"My first concert in 88. I was blown away. The stadium felt like it was moving."

A 49-year-old male fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 30 years, with 28 show attendances.

"My dad and I really bond over Bruce's music and he is the one who took me to my first show in 2008. Since then I learned that it was a lot more fun to stand in the pit and experience everything from up close. My dad never really felt the need to que but during the River tour I managed to convince him to try the pit with me and he had the most amazing time. He is still talking about it now and it was honestly the best thing ever to enjoy seeing our hero up close together."

A 26-year-old female fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 17 years, with seven show attendances.

"The concerts in general, background information about his life, music and instrument gear. Playing aka Bruce in my Bruce Springsteen tribute The Boss Brothers is one of the greatest things in my life."

A 50-year-old male fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 32 years, with 30 show attendances.

"The first time that I met Bruce was at the Holiday Shows in Asbury Park NJ in 2003. I had flown from the UK and was waiting for him to come out of rehearsals. He drove slowly out of the Convention Hall and stopped next to me and rolled the window down. For many years I had practiced what I would say to him if ever I met him. I started well and thanked him for being a

major part of my life for many years. He looked me in the eyes and smiled at me then I went to pieces and declared my undying love for him!!!"

A 64-year-old female fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 38 years, with 98 show attendances.

"Got a last chance ticket to see Joe Grustecky at the Winder Bar in Asbury Park. Was in the front row. Bruce came on stage! I have never been that close! Got to shake his hand and strum his guitar! Once in a life time! Also went to book signing in Freehold NJ. Got my picture taken with him- it was in the local paper! He was so kind to everyone that was there!"

A 53-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 35 years, with 40 show attendances.

"I loved seeing Bruce Springsteen at the Paramount theatre in Asbury Park when he did his Christmas Shows. The theatre only fits 3000 people. It felt like he was having a party for 3000 of his closest friends. His family was there. My sister gave me her ticket as a birthday present. There was a strict 2 ticket limit. I went with my brother in law. Best concert I ever went to."

A 55-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 39 years, with 100 show attendances.

"Seeing Bruce with each of my three daughters. I told them that a Bruce Springsteen concert is the closest thing to time travel as they get to see what I was like at the age of 16."

A 56-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 40 years, with 12 show attendances.

"One of the highlights is probably what happened in September 2012. It was my first visit to USA & I was going to see my first show with Bruce outside Sweden. Me & couple of friends saw the 3 shows he did at Metlife Stadium in New Jersey. But what is the best memory is the evening before the first show. We stayed at a hotel in Asbury Park & that evening we went to a club called "Wonder Bar". There was a band called "Billy Walton Band" and they played the whole night. As a secret guest they had Vini Lopez playing drums for a couple of songs. I got his autograph & we start to talk about Steel Mill. Later that night he did one song from that era"

& dedicate the song to me. After that trip I have gone back several times to Asbury to see the Light Of Day festival. It will be my 4th time in January. I have bumped into Vini all the times. He thinks it's nice to meet me & had talked about me on stage several times & had become to be a great friend."

A 48-year-old male fan from Sweden. A fan for 32 years, with 32 show attendances.

"Sept. 30, 1978 -- my second Springsteen concert (of 53 so far) and the only show I attended on the legendary Darkness tour. It was at the beautiful old Fox Theatre in my hometown of Atlanta. It was not simply the finest performance I have ever seen, but the only time in my life when time seemed to stop. I did not notice the minutes passing, the other audience members, hardly even my date. It was the greatest night, the most wonderful, transfixing, engaging experience of my life."

A 58-year-old male fan from the United States. A fan for 42 years, with 53 show attendances.

"Meeting Bruce in Perth in 2017. It was an accidental meeting - he was literally walking in as we were walking out - but he was so generous with his time and attention. They say don't meet your idols, but he was even better in person than I had ever anticipated."

A 52-year-old female fan from Australia. A fan for 34 years, with 17 show attendances.

"After taking my 10yo son to his first Bruce Springsteen concert and when it was finished he turned and looked at me and said: Dad that was the best night of my life ever."

A 49-year old male fan from Australia. A fan for 35 years, with 14 show attendances.

"July 2013. He saw me in the Pit in Rome. Took a request also from me. The day after I had an early flight to Brussels, because Bruce was playing two days later at the Wercher festival. I was waiting for him at his hotel in the afternoon and gave him a warm welcome in my country. He saw me, and took of his sunglasses, and said "Hey Buddie, you're already here? You got your own airplane?"...:-) That was so funny, and from all the times I met him, the very best!!!"

A 55-year-old male fan from Belgium. A fan for 35 years, with 211 show attendances.

"There's so many. But I think the most important side of my life as a Bruce Springsteen fan is connecting with people and forming friendships all over the world. I stumbled upon the fans forum Greasy Lake when I was trying to find out what had happened to me when I experienced my first Bruce Springsteen show five years ago. I was totally overwhelmed and needed people to talk to. And I found exactly what I needed: people who understood, an abundance of information, all those wonderful concert videos I was looking for, quizzes, entertainment, gossip, laughs, and last but not least: friends. I am currently emailing several times a week, with three Greasy Lake friends on three continents, and we discuss everything that's important in life. The past weekend some of us met in Berlin, following an invitation on Greasy Lake to another member's birthday party. None of us had met before. We came, some of us with families, from four different countries. There were chocolates and sweets sent to our birthday girl from fellow Lakers in New Zealand and Australia. Our reputation had travelled wide and far and we were treated like royalty. Being a Springsteen fan has become an important part of my identity, it's like belonging to a big and generous worldwide E Street family."

A 65-year-old female fan from Sweden. A fan for 5 years, with 11 show attendances.

"September 7, 2017 for many reasons. Most importantly it was my sister Joan's first concert in five years. On 11-11-2011 my sister was in a automobile accident and she suffered a traumatic brain injury. Joan was my Springsteen partner and we attended many Bruce concerts together! Second reason they did the Fever I waited 34 years to hear it live! And the concert was in Philadelphia and it was 4 hours and 4 minutes long!!!! So, combine all of these things together and of course the slamming music with family and friends this is why it was very special!"

A 59-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 34 years, with 29 show attendances.

"Melbourne 2 Feb 2017 - Dancing in the Dark - pulled up on stage with Bruce and rocked out with his guitar! Best experience ever!"

A 46-year-old female fan from Australia. A fan for 36 years, with 20 show attendances.

"I have so many memories related to Bruce Springsteen. I've made great friends at shows or in ticket queues; I've felt a sense of belonging in cities all over the world when I've been one of thousands of fans at a show; and the music has been there for highs and lows of my life."

A 57-year-old female fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 43 years, with 100 show attendances.

"One morning I had woken up in a bad mood. I had to go to school quite early. I really didn't want to go, but as soon as I got on my bike on my way to school and I put on music everything changed. I had my iPod on shuffle and it chose 'We Take Care of Our Own'. As the upbeat instrumental start of the song kicked in, all of a sudden, my bad mood changed into energy, and it gave me the strength to be able to face a long school day. This was the first time that music did have this effect on me."

A 24-year-old male fan from the Netherlands. A fan for four years, with one show attendance.

"Bruce was playing Hard Rock Calling in Hyde Park. I arrived at the park at 5 am and started queueing. At 12 noon the gates opened, and we went through the barriers. I started to run but did not realise how far away the stage was. I got half way and I had to stop, my heart was racing. I was overtaken by everyone, people who had been at the park for just a short while came rushing past me. I didn't get the barrier. Although I loved the show I made it my mind that if Bruce ever played Hyde Park again I would be much fitter next time and I would get the barrier. Just a few years later Bruce was back at Hyde Park. I was fitter and this time I made the barrier. When Bruce stood in front of me I shook his hand and the many hours of waiting in the que was worth every second."

A 60-year-old female fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 34 years, with 30 show attendances.

"It's difficult to pick only one memory! Bruce Springsteen is an inherent part of my life and of my family members. My parents were both great Springsteen fans and they took me to my first Springsteen concert when I was 11 years old. After my mother passed away, my father met his

current partner through our local Springsteen community. An interest in Springsteen's music is one of the things that bonds us (me, my father, my stepmother, and my stepbrothers) together as a family.

When I was 16 years old, my father and I travelled to New Jersey to see all significant 'Springsteen places': where he grew up, the places he sings about in his songs, etc. It was then and there that I became fascinated with the United States for the first time. Now, at 26 years old, I have just gotten my master's degree in American Studies after writing a thesis on Springsteen and his position in American culture. Since he has been such a great influence in everything that I have done, it is really difficult to pick just one memory: every Springsteen memory is a great one! In my case, though, all memories are connected to my family. Each concert that I went to was a bonding experience for me and my family. My dad and I also took several trips in Europe together throughout the years to see Springsteen abroad.

Last year, when the 2016/2017 European Springsteen tour was announced, my dad and I were scrolling through an online list of confirmed concerts, trying to decide which one(s) to go to. We had travelled to Ireland, France, Germany, and Belgium for concerts before. Suddenly my dad pointed to Madrid and asked me: "how about Spain?" and so it was decided: we would go to Spain. We went to Madrid for 5 days and attended one concert at the Bernabeu stadium. The overall trip was an amazing experience. The older I get, the less time I get to spend with my dad. I am becoming more and more an independent adult, but taking these trips together is a magical experience for us as father and daughter. We both tremendously enjoy his music and we both know the lyrics to each and every song. And, since it was my mom who got us into Springsteen's music in the first place, it feels as if a part of her is still with us whenever we listen to his music or whenever we go to a concert. She has left us Springsteen.

As I mentioned before, when I was 11 years old, my parents took me to my first Springsteen concert. It was the concert in Rotterdam in May 2003, and it would be the first and last time I would see Springsteen together with both my parents, as my mother would pass away a year later. During the concert in Rotterdam, Springsteen played "You're Missing" live. A lady that was sitting next to us broke down and started crying, and (being the young girl that I was) I asked my parents why the lady was crying. My dad replied that maybe the song reminded her of someone who had passed away and that made her sad.

When my mom passed away, I insisted we play "You're Missing" at her funeral. Until now, I can only listen to that song on the day of my mother's passing - the song is off limits for me every other day of the year.

From then on, I started listening to Springsteen more and more by myself, as I wanted to keep my mom close to me, and I became a fan of his music myself as well. My dad and I continued my parents' tradition of going to as many concerts as possible and they are great bonding experiences for us.

If I had to pick only one memory, I would probably choose the concert my parents and I attended when I was 11. It's a sad and beautiful memory at the same time, and one that I will always cherish.

My apologies for the long story!

A 26-year-old female fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 26 years, with 15 show attendances.

"My best memory is my first concert, when I really understood what a Bruce Springsteen concert is like and the feeling it conveys - community, fun, caring, almost a spirituality, although I don't consider myself a spiritual person. "The church of Bruce." It was greatly entertaining, inspiring, and most importantly, uplifting."

A 66-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 5 years, with five show attendances.

"The first show in 1975 in Houston Texas. It changed how I viewed, approached, enjoyed, and critiqued every show by every other artist since."

A 61-year-old male fan from the United States. A fan for 42 years, with 50 show attendances.

"I met Bruce at a book event in an Atlanta suburb last year. We lined up in the parking lot of the bookstore hosting the event. When it finally came my turn to enter the store, they were playing his music on the store sound system. I mentioned above that Land of Hope and Dreams means a great deal to me. The Madison Square Garden live version is the ring tone on my phone and the alarm I wake to every day. It's much more than my favorite song: it's my anthem. If that song begins to play, it can penetrate any misery, anger, fear, frustration, and give me

peace and hope. As I waited for my turn to meet Bruce, I thought how cool it would be if LOHAD was playing while I was with him. It's not one of his big, well known hits and I felt like it was too farfetched to be possible. When there were two people between me and my turn, and I could see Bruce just a few feet away and hear his voice truly live for the first time ever in my forty odd years of fandom, that fantastic drum intro from Max Weinberg started. The goose bumps rose, and I floated through my meeting with Bruce. Pure joy: karma at its most blessed. I got to hug my hero while his greatest musical gift to me played in the background. See the joy on my face!"

