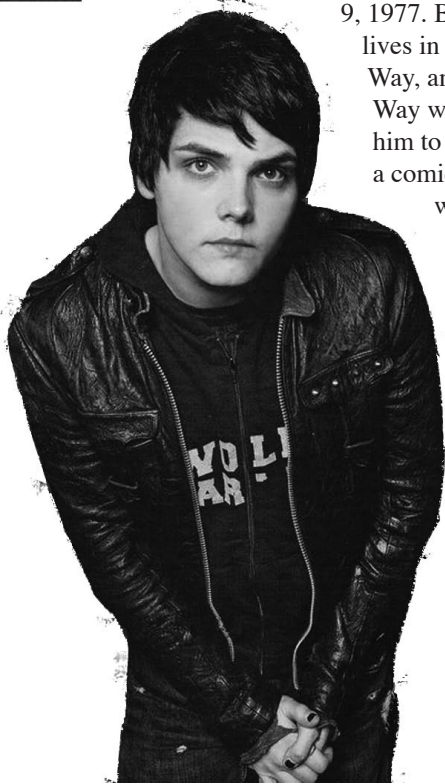


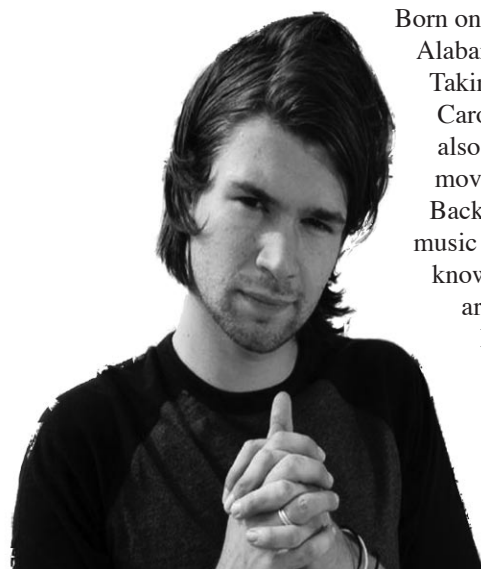
# Hottest lead singers

By Gracie Rodriguez and  
Damian Aguayo

Gerard Arthur Way, lead singer of the band My Chemical Romance, was born on April 9, 1977. Born and raised in New Jersey, Gerard now lives in Los Angeles, California with his wife Lin-Z Way, and daughter Bandit Lee Way. Growing up, Way was considered an "outcast," which caused him to take an interest in art. His first job was at a comic book store, where instead of money, he was paid in comic books. On September 11, Way witnessed the attack on the World Trade Center, which inspired him to write MCR's first song, "Skylines and Turnstiles." During the first years of the start of the band, Way suffered from depression and prescription drug addiction which threatened the future of MCR. Fortunately, Way got the help he needed and has been sober ever since. Along with being a musician, Gerard also wrote a comic book, *The Umbrella Academy*. Gerard and the rest of the MCR members are currently in the studio working on their next album, which is going to be released in early 2010.

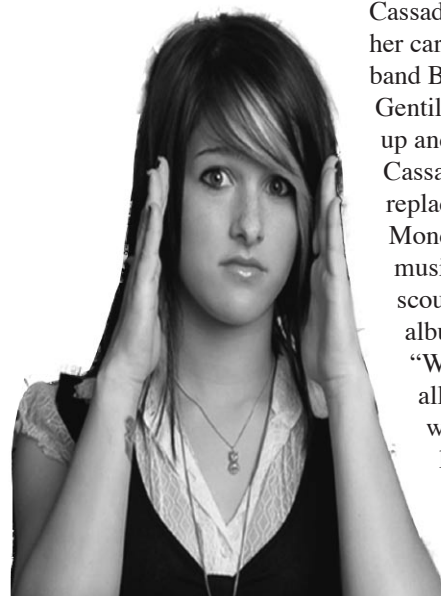


Jared Leto was born on December 26, 1971, in Bossier City, Louisiana. During his childhood, Leto moved around constantly to Wyoming, Colorado, Virginia, and Haiti. When he finished high school, he attended Philadelphia's University of the Arts, but then transferred to New York City's School of Visual Arts, hoping to become an actor. In 1998, Leto started the band, 30 Seconds to Mars, along with his brother, who is the drummer. Their albums include 30 Seconds to Mars, *A Beautiful Lie*, and *This is War*, which was released on December 8. Apart from being the lead singer of 30 Seconds to Mars, Leto is also the rhythm guitarist, song writer, and an actor. He has appeared in the movie *Fight Club*, *Girl, Interrupted*, *Panic Room*, *American Psycho*, *Requiem for a Dream*, and *Chapter 27*.



