

Sevendust's  
**Morgan Rose**  
On Attaining Success

**First off, I'm wondering how you got your nickname "Alien Freak." Next, I recently saw Sevendust perform in Milwaukee, and it was an awesome show. Seeing you guys for the third time has really made me want to start performing more as a drummer. I'd like to know if you could share any secrets about how you broke through and got to where you are now. Keep on rockin'!**

**Justin from Wisconsin**

Thanks for the kind words. A long time ago some close friends of mine started calling me an alien—probably because of my personal/visual style. At the same time, a lot of people were calling me a freak because of how I was performing. A few years ago, someone asked if I'd be interested in having my own stick and starting a

merchandise company, and those things needed a name. So we put the two nicknames together, and there you have it—Alien Freak.

As far as secrets of success...hmmmm. In my case I guess it was just good old determination. I refused to take no for an answer. I put all my eggs in one basket and went for it. But it didn't happen overnight. It took a while. All the doors but one got shut, but that one was all I needed. Just a shot. As a band, we knew in our hearts that if we could get people to hear what we had to say, and if we could show them in person how much we meant it, we could have something special. And we do. We've built friendships with fans like you, and we thank God we have you as friends!

If and when *you* succeed, don't take that success for granted. It's a beautiful thing to play as much as we do and to know so many people. See you soon, Justin...and good luck, my man.

Courtesy Of Pearl