A 56-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 40 years, with 30 show attendances.

"Last year me and my wife went to Bruce Springsteen concert in Paris. When he played Independence Day, it made me strongly think about my own dad who has been diagnosed Alzheimer disease. It was an emotional moment which also made me feel happy in a way. Hard to explain."

A 47-year-old male fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 40 years, with 30 show attendances.

"Well, you never quite get over seeing Bruce Springsteen play live. It truly is a coming together of community people from all walks of life coming to join together to celebrate this man and his music. You can't put it into words, you can only experience it for yourself. It's been my constant companion for most of my life, through good times and bad the world would be a poorer place without this great man and his music."

A 64-year old female fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 38 years, with 50 show attendances.

"My best memory was meeting him last year at the Cambridge Barnes and Noble. He was very sweet and let me hug him and say a few things before I had to move along. It was lovely, and he was so gracious to us all."

A 52-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 37 years, with 45 show attendances.

"Devils and Dust Tour. In Dublin I was 5 rows back from the stage right in front of Bruce. While singing Dream Baby Dream he looked straight at me and sang to me. I was totally lost in that moment, mystified by Bruce. Loved it and will never forget my moment with Bruce."

A 54-year-old female fan from Northern Ireland. A fan for 34 years, with 30 show attendances.

"My best memory is my first concert, when I really understood what a Bruce Springsteen concert is like and the feeling it conveys - community, fun, caring, almost a spirituality, although I don't consider myself a spiritual person. "The church of Bruce" It was greatly entertaining, inspiring, and most importantly, uplifting."

A 66-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for five years, with five show attendances.

"The first show in 1975 in Houston Texas. It changed how I viewed, approached, enjoyed, and critiqued every show by every other artist since."

A 61-year-old male fan from the United States. A fan for 42 years, with 50 show attendances.

"Going to all of the 2017 Australia and New Zealand shows, I got to meet over 150 new friends and hear Bruce Springsteen on 14 different occasions. It was fantastic because I have at least 10 new friends for life and hundreds of great Bruce and friends memories."

A 55-year-old female fan from Australia. A fan for four years, with 22 show attendances.

"Boxing Day 2004, a tsunami hit the beaches of Thailand...A few months ago I've met a wonderful Thai Girl, and I would have done anything to see her again, but from the 26 of December, I couldn't contact her...It took several days before I find out she was still alive. During those days, I constantly played the album "The Rising", because a lot of those tracks seemed to be written for me at that time...And after 4 or 5 days, I heard the news she was still alive... Thank you God, thank you Bruce at that moment...We become a couple since then and still are up to know and we have a wonderful baby and in 2013, finally, my wife saw for the

first time Bruce and she was moved and me, I still have goose bumps when I hear the tracks from the album The Rising."

A 45-year-old male fan from Belgium. A fan for 33 years, with 13 show attendances.

"In 2012 me and my daughter Evelien went to see Bruce Springsteen in Paris. We were there 5 days in advance and we had #11 and 12, so we would be in the front row. At home my daughter and my son had made a sign for Bruce in secret. The sign was a picture of Bruce dancing with his old mother on stage with the words: will you dance with MY mom? And below: fan since 1975. When we left home, Evelien told me she had that sign, because it was too big to hide. She needed my suitcase to take it with her. I felt very surprised, but I didn't think it would work. At the show, it was the 4th of July (!), Evelien took the sign with her inside the venue. During the song Dancing In The Dark she held it up, Bruce saw it and took ME on stage! On the 4th of July in the most lovely venue I know (Bercy) in Paris: I was on stage! I stayed very calm and Bruce just looked me in the eyes without stopping. When the song was over I got a hug and a kiss and I got back to my spot in the front row. I was very happy but still very calm, but Evelien cried because she was SO happy. The next 24 hours I was the most famous person in the environment of Bercy in Paris. Everybody smiled at me. Back in the hotel I called my son. He doesn't like the music of Bruce Springsteen at all, but he made the sign, just for me as a surprise."

A 61-year-old female fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 42 years, with 50 show attendances.

"When I got close to the stage and the goose bumps the first time Jungleland was played after the death of the Big Man, Clarence Clemons."

A 49-year-old female fan from Sweden. A fan for 35 years, with 15 show attendances.

"It's hard to choose a best memory amongst all the good memories I have. There's no doubt that I would find his music someday, but I was only 11 years old when it hit me like a thunderbolt. I already knew him from the boy next door who let me listen to his Born In The USA album. I had a new CD-player (my first one) and I bought myself the live 75/85 boxset with the little money I saved. That was 1989. I remember sitting on the edge of the bed with the

large book in my hands trying to understand the lyrics while the music filled the room. And then the intro of Backstreets started. I heard sounds I had never heard before and it gave me a feeling I had never felt before. I sat stone like while the song grabbed me never to let go again. That was the moment when I turned into a lifelong fan. I remember running downstairs to call my mother and tell her about what I had discovered.

Somehow Bruce invited me to get on board that day. 28 years later I still am on board. In some way Bruce became my second father. Without Bruce I would not have become the same guy I am right now. Through his songs I've learned a lot about life, about the man I want to be, about my personal values. About what it means to grow older and how to fit into a changing world. How to keep going. And how to keep the faith and embrace the doubt. He shows me how to stay hard, to stay hungry and to stay alive. He is my living proof."

A 39-year-old male fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 28 years, with nine show attendances.

"Ullevi 2012. They played Jungleland for the first time since the death of Clarence. I Will never forget that moment."

A 63-year-old male fan from Sweden. A fan for 35 years, with seven show attendances.

"When I got a hug from Bruce at the Trondheim Concert at the River tour 2016, during Tenth Avenue Freeze Out. During Dancing in the Dark Bruce went over to pick me up from the crowd to dance, but he picked up a boy that wanted to play the drums. The little boy didn't dare to walk up on stage on his own, so Bruce needed to follow him. But afterwards in the next song he came over to me and hugged me. It was the best Feeling ever. He means so much for me and for my entire life. I may only be 16, but I love him. My parents have always been big Springsteen fans, and so am I. He was so warm, and that hug meant so much for me. That's the most important memory of my entire life."

A 16-year-old female fan from Sweden. A fan for seven years, with four show attendances.

"A friend of mine has similar musical taste as mine. I was surprised he was not a Bruce Springsteen fan and that he never saw Bruce live. I told him I would pay for the ticket and I'd

take him to Zurich to see Bruce Springsteen live. He could pay me back only IF he loved the concert. He reimbursed me before the end of the concert. He's a fan now!"

A 45-year-old male fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 20 years, with four show attendances.

"Wow, this is hard. I think that it is hard to give one specific moment, since I've been a fan for so many years. I grew from a teenager, to a grown up, to a parent- to his music. His music is my home. It is where I find courage, a sense of belonging. I can relax, he gets me. His music is comfort. He knows me and my needs, and there is a song for every occasion. He helps me see the world, has given me a family outside of my family. All those fans I've gotten to know, who have become part of my life. I am at my happiest on a Bruce concert. I cry, I laugh, I am.....me. To get a handshake or when he points at me, recognizes me, feels....like home. And like heaven. It's the soundtrack and the friendship of my life.

Thank you, Bruce."

A 42-year-old female fan from Sweden. A fan for 25 years, with 35 show attendances.

"Ooh...tough one...but the Seeger Sessions show in Oslo on 20. May 2006 was likely the most special show on a whole. When all 9000ish had "gotten off their Norwegian asses" (Bruce's words, more or less) during "Jacob's Ladder" and for most of the rest of the show: AWESOME is only the "first name"!! The first TOL show in Stockholm in 1988, because it was my FIRST. "Am I really here??" kind of feeling... The 20th of July 2012 show in Oslo, because the first songs had "tomorrow it is one year since the massacre and the bomb" all over them. Promised Land ACOUSTIC first. I get emotional now just writing about this. During the same show, "Two Hearts" made me weep in silence..because my divorce was still kinda bleeding... (and I did not want the divorce).

21th of July 2012, near Oslo's town hall: Memorial concert for the deaths one year earlier. Bruce and Steve on stage with "We shall overcome". No other place I would rather be then! By happy accident I was still in Oslo and able to attend, before going to Bergen for 2 shows. The Bergen shows were awesome, and during the first a female fan from England got to play DRUMS! Gothenburg, 2nd show 2012, Jungleland was played for the first time since Clarence passed. SHIVERS! Moist eyes. The feeling as I heard the very beginning, and it sank in what "This is for the Big Man" meant. I was in the pit. So happy I was there. And....hahaha....9th of

June 1985...I was NOT able to be in Gothenburg but was home! :(DAMN! Ah..and yes 1996, when I did not see the ticket drop coming in Oslo. I lived 20 metro ride minutes from the venue and realized as I watched the 9 pm news that I had fucked up. hehe."

A 52-year-old male fan from Norway. A fan for 37 years, with 20 show attendances.

"Perth, January 2017. Towards the end of the show, and I was on the rail - front row - and Bruce played Backstreets. That song means so much to me, and so to hear it in my hometown, with my son standing next to me, in the front row, was a dream come true."

A 50-year-old male fan from Australia. A fan for 37 years, with 15 show attendances.

"I have several treasured memories connected to the live shows, where I met some of my very best friends, including my husband. One of my very first, and the reason I became such a hardcore fan, was on my first concert. I was fourteen years old and my mom made me go, stating that Bruce was one of the greatest, you just had to had seen him. We had seats waaay back and I barely knew his music and still I was mesmerized. I felt as though he was talking to ME, like all of the others were gone. It was an intense feeling for a teenager and quite strange to find it with someone my mom listened to. I was sucked right into it, feeling every note coursing through my body. I wanted to stay in that mode so badly and I went back by myself the next day and managed to buy a ticket outside the arena. That was the first time I was in the pit and I've never been anywhere else at a Bruce-show since. That whole summer I listened to little other than Bruce, and Jungleland was my bedtime story for years."

A 28-year-old female fan from Sweden. A fan for 15 years, with 32 show attendances.

"I think any of the concerts were fantastic, but it was my ambition for over 30 years to see him live in New Jersey and last year I did at Meadowlands. When he sang Jersey Girl that was probably the best moment but there are many."

A 57-year-old female fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 38 years, with 27 show attendances.

"One of my best memories was in Bergen, Norway in 2009. It was the first time my daughter danced with Bruce during Dancing in the Dark. My daughter who was 10 at the time worked hard to accomplish it: she wrote Bruce a letter and she made a poster which said: "Bruce please dance with me". This was her third Bruce Springsteen show and she had met him the year before. My daughter became a Bruce Springsteen fan when she was 2 years old. During Dancing in the Dark she held up her poster and Bruce lifted her up on the stage. After my first show in 1985 in Gothenburg, if someone told me my future daughter would dance with Bruce and eat dinner with big parts of the E street band, I would never believe it."

A 55-year-old male fan from Norway. A fan for 42 years, with 36 show attendances.

"Many great Bruce experiences and memories, so it's hard to choose just one, but one of my best feelings/memories was when I was able to first share the concert experience with my youngest son, who was 18 at the time. My 3 kids were all raised listening to Bruce and many times I was not able to attend concerts due to finances and my kids being my first priority of course. In November of 2012 I splurged and got two GA floor tickets to the show in Portland Oregon. We drove down from Seattle and shared a hotel room with some other fellow fans. We were lucky in the pit lottery, but not quite lucky enough to get right up front, so we wound up along the back stage. Which turned out perfectly, Bruce came back there and made eye contact with us, pointed to us and shook our hands, it was so special for me to share that with my son!!

