

watch what they do,' Toomp told *Complex*. "He dropped that shit and everybod

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Girls' Generation, 'Gee'

2009

YOUTUBE/SMTOWN

Not long after Girls' Generation debuted in 2007, South Koreans gave them the honorific title of the Nation's Girl Group. Their deliciously chaotic pop single "Gee" personifies *aegyo* — or the use of cute, childlike mannerisms to charm others. Snare drums and Eighties-era synths complement the song's slumber-party vibe, creating a hopped-up earworm from start to finish. The song's title is used as a filler

infatuation, they exhale an ebullient “gee gee gee gee gee.” Cute boys will come a
Generation is forever! —J.H.K.

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Jimmy Eat World, 'The Middle'

2001

YOUTUBE/JIMMY EAT WORLD

In the summer of 2001, emo-rockers Jimmy Eat World delivered one of the century's catchiest pop-punk anthems with "The Middle," an addictive motivational rocker off their fourth album, *Bleed American*.

"The Middle" still resonates decades later, thanks to its reassuring, karaoke-beloved chorus: "It just takes a little bit of time in the middle of the night (For something like this, it'll be just fine)." A favorite