

CATACLYSMIC



BIOGRAPHY

Cataclysmic is a metalcore duo formed in early 2025 by Ava Toton and Derek Romero, blending punishing heaviness with atmospheric tension and modern electronic textures.

The duo independently released their self-produced debut single, "Death Is Just a Doorway," in July 2025, followed by their sophomore release, "Entropy," on November 28, 2025, further cementing their sound: unrelenting, immersive, and emotionally charged.

Drawing influence from boundary-pushing acts like Thrown, Spiritbox, Loathe, Periphery, Alpha Wolf, HEAVENSGATE, fromjoy, and Kublai Khan, Cataclysmic channels a volatile fusion of music: crushing djent and metalcore guitar work layered with atmospheric, shoegaze-inspired choruses.

In 2026, Cataclysmic made their live performance debut at Cliff Burton Day, marking a pivotal moment in the band's rapid ascent.

All songs are written, performed and produced by Ava and Derek. Both play lead guitar (including all other instrumentation & plugins). Ava is the lead vocalist with Derek singing vocal features.

ANGUISH

Anguish is the third single from the band Cataclysmic, released on March 6, 2026.

What people are saying about this track:

"Very powerful song, the intro has a lot of energy with the metal drums and guitars, the mixing is very good and clean, and the outro has all the atmospheric jungle vibes."

"The track comes in right away—no endless intro! I like that. The track is well produced."

"It hits hard."

"Very harsh tone right away with the heavy distortion, great for the genre."

GEAR USED FOR ANGUISH

- Squier Classic Vibe Baritone Custom Telecaster
- Submission Audio Umansky Bass
- GGD Modern and Massive 2
- Neural DSP Gojira X, Nolly X, Parallax X, and Quad Cortex
- Oracle Sound Painstager

AVA TOTON

Ava, 16, is a versatile musician whose talents span guitar, vocals, songwriting, and production. She first picked up a guitar at five years old and began formal lessons soon after. At seven, she started studying under Rafael Macedo, spending the past nine years refining her proficiency in multiple instruments, music theory, vocal technique and songwriting. Rafael's guidance has profoundly shaped Ava's technical craft and sound.

Before co-founding Cataclysmic with Derek Romero, Ava released two solo EPs: A.V.A. (2021) and Charm School Dropout (2022). She subsequently released two solo singles: Like A Girl (2023) and Embers (2023).

Her latest self-produced solo tracks, Decay (2025) and Phoenix (2025), mark her heaviest music yet, showcasing her evolution as both artist, songwriter and producer.

DEREK ROMERO

Derek, 16, is a passionate guitarist who began playing in 2021. He began his journey in music as a member of a metal band, where he spent two years developing his skills and gaining invaluable performance experience.

Through the years, he showcased his talent at various festivals in Austin and performed at numerous venues throughout the city and the surrounding areas, as well as in New York and Ontario.

Beyond performing, Derek is also a gifted songwriter and music producer, dedicated to creating original compositions that resonate with audiences. His commitment to his craft and dynamic stage presence continue to make him influential.

LINKS



CONTACT

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All photos taken by Laura Nelson.

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