Even though I know he does this all the time with people, it makes you feel so special, like a long-lost friend who remembers you and at that moment it's like no one else is there but you! He also started his crowd surf with our group! It was such an awesome experience and worth the wait!! I have pictures but they're on my old computer and not accessible right now. But I do have one pic from our last Seattle show that I'll share. My other best experience was being able to meet Bruce on the book tour last year in Seattle. I was so emotional, and it went by so quickly, it was surreal. I know that I was very lucky to have that opportunity. It has me wanting more now.... I am splurging again with my son, we are going to see Bruce on Broadway on December 7th!!!! Luckily, I grew up in New Jersey and will be combining this with a visit to my sister and other family in PA and NJ. My son and I will also be trekking to Asbury Park, etc. Gotta keep making those memories!!!! <3

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to share my story :)"

A 54-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 42 years, with 12 show attendances.

"The first show I've visited. I was 15 and didn't know that music could have such an influence on the way you feel. I felt a joy I didn't feel before. I danced and clapped until my hands hurt. That sense of living, joy and yes happiness is still the reason why I visit Springsteen shows. These shows give me something that normal life is almost unable to give me."

A 48-year old fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 32 years, with 46 show attendances.

"A dear friend of mine, who has now passed away loved Springsteen as much as I. Kevin and I used to listen to Springsteen all the time, weather inside, driving or at concerts, anywhere! As I've answered I have been to many Bruce Springsteen shows and in my opinion a Bruce Springsteen concert is a SHOW, not a concert. I cannot put into words the feelings I get from seeing a show other than excited, happy, forget the rest of the world! I am in recovery / AA, sober now over 20yrs. I can recall the morning I woke on 6/8/97 in a hotel room with nothing! As I sat on the bed and B.S.'s song ""Glory Days"" came on the radio I listened and thought, I have no "Glory Days" because I had been drunk for so long back then. I called a friend and they brought me to R.I. (Rhode Island) where I got sober and turned my life around! Strange, I had been listening to Bruce Springsteen's music for over 20yrs at that point but for some reason that morning and that song hit me with feelings I had never felt. So, I took some action and got sober and I will be forever grateful to Bruce and his music for life. I have followed Bruce and his music to this day, 10/13/17 and will do so for ever. As I sit and type this Bruce Springsteen is on my cd player and it just feels great! Rock on fellow fans, rock on!"

A 56-year-old male fan from the United States. A fan for 40 years, with 558 show attendances.

"My first concert in Rotterdam in 2003 was special to me because when Bruce was in Holland in 1985 my parents would not let me go. When I saw him in 2003 it was like being back in 1985, It made me cry."

A 48-year-old male fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 33 years, with three show attendances.

"Lining up for 6 hours to see my first concert in 1985 when I was 20. Big names didn't come to Australia a lot then. I remember the excitement. This year I went to my 11th concert. I would never have believed I could see him that many times."

A 53-year-old female fan from Australia. A fan for 39 years, with 11 show attendances.

"My best memory is when Bruce Springsteen came to my second hometown, Trondheim (Norway), and I was at pit/inner circle. This was in 2016, and it was very important for me that he came to Trondheim, and to my second hometown."

A 45-year-old male fan from Norway. A fan for 32 years, with four show attendances.

"Bruce concert in Frogner Park, Oslo 2016. Outdoor concert in the park in my hometown, the fourth concert for me and my sister that summer. Bruce decided to play the The River through as the atmosphere, weather, audience were just fantastic. It was my first time standing right on the barrier on the front row, and it was such a great experience. During Sherry darling, Bruce came over to our platform and he took my hand and looked at me while he held it for a whole chorus. It was such a cool experience to finally feel that close to one of the people I admire most. Bruce's way of interacting with fans during his show is so inspiring, and it really does feel like he loves being there and making that moment the best it can be for all the thousands of people who have attended that particular show."

A 27-year-old female fan from Norway. A fan for 22 years, with ten show attendances.

"Springsteen in Perth Western Australia, 2014. Direct contact at a concert and he leaned in and said "Great hat"... the hats old style peak cap, and is now the Bruce cap to all that will listen."

A 41-year-old male fan from Australia. A fan for 35 years, with seven show attendances.

"First time I saw him live. Travelled from WA to Melbourne and the Iraq war started that day. I really thought he would cancel. When he finally came on by himself, he sang Born in the USA"

acoustically. The tears streamed down my face. Couldn't believe I was finally seeing him. This year in Perth he ran passed and high fived me!!"

A 54-year-old female fan from Australia. A fan for 38 years, with four show attendances.

"My best memory is from The River Tour 2016. As a member of a Swedish fan group I put up my idea of making the last concert of the three at Ullevi stadium a special one. Since we have no idea if Bruce and The E Street Band will ever come back to Gothenburg and the stadium he broke down (it had to be rebuilt) at his first show at Ullevi 1984. My idea was to make the stands form a message when Bruce and The band entered the stage that showed the long and special relationship Swedish fans have to Bruce music. The fan group thought it was a brilliant idea, but we had to keep it secret for just a few fans to make sure it would be a surprise.

After months of planning and the help from Live Nation around 25-30 fans entered the stadium the day before the show and put out papers on every seat. It took us 6 hours and about 35 000 papers. The message we wanted Bruce and The band to see was ""Welcome Home Bruce & E Street Band"" formed (in blue and yellow colours according to the Swedish flag) on the two bigger stands around the stadium. I was very nervous if the message would even be visible from the stage. It was also important for all the audience to be a part of the idea because if some part of the arena did not follow the instructions on the paper the whole message could be disrupted.

When the time had come for the show to start Bruce and the band came on stage I was standing in the golden circle in front of the stage looking back at the stands and saw the stands now forming the message. I can't describe the feeling I had in that moment. I saw the expression of the faces of the bandmembers and Bruce hearing Bruce first words "I'm Impressed.... Wow...Thank You" looking a bit shocked at the same time. Of course, I screamed and cried at the same time, it was such a beautiful view. It was undoubtedly the proudest moment of my life. During the last song Bruce once again thanked for the warm welcome and the special relationship with the Swedish fans.

The next day Bruce send a greeting on twitter and thanked for the show with a picture of one of the stands. I now have a huge print of the same picture on my wall at home. If it appears to be the last show Bruce made at Ullevi my dream of making it really special came true. I am a really shy person and don't know what to say if I met Bruce. But deep inside I want to say thank

you for all the joy he has given me for 10 years and more to come. In some way this message on the third show was my way of saying Thank You."

A 31-year old male fan from Sweden. A fan for 10 years, with ten show attendances.

"Four most important shows:

- Gothenberg, Sweden, 1985, It was the first big show to a country girl who had spent her life in the middle of nowhere in Finland. Ullevi waved to the music, and dancing.. and almost broke. And Ullevi was closed after the show!

-2003 Helsinki: The first show in Finland. We took our sons, aged 14 and 12, with us. They had to share the experience, to hear the songs mum and dad loved so much. And, maybe 50 years later, they would be proud to tell their children they had been to Springsteen's concert.

-Turku, Finland, 2013. We were so close, and I was one of the happy ones carrying Bruce when he was crowd surfing in Hungry Heart.

-Oslo, Norway, 2016. Our 30-wedding anniversary. Bruce didn't come to Finland. So, we travelled to Oslo. It was The River tour. We were so close again, heard all those important and dear songs which tell us about our life and bring back memories. I can see my life as a film. Once again, I danced, sang, laughed and cried. The hole scale of feelings.

The most important song: The River. I have heard it in many situations which are meaningful, dear, happy and sad. The latest one was in autumn 2017. We left home from the hospital where we had seen our first granddaughter, aged one day. We were so, so amazed and happy. The first song we heard in the radio was the River. I have told my husband and sons that if I ever have a stroke and lie on a bed in hospital and seem to dead, they have to let me hear the River. If I don't react and they don't see teardrops running from my eyes, they have to believe I am really dead, and let me go."

A 59-year-old female fan from Finland. A fan for 37 years, with ten show attendances.

"Hearing that particular song played live during a show for the first time. With a Bruce Springsteen show you never know what you're gonna get, which songs will be performed. When your long-awaited favourite song is played it is a magical moment. I had to wait until last year

to hear Jungleland for the first time live. The magic happened during the show in The Hague, Holland on the 14th of June. For me, that moment defines the true thrill of a Springsteen-show and that's why I keep going to see him whenever I can. And, with me, millions of other fans worldwide.

A 51-year-old male fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 37 years, with 20 show attendances.

"The concert in Rome 2016. Rome is a city where you can smell its incredible history. The Circus Maximus therefore provided a beautiful setting for that incredible show. It was a very sunny day. I flew in at the very same day. Starting in Basel the flight took me over the Vosges and the Alps before flying over the Mediterranean Sea. I could see Genoa, Corsica and Sardinia before landing in Rome. The weather held. Almost no clouds. But it was pretty hot outside. Inside Circus Maximus water was distributed to prevent people from dehydration. But it cooled down a bit. And when Bruce and the band entered the stage it was absolutely perfect. They played for almost 4 hours. I never thought I'd experience songs like "New York City Serenade" (with the Rome Symphony Orchestra), "Drive All Night", "Independence Day" or "The Ghost of Tom Joad" (Solo). The audience had an incredible sense for the music. And being there with a lot of friends made it even more perfect."

A 30-year-old male fan from Germany. A fan for 15 years, with 15 show attendances.

"I remember going to Cardiff for a second time to see Bruce. Me and my husband queued all day from very early in the morning. About midday, as we were walking back to the que a seagull passed over us and shit on both of us. We couldn't believe it but thought it was pretty funny. We thought "this better mean good luck for us!" Later that evening, after enjoying a few songs Bruce launches into a long intro to Spirit in the Night. Midway through the song, Bruce came over to us and gave me the mic to sing with him. I can't sing, but in that moment, it was just me and Bruce, and of course my out of tune voice!! He laughed and gave me another go...it was still shocking! He continued laughing and smiling and he sat down in front of me, turned around and laid back on me and my husband, in our arms. He stayed like that for what seemed like eternity!!! It was the best few moments ever and something we'll never forget!"

A 29-year-old female fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 10 years, with 11 show attendances.

"I've been a fan of Bruce Springsteen since the late 70s and have seen him in concert about 30 times. Every experience is a special one. My most memorable show was in May of 2014. Albany Times Union center, when my 3 nieces got up with Bruce and the band and danced to Seaside Bar Song."

A 55-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 40 years, with 30 show attendances.

"There are a lot of memories. Many concert moments. Many moments aside the tour (Roma, Milano, Kilkenny, etc.). One of my most joyful is that Bruce played my request in Leipzig, Germany in 2013. It was you "You Never Can Tell" by Chuck Berry. It was a ugly sign which I made very spontaneous during the roll call. But I could see the gleam in his eyes when he saw the sign. From that moment I knew he would play it. It felt like a favor of him because I had a hard time personally. He brought me so much joy by playing my request and the band had so much joy on stage too. Afterwards Bruce released a pro-shot video of this moment. And it made me realize how much joy the other fans had seeing it. And I am a part of this joy. I think it is one of the most popular live videos of Bruce on YouTube."

A 29-year-old male fan from Germany. A fan for 14 years, with 30 show attendances.

"The best moment was to see Bruce hugging my son and watching directly in my eyes.... Zürich 31.7.2016 I could feel all the spirit and love of Bruce in my heart..."

A 43-year-old female fan from Switzerland. A fan for 25 years, with 85 show attendances.

"When he unexpectedly (to me) came to London to introduce his documentary at BFI in October 2010. I managed to get a ticket at the last minute, just expecting to see the film. There had been rumours he might be attending but I thought that was just wishful thinking. On the day I got through to the cinema at 4 pm and they just said (very matter of factly) that he would be there on the red carpet in about an hour. I live about an hour away. Never rushed somewhere so quickly. Was wearing high heels but ran like I couldn't believe and caught him on the red carpet, he was maybe 10 feet away. I was on my own so didn't know what else to do but put it on Facebook. Then went into cinema. My seat was five rows from the front. Suddenly

he came onto the stage to introduce the film. I just jumped up and down and screamed like a hysterical teenager - probably a bit embarrassing for a 50+ year old woman. When I told my son, who had tried to come with me, he was really glad he wasn't there to be embarrassed. What a night, just amazing."

