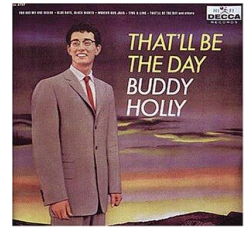


The Fabulous Fifties

“Hey there everybody, welcome to a special radio edition of the popular music and dance show, **American Bandstand**. I’ll be filling in for the legendary Dick Clark while we listen to some songs that shaped the music of the 1950s. So crank up that jukebox and away we go!

The first song to hit the charts this morning is “**That’ll Be the Day**” by **Buddy Holly**. Buddy Holly was a popular musician of the 50’s and sported thick black-rimmed glasses. This is also the first song that John Lennon learned to play on his guitar. Here’s “That’ll Be the Day”.



[*listen to “That’ll Be the Day”](#)



One of the popular styles of music in the 1950’s was called **Doo Wop**. The style comes from rhythm and blues and gets its name from songs that included the words “doo wop” in their lyrics. This next song, in Doo Wop style, is called “**Get a Job**”, and it comes to us from the singing group **The Silhouettes**. With plenty of sha-na-na’s, here’s “Get a Job”.

[*listen to “Get a Job”](#)

Let’s move on to our next song, which is the second biggest selling single of all time. It’s also known as the first rock and roll song to hit the radio, and was even used for the theme song to the TV show, Happy Days. Get up and show me one of the big 50’s dances, either the **Stroll** or the **Lindy Hop**, while we listen to “**Rock Around the Clock**” by **Bill Haley and the Comets**.



[*listen to “Rock Around the Clock”](#)



This next song was a traditional Mexican wedding song for hundreds of years until Richie Valens gave it a rock and roll update! It’s the only non-English song on Rolling Stone’s top 500 Greatest Songs of All Time list. So here it is, “**La Bamba**” by **Richie Valens**!

[*listen to “La Bamba”](#)

Finally, who could spin some 50’s tunes and leave out the king of Rock and Roll himself, **Elvis Presley**! Elvis was born in Mississippi and became a rock and roll sensation that swept the country. Here’s Elvis Presley’s 1956 number one hit, “**Hound Dog**”.



[*listen to “Hound Dog”](#)

With all the world and national events that happened during the 1950’s, probably the one that affected its music the most is the presence of the Baby Boomer generation, who were children and young teenagers that bought and enjoyed new music called Rock and Roll. Next time we’ll see how these baby boomers started to change the world in the 1960’s, and what changes happened to music. But you’ll have to wait until then! Good night, folks!

