HeartBTSUSA

Song Companion

Hooligan

BTS | Arirang | TRACK 2 | March 2026

A listening guide to the second track of Arirang.
Forget behaving. Forget fitting in. Turn up the beat, let loose, and make some noise!

MEET THE SONG

WHAT IS A HOOLIGAN?

A hooligan is traditionally someone who is unruly, disruptive, and perhaps a little dangerous. It's not usually a compliment. But BTS turns the word into something celebratory. In this song, being a hooligan means letting go of expectations, making a joyful racket, and refusing to be restrained. It's less about causing trouble and more about creating an uproar.

WHEN THE BEAT GOES HOOLIGAN

The song almost treats the music itself as a character. The beat is wild, unruly, and out of control. The repeated laughter and the refrain make it feel as though the music has taken over. The line about the bassline* being so rude is particularly fun. The bass isn't merely loud; it's practically misbehaving. Chopped and screwed is a hip-hop production technique in which music is slowed down and manipulated, often with chopped-up repetitions. That reference helps explain the sound they're describing.

*Listen closely! It sounds like baseline, but the word is bassline, the deep, rhythmic sound driving the beat.

NO ONE IS STANDING STILL

The Korean lyrics reinforce the physical energy.
The song moves from individual excitement to a crowd joining in.
It's an invitation to participate, not just watch.

UNDERSTAND THE SONG

UNEXPECTED CULTURAL REFERENCES

Two details deserve special attention:

얼쑤 (Eolssu): A traditional Korean exclamation associated with folk performance, particularly pansori. (Pansori is a traditional Korean form of musical storytelling in which a singer tells a dramatic story through expressive singing, speech, and rhythm, often accompanied by a drummer.) It expresses excitement, encouragement, and enthusiastic approval. I love this detail because it brings a distinctly Korean flavor into a song that otherwise feels like an international party.

El Cucuy: A frightening figure from Latin American folklore, often used to scare children into behaving. Suga's comparison adds a mischievous, slightly menacing edge to the song.

BTS MAKES ITS OWN RULES

RM's verse brings in another dimension: the mess, the bigger mop, the K (K-pop), and the idea of hearing the song around the clock. There's humor and swagger here, but also a sense of confidence in what BTS brings to the music world. The song doesn't ask for approval. It announces itself.

Korean	Sounds Like	Meaning
통제불능, 머리 춤	tong-jeh bool-leung, muh-ree choom	Out of control, my head's dancing.
뛰어 미친놈인 듯	ttwee-uh mee-chin-no-min deut	Jumping like a crazy man.
다들 모여 하나 둘	dah-deul moh-yuh hah-nah dool	Everyone gather, one, two.
우린 댄싱	oo-rin den-sing	We're dancing.



Seven Voices . One Stadium . Many Connections

FOLLOW THE VOICES

A member-by-member listening map: Use this as a guide while listening and singing along.

● RM ● Jin ● Suga ● J-Hope ● Jimin ● V ● Jungkook

● J-Hope: Watch this, watch this beat goin' hooligan
We pop out, we actin' a fool again (Ooh)
Ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha, hooligan
Watch this, watch this beat goin' hooligan (Ooh)

● Jungkook: Why this bassline slappin' so rude?
Drop it lower than chopped and screwed

● RM: (Screwed, screwed, screwed)
Ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha, hooligan
Watch this, watch this beat goin' hooligan

● J-Hope: Man, I'm 'bout to blow a fuse (Yeah)
통제불능, 머리 춤 (Yeah)
(Out of control, my head's dancing) (Yeah)
뛰어 미친놈인 듯 (Uh)
(I'm jumping like a crazy man) (Uh)
Me everywhere, 얼쑤 (let's go!)
Somebody move (Move),
somebody move (Move)
다들 모여 하나 둘 (둘)
(Everyone gather, one two) (two)
I can never ever choose (Yeah)
Every one o' you a muse
Crowd lookin' like a campus
Beat drop, 우린 dancin'
(Beat drop, we're dancin')



● RM: Watch this, watch this beat goin' hooligan
We pop out, we actin' a fool again
Ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha, hooligan
Watch this, watch this beat goin' hooligan

● V: Why this bassline slappin' so rude?
Drop it lower than chopped and screwed

● RM: (Screwed, screwed, screwed)

● J-Hope: Ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha, hooligan
Watch this, watch this beat goin' hooligan

● Suga: I go cuckoo crazy, loco, save me, woo
Like El Cucuy, 굳이 말 안 해도 알잖아, woo
(Like El Cucuy, I don't even have to say it—you already know, woo)
Hooligan, like hooligan, 때려 부숴 like hooligan
(Hooligan, like a hooligan, smash it down like a hooligan)
시간 됐으니 좀 비켜 좀, all clear 이상 무
(It's time, so move aside, all clear, nothing to report)

● Jungkook & ● Jin: Take you out, take you out
What's the future? Where's the now?

● Jimin: This is international
Make it unforgettable

● Suga: Watch this, watch this beat goin' hooligan
We pop out, we actin' a fool again (Ooh)
Ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha, hooligan
Watch this, watch this beat goin' hooligan (Ooh)

● RM: Yeah, we the mess, gonna get a bigger mop here
(Bigger mop)
This that K, gotta get a better pop here
(Better pop)
You gon' hear this one playin' 'round the clock, yeah
('Round the clock)
'Round the clock, clock, clock, clock

● Jimin: Why this bassline slappin' so rude?
Drop it lower than chopped and screwed

● RM: (Screwed, screwed, screwed)

● Suga: Ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha, hooligan
Watch this, watch this beat goin' hooligan

● Jin: Why this bassline slappin' so rude?
Drop it lower than chopped and screwed

● RM: (Screwed, screwed, screwed)

● V: Ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha, hooligan
Watch this, watch this beat goin' hooligan

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