A 62-year-old female fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 40 years, with 30 show attendances.

"The best memory would have to be my very first concert. It profoundly moved me and determined my drive to have purpose in life. It informed many of my choices. I was miles away at the time, somewhere in the stands, but I will never forget the roar as he came on stage, the dangerous swinging of the concrete stadium seats and the overwhelming feeling of having arrived 'home'. I have been fortunate enough to meet him a number of times, dance and play guitar on stage ... but THAT first moment live is still the best ever moment."

A 48-year-old female fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 34 years, with 100 show attendances.

"The best memory for me as a fan happened during the concert in Limerick, Ireland on the Wrecking Ball tour. It was an beautiful summer's evening, we had already heard an hour of fantastic music and then Bruce started talking about when he was a young guy in New Jersey, enjoying those long summer days..writing music.. about how we're more exposed, more open in the summer.. searching for something...he told us they'd be playing the album he wrote that summer... then we heard the opening chords of Thunder Road and it was incredible. . I actually started crying! I was so happy to be hearing Thunder Road live, but also know we'd get to hear all the other wonderful songs from Born to Run... a once in a lifetime experience to hear this iconic album live."

A 35-year old female fan from Ireland. A fan for 42 years, with 52 show attendances.

"Manchester City ground June 2016. After standing in the rain for hours the band came on stage. I was 4 people back from the stage. I stood and cried as this moment was just so magical- I won't go on but I can still feel the tingle of joy. That has been repeated over the last

42 years. Auckland and Christchurch New Zealand 2017 was equally as special. I feel Auckland will have been our last time together but who knows."

A 59-year-old female fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 42 years, with 52 show attendances.

"My first concert, Slane, 1 June 1985, aged 19 with my first boyfriend."

A 51-year old female fan from Ireland. A fan for 35 years, with 15 show attendances.

"Seeing Springsteen on Broadway was special. To be able to hear his unamplified singing voice is something I didn't think would ever happen. Other than that, I grew up off of the same highway 9 mentioned in Born to Run...so every time I hear it live, it kind of gives me a shot in the arm to go do something awesome with my life."

A 25-year old female fan from the United States. A fan for 7 years, with nine show attendances.

"Discovering the Darkness album was a real revelation for me. It showed me there was depth and poetry and beauty to Springsteen's music I had not realized before. I was in college and I played it day and night and whenever I hear anything from that album it still reminds me of that first moment of discovery and is still thrilling for me. Last year my friend and I were able to meet and take a photo with Springsteen at his book signing in Los Angeles. After four decades of being a fan this was an important and exciting moment for me. Just as in the concerts, I felt that my moment with him was very personal and formed a real connection for me."

A 50-year female fan from the United States. A fan for 42 years, with 30 show attendances.

"Travelling to Rome to see him was the best. I can remember the gig and when I hear certain songs, I am instantly back there in my mind."

A 52-year-old female fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for five years, with two show attendances.

"Fenway 2003. My tickets were messed up because there was a missing seat in our row. We were then given front row seats by the "green monster". No camera phone then, so I enjoyed the moment more because I was present instead of taking pictures or videoing. I never have or had been this close since. I learned to appreciate these special moments, we don't often get these opportunities."

A 50-year female fan from the United States. A fan for 40 years, with 50 show attendances.

"Every moment at a Springsteen concert is a new memory as a Bruce Springsteen fan. It may not be ""the best"" but every time it is unique, and therefore it is a new best memory. The moments are all stored in a "bag" of Bruce-memories and Bruce-moments. Since I have not met him in person I cannot say that I have A best memory, because when/if I do it would be the BEST memory. Every moment is unique and special in its content."

A 38-year-old male fan from Sweden. A fan for 25 years, with 13 show attendances.

"It was in Gothenburg (2012), Bruce did play Drive All Night, it was the first time I heard it live. This song is one of my favourites of The River album, the first Springsteen record I bought. The very best memory was the show in Paris (13/07/2016), the second show. Bruce began behind the piano and played Iceman, a very old song, so special. Than he said, we're gonna play The River from top till bottem. The River was his first record I bought, my first Springsteen concert was in 1981, one day after my birthday, and that show was the last one I went to see that tour. I was "a little" emotional when he played the first notes of The Ties That Bind. The circle was round at that moment. I hope to see Bruce still 57 times."

A 63-year-old male fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 38 years, with 57 show attendances.

"I guess shaking hands with him on the Ghost of Tom Jones tour. I lost my father at a very young age and had no father figure or male role model in my life and I know that this is where Bruce's music stepped in. It has been a life long journey ever since."

A 45-year-old male fan from Ireland. A fan for 35 years, with 37 show attendances.

"Oh, one? Hmmmm, when he pointed my sign out to Steven Van Zant, and they laughed. It's my favourite because I made him and his buddy laugh. It was in Milwaukee March 2016. I watch it on YouTube and smile."

A 53-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 39 years, with 12 show attendances.

"My first best moment was my first show. I'd heard of him before but seeing him live in Boston in March of 1977 changed everything from then on. The way he danced and moved and leapt and prowled, the way he sang, whispered, roared, the communications between the band members-- and most of all the joy! It was clear he loved this and standing in that fourth row in front I was swept up in the joy and excitement. I had the feeling that he was telling "me" something. I was hooked from then on. Best show I've ever seen in my life, bar none. My words don't do it justice. Afterwards I was walking home to my apartment and stopped into a little market...and there he was, coming toward me down the narrow aisle. I couldn't bring myself to speak, but he caught me staring, and winked, nodding his head. No other performer does this for me--giving me the feeling that he knows of my sadness and despair, and is encouraging me to let go, to dance, and to trust -- that everything will be all right."

A 61-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 43 years, with 16 show attendances.

"My best memory? The first live show I saw. East Berlin, July 19th, 1988. 160,000 fans officially, but nobody knows how many they really were. 200,000? 300,000? I never thought that I could see him live on a concert behind the Iron Curtain. It was an unbelievable atmosphere I'll never forget as long I live. At the end of the show I was tired. Okay, I thought, this was the only possibility to see BS. I couldn't know that I could see him five years later in Munich, in West Germany, again!"

A 53-year old male fan from Germany. A fan for 35 years, with six show attendances.

"At the concert in Stockholm May 08 1981 Springsteen had done the whole fantastic show with encores, 31 songs and a lot of people were going out. The lights were put on but where we were, many stayed and wanted more. After a long time, he came out once again and did a

fantastic version of Twist and Shout. I was at the concert the day before and was totally blown out than. But on this evening, he top that and I was trapped for life!"

A 67-year-old male fan from Sweden. A fan for 42 years, with 26 show attendances.

"I was 14 and bought my first record - the Wild, the Innocent and the entire street shuffle, after being introduced to Bruce's music at the age of 9, when my mom brought home The River. I enjoyed the B side, flipped to the B side and still remember how I sat on the floor, mouth wide open, when New York City Serenade started. That Vass value piano tune, that transforms into a jazz tune, and then the guitar comes in. Gives me goose bumps till today and I couldn't stop crying, when I finally heard it live in Rome in 2016. It's that one song I can turn to, when I'm sad, happy or both at the same time. It's the one song, I can always cry to."

A 45-year old female fan from Germany. A fan for 36 years, with 17 show attendances.

"I was moving in with my girlfriend many years back. I was on the motorway listening to a mix tape with my Springsteen favourites. My dad was helping me move. He drove the van and I drove in my car. A few years earlier my mum committed suicide, and I know that my dad struggled for years up till she passed away. As I drove 'Walk like a man' came on and suddenly I could relate to the situation through that song. 'I was young and I didn't know what to do when I saw your best steps taken away from you...'. I was in tears. The whole thing with him helping me move to another town to live with my now wife and him struggling after my mother's death made me feel like the protagonist singing: well tonight you step away from me and alone at the altar I'll stand. As I watch my bride coming down the aisle I pray for the strength to walk like a man."

A 44-year old male fan from Denmark. A fan for 32 years, with four show attendances.

"Bruce was doing his book tour and the closest huge was coming to Phoenix was LA. So, i got in my car, drove for 7 hours to LA, waited in line with 1,500 other fans, slept overnight in that line pin the sidewalk, and after waiting there for 26 hours, I got to meet Bruce Springsteen for about 4 seconds. He was cool, humble, and it was just one of those rare opportunities in life to make a memory."

A 50-year-old fan from the United States. A fan for 35 years, with 14 show attendances.

"My best memory is not one where I got to go to a show or meet him in person as it hasn't happened yet, unfortunately. My best memory is the moment I heard Thunder Road for the very first time (2016) as it is the song that got me interested in discovering and searching for Springsteen's music. It played on those TV channels with only music on. Right after the song ended, I looked it up and read the lyrics while listening to it and I remember being blown away by the genius of this song and its imagery as well as the story told in it. I then decided to listen to the whole album 'Born to Run' and fell in love with it. And then, I listened to the album 'Born in the USA', then all of them going back from 'Greetings from Asbury Park'. It wasn't long before I bought all the albums and became obsessed with this great music. It somewhat terrifies me to think of what I'd be missing out if I hadn't caught Thunder Road when I did."

A 23-year-old female fan from Canada. A fan for one year, with no show attendances.

"I have no particular memory, but it is very meaningful for me being to a Bruce Springsteen concert, standing in the front row and feeling linked to all the other people around me, knowing we all feel the same love to him and his music."

A 52-year-old fan from Germany. A fan for 33 years, with 25 show attendances.

"We were in Ireland (Dublin) for the first time in 2012. We had been doing the every 4 hour roll call for GA for 4 days when on the day before the show I find out I don't have tickets. We went to the 4PM roll call devastated. In the 4 days of queuing we had met some wonderful people that assured us they would find us tickets. One lovely lady even called her friend that worked for the promoters to see if there was anyway we could get in, there wasn't. We had just about given up hope when this couple (Jimi and Svetlana) came up to us and told us to go get something to eat, have a drink 110% guaranteed they would find us tickets. Left without any other options we started walking to a restaurant. We barely got 3 blocks when he pulls up beside us in his white van, honking and says get in we're meeting someone that has tickets. Long story short we have remained friends, meeting them in NY and other concerts in Ireland. At one of the shows in Limerick they slept in their van so we wouldn't have to drive all the way back to Dublin after the show. My story is only one of millions of other stories about meeting

people from around the world that share not only our passion for the music but the humanity that that passion expresses."

A 71-year old female fan from the United States. A fan for 15 years, with 150 show attendances.

"The first time I saw Bruce & The E Street band, Newcastle City Hall 1981, just blew me away sheer passion."

A 61-year-old male fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 42 years, with 19 show attendances.

"Taking my son and his now wife to their first Springsteen concert a few days after they had been to the T in the Park festival and seeing them blown away by Bruce's star quality and connection to his audience. They were so impressed compared to what they had experienced at the festival."

A 62-year-old male fan from Scotland. A fan for 41 years, with six show attendances.

"I met Bruce Springsteen formerly at the Freehold Barnest and Noble store. I let my 12-year-old daughter skip school that day so she could meet a very famous person. She wasn't into it as much as I was, however, once she met Bruce, she was overjoyed and kept smiling and saying quite loud, 'I met Bruce Springsteen. I met Bruce Springsteen!' It was a memory for the two of us that will last forever! When I met Bruce that same day, I thanked him for everything he's done and told him 'thank you for all you do for our veterans'.

A 53-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 40 years, with 28 show attendances.

"I have a few 'best memories': First, in August 1999 my mother, sister-in-law and I went to a Springsteen concert in New Jersey at the then-named Brendan Byrne Arena. It was one night of a long himestand. We drove up from a vacation on the Jersey shore. The planning was so fun...the women in my family were getting together for a fun evening. The concert was great. Just an amazing night. Second, at a concert in Boston, Massachusetts in February 2016, I had

very good seats. To my utter shcickmand joy, he walked right past me singing Hungry Heart. I reached out over the ledge (my boyfriend was sure I was going to fall over it) and touched him as he went by! It was a thrill. Third, in May 2016, I was a guest DJ on an all Springsteen radio station in the US (E Street Radio). I told some Springsteen stories and played some of my favourite songs. For 45 minutes, I was the boss on E street Radio and it was great!"

