

Purgatory from Hell, a burning symbol of intense natural energy. The musicians were excited by the correlation between this description and their music, so they adopted the name Styx. After centuries of rather obscure existence, the mythological concept was brought to life through the intense natural energy generated by the music of Styx.

Things went smoothly during Styx's studio debut and their first album was introduced in the summer of 1971. Styx I received critical raves everywhere, but as sometimes happens, got little airplay nationwide. In Chicago, however, the progressive rockers supported the album and inspired healthy local sales. But the national lack of interest at radio stations seemed to justify the "you can't break a band out of Chicago" syndrome.

Styx II revealed a refined group, a polishing and finessing of the raw talent evident on album one. And though Styx II got a stronger reception than its predecessor, heaviest response was again confined to Chicago and the midwest.

To keep themselves alive Styx played in clubs, high schools and colleges throughout the midwest. Their performance took on a special, crowd pleasing, essentially mid-western style. The "signature" of Dennis DeYoung's voice and the group's vocal harmonies became synonymous with Styx in the minds of audiences throughout the heartland of