

Media Questions Of The Week

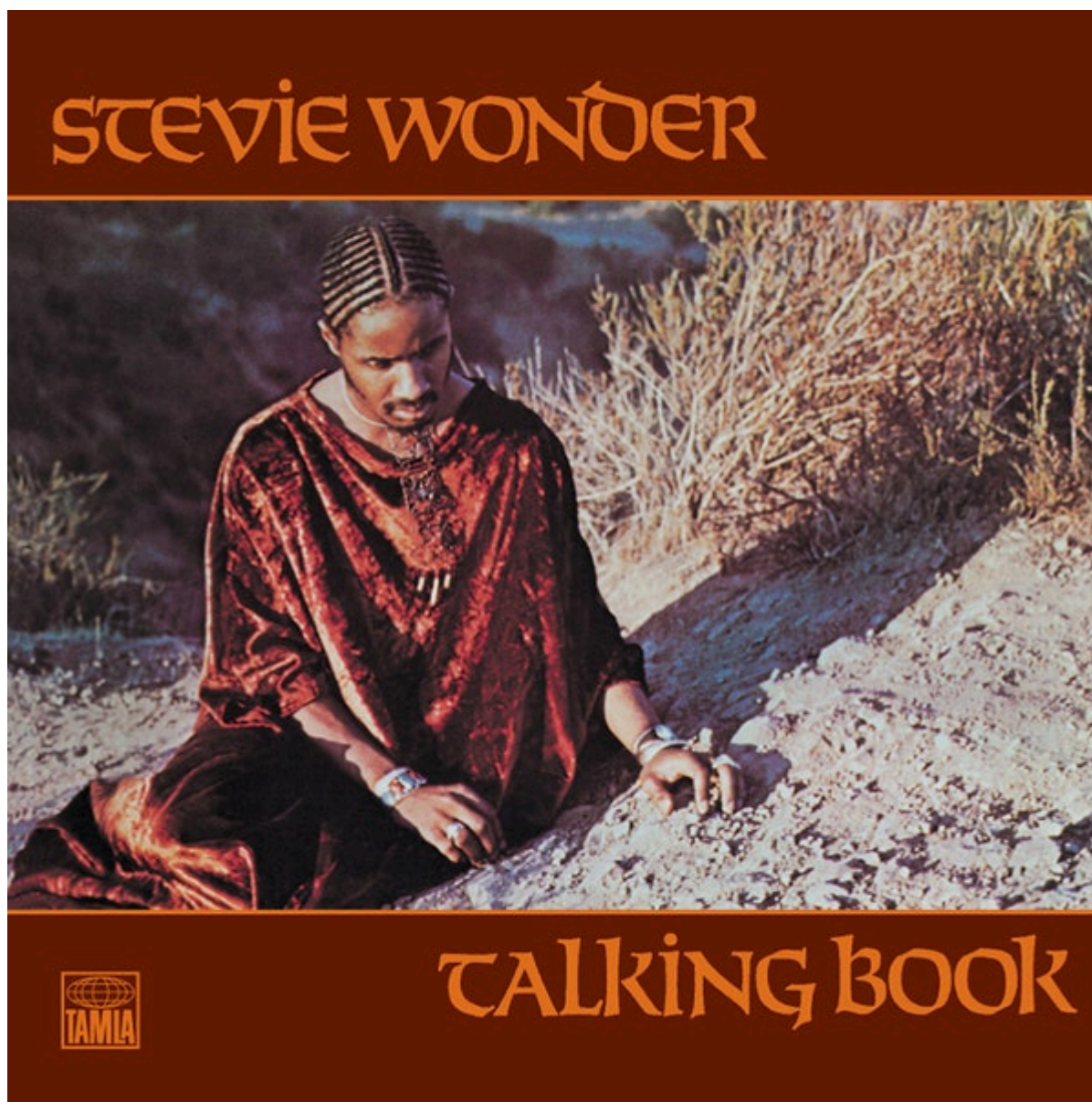
Is Stevie Wonder right about the Drake and Kendrick Lamar beef being a distraction from real-world issues like homelessness?

Throwback: The Red Hot Chili Peppers-Higher Ground



The Red Hot Chili Peppers covered Stevie Wonder's "Higher Ground" for their 1989 album, *Mother's Milk*. Bass player Flea said the band recorded the song as a tribute to Wonder's influence on popular music. Their critically acclaimed version was an example of the funk metal style of the whole album. It was an international hit, and the video was regularly played on MTV. "Higher Ground" was another breakthrough moment for the band and helped *Mother's Milk* become the album that led them to superstardom. MM was their first to make Gold status and the commercial success of it allowed them to go on a major tour with a full band and tour bus. In 2003, *Mother's Milk* was remastered, and six additional songs were added to the CD version. The Red Hot Chili Peppers released their 13th album, *Return Of The Dream Canteen* in 2022. 2024, the band will headline the sixth annual Innings Festival in Tempe, Arizona.

Throwback: Stevie Wonder-You 've Got It Bad Girl



Stevie Wonder's "You've Got It Bad Girl" came out in 1972 and this time period was the beginning of his artistic voice breaking away from the Motown machine. *Talking Book* was Wonder's 15th album, released later in the same year after *Music Of My Mind*. Wonder had a new contract with Motown, which

gave him 100 percent creative freedom; both albums were the beginning of this new phase. These albums are where he started using synthesizers in his sound. “You’ve Got It Bad Girl” emerged with supple waveforms that added a cosmic electronic layer to R&B five years before Bernie Worrell’s playing on Parliament’s “Flash Light.” *Talking Book* is one of the most noted albums in pop music celebrated by fans, critics and other creatives since its release in 1972. Wonder’s work in the ’70s is considered his most creatively prolific time and the music he produced continues to influence soul and RnB music of subsequent generations. Wonder is scheduled to receive a Doctorate of Humane Letters from Fordham University at their 2023 178th commencement ceremony.

Throwback: Tammi Terrell-All I Do (Is Think About You)

Tammi Terrell signed with Motown Records on her 20th birthday in 1965. The next year she recorded “All I Do (Is Think About You)” written by a teenaged Stevie Wonder, Clarence Paul and Morris Broadnax. The song was never released during Terrell’s lifetime but came out on the *A Cellarful Of Motown! Volume 1* compilation in 2002. Wonder recorded the song himself for his 1980 *Hotter Than July* album and only the Motown connoisseurs know of Terrell’s version. It will never be known how the public would have received her recording in the ’60s but she was most visible then and now as part of a duo with Marvin Gaye. She became famous for her duets with Gaye which started in 1967 with Ashford & Simpson’s “Ain’t No Mountain High Enough.” Their recording was entered into the Grammy Hall of

Fame in 1999, 31 years after being nominated at the 10th ceremony. Terrell recorded three albums of duets with Gaye and one solo album in her career that was ended by brain cancer upon her death in 1970. Gaye went into a deep two-year depression after Terrell's passing. Terrell's sister Ludie Montgomery released *My Sister Tommie—The Real Tammi Terrell* in 2005 about her life. The late singer was also the subject of TV One's *Unsung* series.