A 55-year-old female fan from the Unites States. A fan for 35 years, with 30 show attendances.

"Running into Bruce, Patti and John Landau at the Stone pony in the dead end of winter just sitting at the bar and got to ask Bruce was the Person in Backstreets a guy or a girl. He leans back in his chair puts his arm around me and says: "It just doesn't matter."

A 58-year old male fan from the United States. A fan for 42 years, with 117 show attendances.

"Dancing in the Dark on stage with Bruce Springsteen in my hometown of Oslo, Norway, in June 29. 2016. It was my homecoming, and I got chosen. It was pure fun."

A 47-year old female fan from Norway. A fan for 38 years, with 40 show attendances.

"I had eye contact with Bruce at several shows and I made him laugh once. This was important to me as he has given me such joy through the years, it was nice to reciprocate!"

A 56-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 39 years, with 155 show attendances.

"In 2003, My best friend and I went to see Bruce and The E Street Band five times during The Rising tour. I was in the pit for the first time during his Ottawa show (my hometown.) At this time, there was no lottery system to figure out who gets in the pit. We had to line up for 3 days and be there for roll call every hour. To some that may sound tedious, but to us, it was a fantastic way to connect to other fans. When we finally got to go into the venue, my friends went stage right, I went left - right in front of Clarence. The show was an unbelievable experience. Bruce often stood in front of me, and he slid into us during Waiting On a Sunny Day. It was a total Bruce experience and I will never forget it."

I also want to share my first Bruce show. I was 16 and we ended up having seats on the floor. We were able to go up to the stage, and I got to touch Bruce's foot! That was the most amazing show. 4 hours and I had no voice left. I was exhausted, but Bruce kept going. My whole family was there and days after the show, it was like I was in a trance. I would go up to my room after school each night and just play Bruce and think about the show and what I'd see and heard!"

A 52-year-old female fan from Canada. A fan for 37 years, with 18 show attendances.

"My favourite memory (if I have only one) is the first time I met and spoke with him. It was in April 1992 in Vancouver, B.C. We were in the drop line waiting for good tickets to drop. Someone came around the corner and said, "'Bruce is out back signing autographs." I left the line and ran as fast as I could to the rear of the building. There was a crowd of about 50 people, and he was signing autographs. By the time I made it through the crowd to where he was standing, he turned and walked away, waving at people. I yelled out, "Bruce! Wait! I came all of the way from Oklahoma!" He stopped, turned around, and walked up to me.

We shook hands. He said, "All the way from Oklahoma, huh? That's a long way." He signed my piece of paper, and I told him how much I appreciated his music, and he thanked me. The thing is, I hadn't come all the way from Oklahoma. I'd come from Seattle, but I had actually moved from Oklahoma to the Seattle area two years before that, so I wasn't totally lying. It was the first thing that came out of my mouth, without thinking. Anyway, it was important to me because it showed me that he really cared about his fans. He was busy and thinking that I had gone so much out of my way to see him perform meant something to him. I have to appreciate that attitude. Here's the kicker, when we got our tickets, a man came up to my wife and I in line and pulled us out, gave us two front row tickets and escorted us to our seats. When Bruce saw me, he looked at my wife, smiled, and sang "Man's Job" to her. It was so cool."

A 66-year old male fan from the United States. A fan for 44 years, with 58 show attendances.

"I have met Springsteen two times. Both times in Helsinki. First time was just after my father passed away at 59 years old end of 2001. He had written You're Missing at the time of the Rising. In 2002 I was at Helsinki, because I have studied there as a Dutch student in 1998 and was visiting friends and seeing Bruce. When at hotel Kämp in Helsinki everybody wanted to be on the pic with him. I Just wanted to thank him for the song You're Missing, because I felt it

was written for me and just nailed how I felt at that time. I was the only one able to give him a handshake and thank him personally for that song. He said thanks. Best feeling ever to thank him personally."

A 41-year old male fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 33 years, with 30 show attendances.

"I have too many best memories, but I will share two meaningful ones. The first would have to be when I went to my first Bruce Springsteen concert. I was 16 and went with my older sister Betty. I had bought Darkness and liked his music but knew nothing else about him. During the concert, my sister and I both sat with big eyes over his performance and I remember turning to her and saying, "Who is that?! What is he?!" because of his exuberance, his energy, his humour, his charm. We had gone to many concerts before that, but we had never experienced anything like a Springsteen concert. We left our seats to get closer (back then, you could do that), and we were only three rows up from where Springsteen body surfed across the pit. I remember laughing with my sister and when he got to the stage, his black jeans had ripped, and you could see his undies. We both laughed so hard and I knew then that I was in love, not because of his undies, but because of his essence, his hope, his happiness.

34 years later, my husband and I travelled to Kansas City to see him. It was fall and my sister had passed away that previous summer. I was probably in a depression although I was functioning as normal - going to work, smiling, hiding. I was waddling through the melancholy and hoped that this concert would help me find my old self. This was our first time for general admission so I was anxious about the process, about whether or not we would get into the pit, and about standing for 5 hours or so. We did not make the pit, but we got right up against the ramp upon which Mr. Springsteen would cross for 4 songs. During his first jaunt across the ramp, I remember asking the girl next to me, who was younger but more Springsteen-concert-experienced, if he was going to walk right there in front of me at arm's length. She nodded excitedly and then I saw him heading towards us, slapping hands, shaking hands, allowing people to touch his legs with the black jeans. I began to cry like a teenager. Imagine the faces of the girls who saw The Beatles back in 1964, that was me, only I was 50 years old.

I remember focussing on his left silver cross earring, thinking, "He's so close I can see his earrings!" He walked passed and he gently touched my hand. My 6'3" husband held out his hand and Bruce shook it and said, "You look good" I wanted to scream, "But I am the fan! He's here because of me! Don't I look good too?!" but of course I was just elated that he

walked by and touched my hand, and then had actually looked at my man and complimented him.

Then of course, towards the end, Bruce sang "Tenth Avenue Freeze-out" as he walked across the ramp. When he sang "When the change was made uptown, and the Big Man joined the band", he paused for nearly 2 minutes while a picture of Clarence was projected on the two huge screens. Everyone chanted Clarence! Clarence! So did I, but I also whispered Betty! Betty! for my dead sister. Later while reading his autobiography, I came across this passage: 'Death, along with all its anger, pain and loss, opens a window of possibility for the living. It removes the veil that the ordinary life gently drapes over our eyes. Renewed sight is the hero's last loving gift to those left behind.' I continue to mourn my sister's death, but she is forever entwined in my best memories of Mr. Springsteen and those are happy memories."

A 55-year old female fan from the United States. A fan for 39 years, with nine show attendances.

"I was in the pit queue for the second Hunter Valley show (Australia) in 2014. It was the first time I'd ever been through that process and I wasn't sure what to expect. I started chatting to a couple who were also queuing, and we got along great. When the lottery was drawn, they went in ahead of me and I say thanks for chatting and goodbye, thinking I wouldn't see them again. But when I went in and started looking for a good spot to "claim" they saw me and waved me over. They were right on the front barrier, but because they're tall and I'm short, they said "just jump in front of us!" And they put me on the barrier. That NEVER happens at shows for other artists. Usually people will jostle and do anything to get to the front and push you out of the way, even if you legitimately got there first! I Couldn't believe people would be that kind, so it was a lovely shock.

Even more surprising was that everyone would let people leave the pit to get food or go to the toilet and come back to their original spot. Again, I've never seen that happen with any other group / artist, and I've been to hundreds of live music shows. As if that weren't kind enough, at one point when the pair I'd made friends with went out to get food, they actually brought some back for me as they thought I'd be hungry. Incredible. It made the concert such a lovely experience (it was phenomenal in itself) and afterwards we exchanged details and have stayed in touch since, including sharing photos of that and other concerts we've been to.

I have lovely friends because of a Springsteen concert!

PS - because I was in the front, I was photographed by Jo Lopez and included in the photos for that concert on the official BS website which was amazing :)

My other favourite memory was at the same venue - Hope Estate in the Hunter Valley - earlier this year. I did the pit lottery again and got an amazing position in the corner of the little square in the middle of the stage. It was a really hot day with storms forecast, and sure enough about an hour before Bruce was due to come on stage, we got hit with lightning, rain and hail! We were all crouching on the ground and man, that hail really hurt! But other fans were standing over those of us who didn't have rain gear and trying to shelter us as best they could, and it was such a bonding experience for everyone. We were all wet and gross throughout the show, but it didn't matter!

I was with fans from the Netherlands, USA and other parts of Australia and we all went nuts for the whole show, jumping around and singing together, and Bruce kept coming back over to us because we were so lively. He even leaned over us during Rosalita and let us strum the strings of his guitar - AMAZING!!! Stevie Van Zandt also kept smiling and pointing at us, and at one point when we were looking hot and exhausted, he threw us his bottle of water. It was the best concert ever, and I just wish I could do that over and over again :)

Oh, and one final thing, I share a birthday with Bruce Springsteen - 23 September. When I was very little and not a fan, I remember someone telling me that and being annoyed that someone else would have MY birthday (I was too young to understand lots of people had the same birthday!). But now there's nobody I'd rather share that date with :)"

A 41-year-old female fan from Australia. A fan for 10 years, with nine show attendances.

The goose bumps from the initial tunes of Born in the USA on July 4th, 2008. That feeling of being in the front row and the feeling when the concert is done, and you get the post-concert blues."

A 38-year-old male fan from Sweden. A fan for 12 years, with 12 show attendances.

"My first concert at Gentofte stadium in Copenhagen. I was 19 years old. A lady 10-20 years older stood beside me holding her hands for her ears during the intensive guitar solo in light of

day. It was the best moment of the show and I loved it. I just wondered what she was doing there..."

A 43-year old male fan from Sweden. A fan for 20 years, with 10 show attendances.

I gave birth to both my children listening to Bruce Springsteen's music (Glory Days the first time, Thunder Road the second time).

A 49-year-old female fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 33 years, with 39 show attendances.

"My husband, 2 teenage daughters, and I got to experience a concert in the standing pit area in Pittsburgh during the Magic tour. The concert started in darkness, and then Bruce yelled: "is anyone out there Pittsburgh?" Everyone was cheering, -and then a wave, a wall of music overtook us as the lights came on to the song Radio to No Where. My college aged daughter grabbed me and I knew she got it. She loves his music too. All four of us were just mesmerized by the wall of sound that overtakes your body when you are on the floor. Bruce sang Dylan's "Like a rolling stone" with the crowd really getting into the chorus. I read that was the first time he had covered it! The feeling that we were all together having fun and to know my family gets my deep love of Bruce's music is a night I will never forget. Singing Born to Run and Thunder Road together was amazing. Seeing other families with several generations together just warms your heart."

A 57-year old female fan from the United States. A fan for 16 years, with three show attendances.

"When my daughter was just born, my wife and me listened to Thunder road in the hospital room. We call her Mary and she slept her firsts nights with a Springsteen t-shirt and the born to run cover as protection.... Her picture won the Spanish biggest Springsteen fan contest..."

A 46-year old male fan from Spain. A fan for 33 years, with 27 show attendances.

"I was in the 5th grade during the September 11th attacks on the World Trade Center. I did not understand it or couldn't even begin to understand it. When "The Rising" came out, my mom used that CD to explain courage and Heaven to me. Courage, when the fire fighters were going up the stairs and the people were running down to escape. 'Can't see nothing in front of me, Can't see nothing coming up behind.' Heaven, during the song Mary's Place. 'Meet me at Mary's place, we're gonna have a party.' My mom told me 'See there was a party in heaven that day! All those people who passed away got to go to Heaven!' Somehow through song, I was able to sort it out in my head.