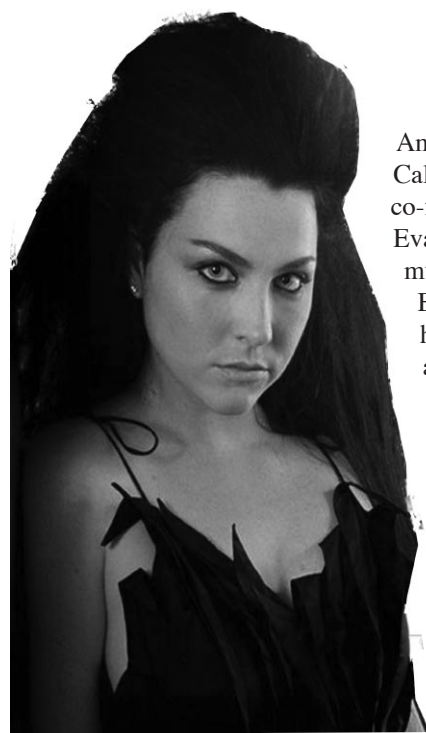
Born on September 22nd, 1981, in Sheffield Alabama, Adam Lazzara is the lead singer of Taking Back Sunday. He moved to North Carolina where he worked as a waiter and also delivered deli food to stores. He then moved to Long Island when he joined Taking Back Sunday, originally to play bass. During music videos and concerts/shows Lazzara is known to swing the mic around his neck, arms, legs, guitars, people and mic stands. His performances are usually described as extremely energetic he is said to sometimes perform while under the influence. He is married to Misha Vaagen Lazzara and they had their first child earlier this year.

Matthew Charles Sanders also known as M. Shadows was born on July 31, 1981. Growing up he misbehaved often and had a terrible attitude that soon got him expelled from his middle school. He was influenced by punk rock such as The Misfits and H2O to start his own band, "Successful Failure". After forming and breaking up with many bands he and Zacky Vengeance formed Avenged Sevenfold. Their first album *Sounding the Seventh Trumpet* was a big success having a metalcore influence and screaming vocals. In their later albums Shadow dropped his screaming vocals and many rumors of it due to blowing a blood vessel or ripping a vocal cord arose. Shadow denied the rumors and to prove them wrong, he resumed screaming during live shows.



Cassadee Pope is currently 19 and started her career as a teenager. She started the band Blake with her good friend Mike Gentile. Before Blake got signed, it broke up and never got started. While Mike and Cassadee stayed in the band they looked for replacements and started the new band, Hey Monday! They were discovered at a regional music conference where two record label scouts signed her, and 2 years later, her first album came out called, *Hold On Tight*. "We have a variety of styles, but they're all pretty-much fast and upbeat, because we wanted a fast, upbeat and happy kind of record that makes you tap your feet and puts you in a good mood," explains Cassadee. Cassadee's vocals pierce Hey Monday's guitar-driven, her lush, vibrant voice spiraling amidst the tracks like an aerobic workout.

Hayley Williams was born in Meridian, Mississippi December 27, 1988. She started her career by moving from Meridian to Franklin, Tennessee, where she met Josh Farro and Zac Farro in middle school, where she began to take vocal lessons with Brett Manning. Now famous as the lead singer of Paramore, they have now started touring across the world playing in UK, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Philippines and NJ. One of the most favorite quotes of Hayley's is one said by Kid Dynamite, "Let's throw away the hate and rock tonight." A fun fact of Hayley! "I only eat one thing at a time... and sometimes in a clockwise fashion around my plate. It's terrifying." She was voted by the readers of Kerrang! 2nd most sexiest lead singer following 1st by Amy Lee in 2007 and was voted MOST HOTTEST LEAD SINGER IN 2008.



Amy Lynn "Lee" Hartzler was born in Riverside, California, December 13, 1981. She is the co-founder and lead vocalist of the rock band Evanescence. Her influences range from classical musicians, such as Mozart, to modern artists like Björk, Tori Amos, Danny Elfman, and Plumb. She has one brother, Robby and two sisters, Carrie and Lori. Lee took classical piano lessons for nine years. Her family moved to many places, eventually settled in Little Rock, Arkansas, where Evanescence started. She briefly attended Middle Tennessee State University to study music theory and composition, but later dropped out to focus on Evanescence. She got engaged on January 8, 2007, to a therapist and long-time friend Josh Hartzler. She married on May 6, 2007, and honeymooned near The Bahamas.

Lacey Mosley is currently 28 years old was born in Arlington, Texas September 4, 1981 and is the lead vocalist and main lyricist for Flyleaf. Most of her life not a pretty sight doing drugs at the age of 10. She attended high school in Gulfport, and a outspoken atheist. Almost ending her life going through a nervous breakdown and was considering suicide. A grandmother being a huge influence she turned into a Christian. In 2000, she began playing with drummer James Culpepper and eventually paired up with Sameer Bhattacharya and Jared Hartmann, forming Passerby and later renamed to Flyleaf in June 2004. She later married Joshua Sturm, the guitarist of Kairos and the guitar technician of Flyleaf. Flyleaf also performed for the troops in Afghanistan which debuted "Circle" and "Chasm". Lacey said, "It was the last thing we did before we finished this record. It was really life changing for us. Everywhere you turn in Afghanistan, you're reminded of your mortality-in a good way."

