

Chandelier – Sia (2014)

"Chandelier" is an electropop song, featuring electronica, R&B and reggae influences. The song has a melancholic theme, detailing the demoralisation and rationalisation of alcoholism through the thought process of a "party girl". The lyrics talk about feelings of release that come with intoxication, as well as the pain, guilt and emptiness that accompany addiction, alcoholism and hedonistic excess.

The music video for the song has been viewed on YouTube over 2.3 billion times. It features the 11-year-old dancer Maddie Ziegler performing an interpretive dance in a deserted, dirty apartment spinning, kicking, leaping, crawling, falling, twirling and hiding herself behind window drapes.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2vjPBrBU-TM>

Party girls don't get _____

Can't feel anything, when will I learn

I _____ it _____, _____ it _____

I'm the one "for a good time call"

Phone's blowin' up, ringin' my _____

I feel the love, feel the love.

1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3 _____ 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3 _____ 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3 _____

Throw 'em back, till I lose count

I'm gonna _____ from the chandelier, from the chandelier

I'm gonna _____ like tomorrow doesn't _____

Like it doesn't _____

I'm gonna fly like a _____ through the night, feel my _____ as they dry

I'm gonna _____ from the chandelier, from the chandelier

But I'm holding on for dear _____, won't look down, won't _____ my _____

Keep my glass full until morning light, 'cause I'm just holding on for _____

Help me, I'm holding on for dear life, won't look down, won't _____ my _____

Keep my glass full until morning light, 'cause I'm just holding on for _____

On for _____

Sun is up, I'm a mess

Gotta get out now, gotta run from this

Here comes the _____, here comes the _____

Discussion:

1. Why don't "party girls get hurt"? Is partying a way of not thinking and not dealing with your problems?
2. What does she "push down"?
3. Watch the video. Comment on the fact that there is no chandelier anywhere in the house – thus it is not used literally. "Swinging from the chandelier" is a well-known expression. What do you think it means?