That December, my mom took me to see Bruce at the Civic Arena in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania for The Rising tour. I was in 6th grade at this point and it was a school night! I will never forget the feeling I got standing in the crowd singing and dancing with my mom! I am now 26 years old and we still dance around the house singing Bruce's songs.

Thank you for that!"

A 26-year-old female from United States. A fan for 20 years, with four show attendances.

"On a rainy night in Raleigh North Carolina, we were up against the stage in front of Clarence. During the sunny day Bruce tripped coming to the front of the stage and cut his arm. When he reached the front of the stage he reached down and held my hand. Blood ran down his arm and dripped on my sweater. I've never washed that sweater. But what I remember most is how cold his hand was in mine. What a night."

A 54-year old female fan from the United States. A fan for 38 years, with 104 show attendances.

"I think I'm one of the fans who have the most average kilometres travelled by show. I spent about 20.000per show to see The Boss. He only came to Argentina in 2014 to play a whole Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band concert, so I had to travel all around the world to see him before he came to my country. I didn't see many concerts (two in the States, New York and Boston), and four in Spain (Madrid, Barcelona and Sevilla). But I travelled more than 120.000 kilometres as many of these shows were played in different tours (The Ghost of Tom Joad, Reunion Tour, The Rising and Wrecking ball). I am a lucky man, I could meet him, here in Buenos Aires, 2014, and I took a picture with him. It was instant, but it was fantastic."

A 48-year-old male fan from Argentina. A fan for 35 years, with six show attendances.

"I finally got to Bruce in my states capital city Perth Western Australia back in 2014 after 1st seeing him live in Melbourne 2003. Bought only tix i could off a scalper off the Internet, paid double what they were worth, but its Springsteen live in concert. Tix were in mosh pit so that was good, and I was close to the stage kind of. Concert started and immediately was in another world. Bruce at one point ran towards where I was standing near the fence. He was singing and was so close to the fence. I gestured the high 5 to him. To my surprise he high fived me then shook my hand. It was brief but to a fan from down under it meant everything. I listened to his music for hours in my tractor and know all his songs. I even have the famous picture of Bruce jumping up and playing his guitar off born to run on my water carting truck. It's amazing how many thumbs up i get from people when passing me. Yes, I am a huge Bruce Springsteen fan."

A 47-year-old male fan from Australia. A fan for 35 years, with three show attendances.

"I don't have a particular memory, but both shows to which I attended. Seeing him was a profound experience. I recognised on him what I thought was an exceptional human being who is giving his everything completely and utterly to his audience."

A 52-year old female from Argentina. A fan for 33 years, with two show attendances.

"He has helped me to overcome difficult times in my life, when my father died. His music was an inspiration for me and helped me go on."

A 47-year-old female fan from Spain. A fan for 34 years, with seven show attendances.

"Springsteen is something I share with my best friend. I still have the album he gave me 31 years ago. It's like an intimate language we share. When a song comes on we catch each other's eye and know that we are blessed to have what we do. It's always been that way, whether we're at a bar, or a concert, no-one exists outside of us and the music. Springsteen has been the soundtrack our lives have been woven around."

A 47-year old female fan from New Zealand. A fan for 31 years, with three show attendances.

"In the second concert I saw him, I wasn't feeling well, and I was just about to go but the will to be in the show increased when I heard him sing The River. This favourite song of mine gave me courage to stay. I was so happy."

A 52-year-old female fan from Spain. A fan for 30 years, with two show attendances.

"Somehow I was pushed behind the barrier outside the Royal Albert Hall, London just as Bruce was arriving. He walked right near me and was shaking people's hands. When he got to me I kissed him on the cheek and he said: "Gee and a kiss too".

A 72-year-old female fan from Spain. A fan for 38 years, with nine show attendances.

"I won a contest through Sirius/XM satellite radio back in 2010. I was chosen along with 20 other winners to travel to Manhattan in NYC to participate in a live radio broadcast with Bruce Springsteen himself. All 20 of us were each able to ask Bruce a question, that he answered for us during the 2 hour live broadcast. After the broadcast, we all had our pictures taken individually with Bruce, and he signed two autographs each for us. It was hand down the greatest night of my life. Meeting my idol in person was a little intimidating, but Bruce could not have been nicer. He was the friendliest, most down-to-earth guy you could ever want to meet. I feel truly lucky to not only have met him, but to get to spend time with him and talk to him was an experience I will never forget. After all, it's not every day that you get to cross number one off of your Bucket List."

A 48-year old male fan from the United States. A fan for 40 years, with 35 show attendances.

"Overall, it's the music but I've met so many lovely people all over the world who follow the same passion. I was at the Leeds gig in 2013 He sang if I should fall behind I was on the front podium. I felt he was singing the song for me, I'd lost my sister and father to cancer in 2010. I'd requested the song when I was being interviewed on BBC radio Leeds. Don't know if he heard the broadcast but he rarely plays the song. It was a very emotional moment."

A 55-year-old man from the United Kingdom. A fan for 40 years, with 40 show attendances.

"At the Dallas Cotton Bowl, Saturday night, September 10(?) 1985. Bruce opens with Born in the USA, 10 of my friends sitting together. Awesome, crystal clear, chest shaking sound. I was smiling so much I couldn't remove the smile. My face was hurting from smiling that I had to grab my cheeks with my hand to relieve the pain. I've never since that time smiled so much my face hurt."

A 51-year old male from the United States. A fan for 37 years, with 18 show attendances.

"Manchester 2016 front row Bruce Springsteen pointed at me and held my hand! It seemed like he was giving me eye contact. It made me feel like the only person in the stadium."

A 54-year old female fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 35 years, with 15 show attendances.

"The first album I heard was The River in 1980 and this was a real revelation to me. Great rock songs with some incredible ballads. This made me go to the first Springsteen concert I attended in Rotterdam, The Netherlands on April 28, 1981. I could not believe the energy that he gave, a perfect performance with only great songs and a fantastic band. I remember one of the last songs was Follow That Dream proceeded by a story about Elvis, a moment I will never forget. It was a discovery of a great artist, whom I admire until the present."

A 64-year old male fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 37 years.

"My most memorable memory I have about Bruce Springsteen, is visiting his birth place in Asbury Park this past July and I met extraordinary people that can relate to his music and have such passion for him. The most memorable moment was when I walked in the Danny Clinch transparent gallery hoping to run into Bruce since he had been there three weeks prior. A beautiful lady that works there saw me and asked me if I was a Bruce Springsteen Fan! I told her I came all this way from Montreal hoping to meet him here. She felt so bad and she said that I will make your dream possible. She made me sit down at her work station. Asked me to

write down how I felt about him. She said the next time he walks in the gallery she would give him the letter personally. At first I thought she was pulling my leg. She said she would take a picture of Bruce reading my letter. I was in absolute awe. I still have no word on how and if Bruce showed up but she is trustworthy. I did get to meet Paul Whistler and he was gracious to take a picture. I will never give up my dream to meet Bruce Springsteen."

A 47-year-old female fan from Canada. A fan for 33 years, with 11 show attendances.

"Hearing Thunder Road, 10th av freeze out and Born to run for the first time in a row as the album just came out, and nobody still knew (of) him and being blown away. Seeing him in 1980 in Rotterdam for the first time - on the first row - dancing in the rain with my son at the concert in Nijmegen to I saw him standing there and twist and shout, seeing him in the Hague in 2016 together with my by then grown up kids and - now - anticipating my visit to Springsteen on Broadway end of January - so many important, life turning, larger and smaller events in my personal life (now forever) connected to Bruce Springsteen songs - particularly at live concerts - always when something important happened, a (new or old) Bruce song was there, live, electronic or on the radio."

A 65-year-old male fan from the Netherlands. A fan for 42 years, with 20 show attendances.

"Getting to know new Bruce fans in the pit line. In there, we are all just as "crazy" and don't need to explain why we choose to que for 8 hours on the concert day and running to rollcalls for days before that :-) The way you somehow can rediscover Bruce's music again and again. The feeling when a song you have heard many, many times before suddenly gets a whole new meaning. "Playing" (touching) Bruce's guitar in Turku 2013."

A 44-year old female fan from Finland. A fan for 32 years, with 12 show attendances.

"My favourite Bruce memory is from the Wrecking Ball tour. In 2012, I was a freshman in college. I had been having a terrible year. My grandmother, who I was extremely close to was diagnosed and passed away from cancer, I had roommate troubles, and my grades were suffering. For my birthday my parents flew in my brother and got us tickets to see Bruce in Greensboro, NC on March 19th. Bruce and the band stepped on stage and went into their

"Showtime Introduction". I remember crying tears of joy and having the biggest smile on my face. Bruce didn't necessarily help first hand with any of the problems I was having, but he helped me forget about them for 3 hours. And that was all I needed."

A 24-year-old male fan from the United States. A fan for 18 years, with 20 show attendances.

"So many memories from shows, travelling to shows and meeting people at shows. It's impossible to pick out one memory, and almost impossible to separate the different memories. If I have to choose one, it would be my first show in 1985, just 18 years old finally getting to see him live."

A 50-year old male fan from Sweden. A fan for 36 years, with 20 show attendances.

"As I suggest everyone is saying, it is difficult to point out only one best memory. There are many best memories! First live show, another in my home town etc... But, to be able to get tix to Jake Clemons' "In your living room" tour gig in Turku, Finland could not have been possible for me without Bruce Springsteen or his fans. And I happened to get me a ticket (and a spare for my friend). All tickets were sold within the Finnish Bruce Springsteen fan club and although I knew nobody beforehand, not even the host, in person, the atmosphere was great and very welcoming and warm. Because we were all Bruce fans together! In this special occasion! And it was a great gig from a remarkably talented musician playing mostly his 6-string and only a little sax solo in the end. Between his own songs (Wrestler was also played!) there was a lot talking about what was it like being in the band after Clarence and so on. Very intimate setting. It was a night to remember. It was kind of a Bruce show with Bruce audience, but without Bruce! Complicated? Not for me! After that a few months later Juha Tapio played a special gig in my own living room. How cool was that?! Two extraordinary shows within so short time period. So, there cannot be anyone else but Bruce himself to be the next living room performer... :)"

A 38-year-old male fan from Finland. A fan for 22 years, with eight show attendances.

"I cannot pick just one. My first Springsteen concert in Stockholm -88. I remember being totally blown away by the energy and longevity of the concert. I got separated from my friends (we

had GA tickets) but simply danced, jumped and screamed along with total strangers, not knowing much lyrics at the time. Springsteen fans are really a special and friendly breed. I've travelled to both Europe and USA to catch shows, but feared my family declaring me not totally sane when I left them in a vacation cabin in Finland to actually fly home to catch the third Gothenburg show of 2016 River Tour. Off course already having seen the first two.

But twist my arm and make me chose, I'd have to say that the moment he called up Jake to the front and played Jungleland for the first time live since Clarence passing (Gothenburg second show, 2012). What a moment! I was in the pit as most times and I swear, not one dry eye as far as I could see. I cried a river of joy and emotion and for a few moments I think we all felt that very special connection, almost as some sort of extended family. Jake nailed his uncles epic solo pitch perfect and both band and crowd were over the stars after words."

A 48-year-old male fan from Sweden. A fan for 29 years, with 30 show attendances.

"Lots of great memories and great joy from Bruce concerts across the years. Best would probably be seeing Bruce at MSG which had been a lifelong ambition. Getting bumped up to row 5 at a Homdel NJ show. Villa park in 88 (no tv screen) but it didn't matter - he was outstanding. Albert Hall. Paris Bercy The Ethiad in Manchester - some great great times."

A 57-year old male fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 36 years, with 25 show attendances.

"The seer joy of a Bruce live experience cannot be captured in words or pictures. It transcends description."

A 49-year old male fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 33 years, with 35 show attendances.

"Complete Bruce Springsteen "pilgrimage" around New York & New Jersey in 2009 that left no stones unturned (met The Big Man as well and saw a couple of great shows along the way). That trip connected me better with the roots of the songs."

A 42-year-old male fan from Finland. A fan for 32 years, with 30 show attendances.

"In Berlin, 2016 show, Bruce saw me with my sign POLSKA, and in the beginning of "Waitin' for a Sunny Day" he shouts to me and my friends: POLSKA! Later, during "Tenth Avenue..." he said once again POLSKA to me and I was able to hold his hand for a few seconds :)"

A 55-year-old man from Poland. A fan for 28 years, with 15 show attendances.

"When I got to hug him in a concert and the second concert on Ullevi stadium Göteborg 2012. Pure magic. It rained when he entered the stage, he put his right hand up in the air and asked "who'll stop the rain" Guess what... It stopped raining. MAGIC"

A 40-year-old female fan from Sweden. A fan for 30 years, with 30 show attendances.

"Summer 2017: Australian tour, Perth 2. We've called it six seconds. The summer of six seconds. I was in the pit area, Bruce & band were performing "Out In The Street", Bruce was walking the stage, he saw my sign and we eye-locked for six seconds. Yep, what a great concert. Nothing more to be said."

A 50-year-old female fan from Australia. A fan for 40 years, with 13 show attendances.

"Well, I have met him in the steam room/sauna twice. I have met him shortly few other times. All concerts attended should be in this list too. And off course my photography as well. Maybe you should not publish my stories. Thanks..."

A 51-year-old male fan from Finland. A fan for 32 years, with 62 show attendances.

My Bruce Story: January 27, 2014. The day I met Bruce at the start of the High Hopes Tour in Cape Town. In between shows, Monday was our day off and Bruces', and roll calls, we went to lunch at The Bungalow. Upon hearing my frazzled voice, the restaurant manager asked what happened? I told him I was at the Springsteen show the night before. He then said that Springsteens' mates had been at the restaurant the previous day and had loved the vibe, view and seafood. Fast forward to after our lunch, we have to rush back to the arena for roll call. I went to freshen and ran into the manager who said that Springsteen's' mates had booked a

table for 14:45. I knew right then he would be there. Cue "Bruce Bumps". I remained calm and told myself to be focused on the goal.

He walked in, I sat there and watched him saunter in - cap, glasses, light hoodie and flip-flops, super cool. He sat down, and I just sat there aghast at my luck... Waiting for my moment... He then started to take pics of the surrounds and when he was posing for pics with his mates... I knew my opportunity had arrived... I walked over and offered to take their picture for them. When he politely declined I said that I was a huge fan, and would he mind having a pic with me... He was very gracious and quickly agreed... I spoke about the previous night's show, and when he heard my voice said that he aspires for that each night... he introduced me to Jon Landau, who commented on my t-shirt, Born to Run shirt. I was not too polite to Jon though as I was focussed on Bruce and my impending anxiety attack. I then asked him to sign my phone cover, which is a pic of his guitar and amp, and thanked him for coming to South-Africa. I got back to my table, hyperventilated. Wrote this post on Facebook and then went back to freshen up again. My Bruce Bud from roll call Martin (German dude I had met the previous day) was up on Lions Head when he saw my post. He ran down Lions Head and in between all the calls I was fielding from family and friends I told him where I had met Bruce. Martin arrived at the restaurant, but Bruce had left. Martin using his Bruce sense thought where would Bruce go and managed to meet up with Bruce on a beach. Martin too had a fantastic experience with meeting Bruce and that to me made my meeting more special. I knew where Bruce was staying in Cape Town and chose not to go there, I was rewarded with my chance encounter, which I never doubted would happen from the moment it was announced that Bruce would be coming to South Africa. What an amazing man... Thank you Bruce!"

A 45-year-old female fan from South-Africa. A fan for 30 years, with nine show attendances.

"My first concert in Florence. An indescribable burst of emotions, energy, vitality. The joy of being alive that was displayed through music."

A 41-year-old fan from Italy. A fan for 27 years, with seven show attendances.

"In 1999 I went to Boston to see Bruce performing the five shows at the Fleet center. I was alone and I had my Italy flag. I wanted Bruce and the e-streeters to sign it. So I "camped out" the Four seasons hotel where they were staying. I missed Danny."

A 46-year-old male fan from Italy. A fan for 32 years, with 95 show attendances.

"The best memory I have as a Bruce Springsteen fan is having participated in the "DREAMS ARE ALIVE TONITE" choreography at the San Siro Stadium in Milan on July 3rd, 2016 during the "THE RIVER TOUR 2016."

A 20-year old female fan from Italy. A fan for 6 years, with six show attendances.

"My first concert was in 2013 in Florence, it started raining almost immediately and it did for the whole show. And we all know that Bruce performances are not really short... I hate rain, I just hate the idea of getting wet with all my heart. That man..."

A 42-year old male fan from Italy. A fan for 12 years, with four show attendances.

"The first time I saw him in a concert. It was an incredible experience after so many years in which I only dreamed I could see him closely. It is important because his voice and his music have accompanied me during the darkest moments of my life."

A 70-year old fan from Italy. A fan for 32 years, with five show attendances.

"Concerts in many different ways. The first one in Stockholm was the one I was waiting for many many years. Over 4 hours concert in Helsinki was amazing. Racing in the Streets in Turku was unbelievable moment. But if have to choose just one memory, then it must be my favourite song New York City Serenade in Rome 2016. Bruce Springsteen doesn't know that, but actually it was the best birthday present for me, because I had just turned 40 few days earlier. The moment when I saw extra string players and realized what will happens next, that moment was just perfect."

A 41-year-old male fan from Finland. A fan for 33 years, with 12 show attendances.

"My best memory happened in Hunter Valley, Australia February 18, 2017. I finally got my "Jersey Girl" tattoo in 2012, tattooed on my right wrist, something I had been dreaming about

for years but never got around to do it. The rest of my right arm was reserved for Springsteen's autograph - something I told my students repeatedly. Which means that I have been carrying a permanent marker with me at every concert (and the days before and after, of course), hoping that I would be so lucky to meet him, and have it signed. It was important for me that he signed my arm directly and not just from a piece of paper. I even talked to a friend of mine who is a tattoo artist who told me that a blue marker would be better, I do come prepared.

I made a poster for the Valentine concert in Brisbane 2017 where it said: "I'm 39 and still single on Valentine's, please grant me a wish" and on the back I had listed 3 wishes, "sign my arm for a tattoo" was one of the wishes and it also read "your choice". He didn't pick my poster, actually he didn't spend much time with the pit that night. I brought my poster along to the Hunter Valley concert. Now, Darlington County is somewhat special to me because at the 2003 concert in Oslo that I went to, he spotted my sign during the intro for DC and started communicating with us, even though we weren't even in the pit. I was totally mesmerized and forever in love. During the intro of DC in HV he stops again and spots my poster and finally, after so many attempts, asks me to bring the poster up to him. On the way one of my friends tells me to just choose what I want the most and I hand him the marker and finally receive my autograph!

The next day, mind you that keeping that autograph intact wasn't easy considering we were already wet because of a thunderstorm and of course the sweat.

I woke up early Sunday morning in Sydney and waited, not so patiently, for a chosen, not random, tattoo shop to open. I walked in at Inner Vision Tattoo in Sydney 5 min after they opened, and Flex agreed to tattoo my arm. I know that it might be an issue since some tattoo artist don't like to "copy" an autograph. It turned out that Flex was both half Norwegian (I'm from Norway) AND likes Springsteen! What are the odds? (Yes, that's a reference to the Big Man book) I thought she did a great job considering the autograph had already started fading. We had taken a picture of it that she used as well, and the result was incredible. I now have my Bruce-arm that I sometimes look to for comfort, joy, reminiscing or to feel close to him. I know that my fellow Tramps will know what that means, not necessarily my other friends. I have that one moment with him, yes, of course on video as well, that one moment that is mine (shared with a few thousand others). When I returned to Norway my 10th graders asked me about my trip to Australia and wondered if it was worth the 30 hours of travelling. Where I showed my armed and proud stated that "Yes, it was". One of my students replied: "I remember you telling

us in 8th grade that you had that armed reserved for his autograph and now you do. That's so cool!" And I thought "You know what? Yes, it is!"

A 40-year-old female fan from Norway. A fan for 24 years, with 20 show attendances.

"Seeing him on the solo and acoustic Devils and Dust tour in Dublin, felt so lucky to have a ticket that night. My seat was so good. I went to the toilet between songs, when I returned Bruce had started another song and security waved their torch at me, I had to go to security just under Bruce's piano. He whispered that I couldn't go back to my seat during the song, that I'd just have to wait and enjoy, feet away from Bruce....and I did just that. He's the best. It's as simple as that."

A 41-year-old male fan from Northern Ireland. A fan for 20 years, with 10 show attendances.

"After over 20 shows and traveling across Europe and now finally to the US, I got my song played at the 26th of April 2014. It was a Saturday night after a wonderful day in Atlanta, I finally got Tougher Than The Rest played live, and as the song says "It's Saturday night and you are all dressed up in blue", and so were I. By accident. This song has been, and still is very important for me, as it is one of my childhood songs, that my parents used to play for me."

A 30-year old fan from Norway. A fan for 27 years, with 30 show attendances.

"It happened at my Freshman year of high school when a Jersey girl was the "the new kid". I made friends with her and she turned me on to Bruce on an old plug-in mono record player. I think it was pink. I was floored. It took me a little bit to be fully Brucified, but by the time we got through both sides of WIESS I was a huge fan girl. THEN, the first time I saw him was on April 9th 1976, I was 14. At Colgate University. The ticket was a carnival ride ticket. That first concert is a best memory.

He fully illustrated the feeling of lust to me for the first time. His first 5 albums were there to help me get through adolescence and Nursing (I saw him on the Law Suit tour twice. Then came Nebraska and Born In The USA. I saw his new outfit and him dancing with Courtney Cox and I broke up with him. I missed the troubadour and the rock and roll monkey. I was shocked by his muscle. I stopped listening to him and seeing him (I hated the thought of having to see

him in a huge arena). The intimacy was gone. My secret was out. Plus he broke up THE BAND and got MARRIED! I felt very possessive of him. I never let go of WIESS though. I've owned it in all the possible formats and listened to it often. Fast forward about 36 years and both my parent have died, my only child is getting married in a year. This child gives me her old Nano and shows me how to download music. WIESS went first, and then gradually I began to catch up to his music. I don't love it all, sometimes the lyrics will bug me, or melody. I listen to him constantly in the car and ALWAYS when I am feeling down. I like his politics and his ethics. I don't resent his wealth in the slightest, and I follow the career of his daughter as well because I am horse oriented also. He has a great sense of humour and great self-awareness. I believe he truly does love his fans. The official video of Dream Baby Dream is a love song to all of us fans."

A 57-year old female fan from the United States. A fan for 43 years, with four show attendances.

"Slept out for an entire week in anticipation of an on-sale date. Took shifts with other fans to hold our place in line. It was a great deal of fun and we ended up with great seats for multiple shows."

A 51-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 40 years, with 34 show attendances.

"I was sitting at a concert in Vienna on May 7th, 1997 next to my father and Bruce was talking about this time, when your answers don't fit to your questions anymore ... he paused, then laughed his special laughter, and said something like "normally, when you are 30". And there I sat - 32 of age, in an unhappy relationship, and thought: yes, he is right, my answers don't fit anymore. I went home, talked to my partner, tried for a few months to save this relationship, but I / it failed. Bruce gave me the strength to do something about my situation. Sometime later I came to know my recent partner, and on 8.11.2017, we will get married after 20 years of relationship. His only fault is: he doesn't like Bruce :o) But no problem, I have so many friends with whom I can attend concerts, travel abroad, meet and talk about him (the Austrian Bruce Springsteen community). Bruce is the reason that I have a healthy and good partnership. I love listening to his music - and on our wedding day, "If I should fall behind" will be played ... because this song describes my relationship with my future husband best."

A 51-year-old female fan from Austria. A fan for 30 years, with 20 show attendances.

"My Best (or nicest) memory is watching Bruce leaving the stage with his arm around Jake Clemons in Belfast at a gig in 2013. It almost made me think that the love Bruce had/has for Clarence Clemons is carried over and he is saying to Clarence, "Don't worry, I'll take care of the boy."

A 55-year old female fan from United Kingdom. A fan for 41 years, with 80 show attendances.

"When meeting him face to face and having a short time to discuss with him and realizing he is as genuine human being as I have thought."

A 55-year-old male fan from Finland. A fan for 40 years.

"San Siro, 2003. Extremely heavy rain. Bruce going on stage with a cowboy hat. What's important is his voice. The way he sings."

A 57-year old fan from Italy. A fan for 23 years, with eight show attendances.

"I visited the places of his life and I felt a very strong emotion. But the best memory is still related to one of the 2016 concerts I went to with my mother, just after my grandfather's death. It was both a cathartic experience and a way to overcome the loss."

A 30-year-old female fan from Italy. A fan for 20 years, with ten show attendances.

"There's too many to mention but meeting him outside Birmingham NEC when he got off the tour bus. I shouted his name and he came straight over to me and shook my hand and signed my cd liner notes. Also, me giving him a kiss on the cheek at the Royal Albert Hall on the Devils and Dust tour. Getting his autograph in Paris on the Tom Joad tour. Like I said to many to mention. We've had some fantastic times on tour with Bruce and met some amazing friends."

A 56-year-old female fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 39 years, with 80 show attendances.

"The community, the queuing is a unique experience. You meet so many fantastic people! My six weeks on the road in 2016 following Bruce around Europe was amazing! The sleep deprivation, the waiting, the social life- it's all amazing! The concerts are of course amazing but it's the whole package and myth that makes Springsteen so special! To stand on the rail right on the catwalk, in an arena with 50 000 behind you, when he performs it's like a ceremony. You just want more once you're hooked. One of my best experiences was getting Broadway tics. It was such small chance."

A 45-year-old female fan from Norway. A fan for 3 years, with 16 show attendances.

"I love the thrill of seeing Bruce live ... I always make sure that I'm in the golden Circle. I'm always traumatised days before the tickets go on sales and days before the concert. In case I can't get tickets or in the golden circle ..or something goes wrong...I'm wound up like a bobbin. When Bruce walks on the stage ... it's heaven ... unbelievable show man ...Feel like he is performing for us and not just being on stage going through his catalogue of songs. My husband was not a fan of Bruce... I was always upset that he wouldn't share my love....he came to me to 1 concert...he was very soon Brucified.....I can't go without him now... he's worse than me now...I love the thrill of hearing what the next song he is playing. Still yet to hear him do....Tougher than the rest in concert."

A 49-year old female fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 30 years, with 30 show attendances.

"The first Time I saw Bruce was in Lowell, MA in 1996. My husband got the tickets for my 40th birthday. We were in the back row, and someone who worked for Bruce moved us to the front row. He opened with The River, and I was 3 feet away from him when he greeted the audience."

A 61-year-old female fan from the United States. A fan for 39 years, with seven show attendances.

"My very 1st show & traveling to the today show in NY city, subway in from Brooklyn at 2:30 am to get up front inside the rails by Matt Lauer for Bruce & the band to launch the magic tour & he was scheduled to take stage @8:00 & him & the band came out at about 5:30 am, it was still dark out & he took the mic & asked us what they had to pay us to come out this early in the AM to stand for 4 hrs & then he launched in to a 8-10 song nonstop mini concert, it was fabulous"

A 52-year-old fan from the United States. A fan for 40 years, with 50 show attendances.

"Hyde Park Hard Rock Calling was an amazing concert in so many ways...it was the famous pulling of the plug moment with Paul McCartney ... the setlist was as Amazing as ever but I remember it as being the closest I ever got to Bruce and that was fantastic!"

A 62-year old female fan from the United States. A fan for 32 years, with 33 show attendances.

"Seeing Bruce at Circus Maximus in Rome was purely magical. That's all I can say, just the best experience."

A 65-year-old male fan from the United Kingdom. A fan for 20 years, with 10 show attendances.

"Virginia Beach Concert - River Tour. Made the pit with elbows on the stage. Bruce reached down to hold my hand as he sang. Sweetest moment ever."

A 51-year-old female fan from Brazil. A fan for 38 years, with six show attendances.

"First time I met Bruce in person. It was after the Southside Johnny at the Stone Pony in Asbury Park, NJ. Bruce joined South on stage and finished the show singing 8 songs with the jukes. What a great night. My family left the venue, but I saw Bruce walking from the trailer into the bar. I decided to head into the bar. Bruce made his way to the back bar and was ordering a round of shots for the band. I had a camera on me and decided to just get as close as I could and get a picture. I snapped the picture and immediately could hear the camera rewinding. Yep, before smart phones. It was my last picture on the roll. Not even sure I got it!"

Then, a woman bartender who was rather large immediately put her hand on my sternum and pushed me, because I ventured a little behind the bar area. Bruce said, it's ok- he's with me! He then slid me a shot of tequila and I did a shot with the Boss! The picture turned out, but Bruce was wiping sweat off his nose. Not the best picture, but I blew it up and hung it on my wall with the ticket from the show! Such a simpler time then. No smart phones and before 9/11/2001. What great memories!"

A 52-year old male fan from the United States. A fan for 32 years, with 120 show attendances.

"Well It's Saturday night. We're all dressed up in black plastic garbage bags. We've been waiting all day long. Maybe there will be another magic night. So together we said: Let's stay warm even if we're cold and wet. Well what difference will it make, Bruce we're tougher than the rest.

Ullevi arena, Gothenburg, Sweden July 28, 2012. A night that became one of the most memorable and magical Bruce Springsteen experiences, even though we were totally soaked!"

A 56-year-old female fan from Sweden. A fan for 36 years, with 25 show attendances.

"Seeing the Broadway show. We were in the 3rd row and waited for him to leave the theatre. Very exciting to be that close to him."

A 56-year-old fan from Canada. A fan for 43 years, with seven show attendances.

"The concert in Helsinki in 2012, still the longest of his career. Watching the River tour performances from Youtube shows that he is still in great form and the E Street Band sounds great."

A 47-year-old fan from Finland. A fan for 33 years, with two show attendances.

"I became a fan of Springsteen's music when I was ten years old. The Finnish television channel YLE broadcasted a BBC documentary named "Glory Days" in August 1987. I remember sitting and watching it in awe. At that point in my life I had only heard bands such as Kiss and Duran Duran, and all of a sudden there was this person singing about everyday life

and things I could relate to. Springsteen's music led me to discover other artists I wouldn't have likely discovered that early on otherwise (Bob Dylan, Woody Guthrie, Hank Williams, etc.). In the 1990's I began collecting Springsteen's concerts on cassettes and CD's and then began transcribing his concert stories for Brucebase. There isn't a particular memory I cherish more than others - Springsteen's music has just been a part of my life for the past 30 years. I'm not nearly as obsessed as I was 15-30 years ago, but the music is sure to stay with me for the rest of my life."

A 40-year-old female fan from Finland. A fan for 30 years, with 15 show attendances.

"I heard the River from the radio, when I was really young, about 14 years old. I had troubles in my family. When I heard the song and the voice, I was transported to a different place with hope and dreams."

A 50-year old female fan from France. A fan for 35 years, with ten show attendances.

"During the concert in Antwerp, I was at the podium. Bruce sang Mary's Place and approached and took my hand and looked me in the eyes while smiling. This last for only 10-15 seconds, but it will always stay in my memories."

A 64-year-old female fan from France. A fan for 25 years, with 24 show attendances.

"Rome, 2013 concert at Capannelle..... New York City Serenade. A fulfilled wish, real tears of emotion and deep feeling in remembering how much my mother, dead for so long, loved him too!!!! I will never forget her presence next to me while I was singing that song."

A 54-year-old female fan from Italy. A fan for 39 years, with seven show attendances.

"I am a long time Springsteen Fan since more than 30 years and my first live show was in 1988, but my most special Springsteen memory is dated April 2013. It was at the first show of the European tour 2013 in Oslo, Norway. There for the first time I found out that there is such a thing called "roll call", a system where you get a number on your hand and the one with the number one gets in first and so on. Kind of first come - first serve system. At this show I got the

number 219, but that was still good enough to get into the first row. Not center, but nevertheless first row. I've never been first row before.

That was a very unique experience, to see Bruce and the Band so close. I still have goose bumps thinking about it although I've been front row a couple of times after that, but the first time is always special. And standing front row way to the right side, where this little side stage was, Bruce came over to us with Jake Clemons while playing "Spirit in the night". During that song he was kneeling directly in front of me. That was just amazing and fantastic and I could for the first time in my life touch him. I very cautiously put my hand on his leg.... Just muscles... unbelievable that a guy at his age still can be so fit.

The whole show was just an absolutely great experience. But that is not the only reason, why this show was so special. After having learned about that roll-call system, I've continued to do so during my other 12 shows during the 2013-Wrecking-Ball Tour in Europe, and I got to know so many other great Springsteen fans during that year and was finally part of a fantastic community. Since then I'm in contact with other Springsteen fans all over the world which is just a great thing. You help each other out with tickets, you visit each other, you meet again and again at the shows. While the times of the roll-call you spent a lot of time together, because here in Europe this can go on a couple of days before the day of the show. In July 2013 in Monchengladbach, it went on nearly a week. The show was at the 5th of July, and the day before we had a 4th of July barbecue with over 50 people. Perfect evening with great people, good music from a group of musicians, also fans, who played Springsteen songs, and we all were singing together and had just a great time. I've never in my life experienced such a great community and it is so special, because everybody can just be who he is, no need to pretend to be anything you are not.

As we all know, after reading the biography and most people who care about Springsteen knew before, Springsteen has suffered his whole life from depression and anxiety and the good thing that he is so open about that part of his life, is that you don't need to hide if you have psychological issues. You can talk open and freely about it and in my opinion, this is very important because psychological illnesses are still often a tabu-topic, and that has to change. Nobody in this community looks at you as if there is something wrong with you, if you are talking about such things. And that is not often the case, sometimes not even with your friends at home or with your family. I don't know if other people see it or feel it the same way as I do, but these are my experiences when meeting with other Springsteen fans."

A 48-year old female fan from Germany. A fan for 33 years, with 80 show attendances.

"I do not have only one, but so many good memories that are related to Bruce! Among the most beautiful one is his concert in Padua back in 2013, the first time I entered the pit, when he played the whole album Born to Run, one of my favourites."

A 25-year-old female fan from Italy. A fan for 11 years, with five show attendances.

"He allowed me to meet new people who eventually became my best friends, visit the world with them and follow his music. One of the best memories was the concert in Bologna, 2002 when he came back on stage at the end of the concert."

A 46-year-old male fan from Italy. A fan for 30 years, with 92 show attendances.

"In Gijon in 2013. I met a guy that is now my best friend. And with him came people who give me much more than the concerts when they're close to me at the same show. He played Thunder Road acoustic and I could not stop crying."

A 29-year-old female fan from Spain. A fan for 20 years, with five show attendances.

"The most beautiful memory I have as a fan of Bruce Springsteen dates back to when I was not yet a fan: my father used to listen to his music at full blast when we were in the car and sing loudly. I was very little, but I remember laughing and listening to the music."

A 22-year old female fan from Italy. A fan for 5 years, with three show attendances.

"I'd say the best memory is my first concert in 1988, not yet that huge fan that followed him in all his concerts in Italy and Europe, but it was my EUREKA MOMENT." So, I started to delve into his songs and lyrics... and...it was just so right! BOOM BOOM ...into my heart!!!!

A 46-year old male fan from Italy. A fan for 29 years, with 28 show attendances.

"At one show, Bruce walked to me and shook my hand. This is my favourite moment where I felt connected to him."

A 50-year-old female fan from Spain. A fan for 36 years, with 136 show attendances.