

Mahdi Johar

English 102

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## The Words that Form Songs

### Song Analysis

I have given the opportunity to select one song lyrics in order to analyze it. It's as hard as being in a pool full of fish and being asked to catch one of them by empty hands. I chose two lyrics to write about. Music lyrics are short poems expressing the personal mood, feeling, or meditation of a single speaker (or lyricist). Lyrics have different forms including sonnet, ode, haiku, elegy and the more personal kinds of hymn. I learned that songs are not only music with strange sounds and rhythms, but also I knew that they include lovely words that deserve attention. Lyrics of songs always affect people in different ages and sometime people change their decisions because of listening to a song. There are hundreds of thousands of variable songs in our life, however, I want to compare between two specific examples of lyrical genre: "*I want to spend my lifetime loving you*" by Tina Arena, and "*Do they know it's Christmas time*" by Band Aid.

Firstly, it is obvious that each song has its own goal. Sometimes the purpose is hidden between the words, but I can see that the purpose is clear to the audience in these two examples. "*I want to spend my lifetime loving you*", written by **Will Jennings**, played first time in "The Mask of Zorro" movie. It has lots of feelings which present to any two real lovers. On the other hand, "*Do they know it's Christmas time*" song, written by **Bob Geldof**, has more charitable

purpose and contains phrases that speak directly to the human hearts. It is an invitation to lick the tears from African Children's cheeks.

Secondly, songwriters have to decide who are going to read or listen to their lyrics. For this reason, they can put extra efforts on writing and seek for more passions then transfer them to letters and words of the lyrics. I think **Will Jennings** translated his true faith of love in this song by saying: 'Love is worth everything we pay.' His romantic words were incarnated in a dialogue between man and woman who are really in love with each other. It is for lovers who can sacrifice at life battle. There is no specific timing to enforce audiences to listen to this song as long as there is true love between couples. Moving to **Bob Geldof's** lyrics, the audiences for this song aren't limited in neither quantity nor quality. It is pointed to all people who still have kind hearts and souls out there. His words brought millions of dollars to African Children which I consider that a huge success for the lyricist. Although this song is being classified as a seasonal song but it actually changes lot of things during the days before Christmas.

Thirdly, **Will Jennings** used many terms that are relative to nature. He mentioned the moon, the night, the dream, the wind and of course the love. He relied on these terms all the way until he ended his lyric. I think the reason of that is to show the real love has to be from nature but not artifice or fake. **Bob Geldof** tried to use more adjectives that have sad emotional meanings than **Jennings'** lyrics. **Geldof** selected words that describe feelings such as afraid, dread, fear and bitter tears. He wanted to play with audience's feelings by using those words in order to win their sympathies. Also "*Feed the World*" song has some sentences that include faithful and spiritual expressions, for instance: "*Say a prayer*" and "*Thank God it's them instead of you.*" These expressions are used as reminders for people who forget to be thankful to God.

Fourthly, I can notice that both lyrics have completely different ideas. “*I want to spend my lifetime*” is basically built on loyalty. The lyricist summarizes loyalty in form of promising that kept in love until life ended. For example: “*If that is all in life I ever do.*” The idea of “*Feed the World*” comes from feeling responsible for what is happening in one of the poorest regions of the world. In addition, the lyricist wanted to show that all people, who live safe, are involved in this and they must share this responsibility with him so that helping Africa’s children to be fed.

Finally, I would like to end my words by saying that analyzing lyrical genres requires lots of efforts in reading through genres and find the main purposes that hidden between the lines. My two examples of lyrical genre are well-known songs and widespread around the world because they have pure purposes. I like listening to songs and enjoy the lovely voices rather than read their lyrics. In fact, the musical tone and the lyric are completing each other. Because sometimes the lyric of a song isn’t so good howbeit the musical tone can make from it a very popular song and vice versa.

*“Do they know it's Christmas time”*

It's Christmas time, there's no need to be afraid  
At Christmas time, we let in light and we banish shade  
And in our world of plenty, we can spread a smile of joy!  
Throw your arms around the world at Christmas time  
But say a prayer - pray for the other ones  
At Christmas time, it's hard, but when you're having fun  
There's a world outside your window  
And it's a world of dreaded fear  
Where the only water flowing is a bitter sting of tears  
And the Christmas bells that ring there are the clanging chimes of doom  
Well tonight thank God it's them instead of you  
And there won't be snow in Africa this Christmas time  
The greatest gift they'll get this year is life  
Where nothing ever grows  
No rain or rivers flow  
Do they know it's Christmas time at all?  
Here's to you  
Raise your glass for everyone  
Here's to them  
Underneath that burning sun  
Do they know it's Christmas time at all?  
Feed the world, Feed the world, Feed the world  
Let them know it's Christmas time and

Feed the world, Let them know it's Christmas time and

*"I want to spend my lifetime loving you"*

Moon so bright night so fine  
Keep your heart here with mine  
Lifes a dream we are dreaming  
Race the moon catch the wind  
Ride the night to the end  
Seize the day stand up for the light  
I want to spend my lifetime loving you  
If that is all in life I ever do  
Heroes rise heroes fall  
Rise again win it all  
In your heart cant you feel the glory  
Through our joy through our pain  
We can move worlds again  
Take my hand dance with me  
I want to spend my lifetime loving you  
If that is all in life I ever do  
I will want nothing else to see me through  
If I can spend my lifetime loving you  
Though we know we will never come again  
Where there is love life begins  
Over and over again  
Save the night save the day  
Save the love come what may  
Love is worth everything we pay  
I want to spend my lifetime loving you  
If that is all in life I ever do  
I want to spend my lifetime loving you  
If that is all in life I ever do  
I will want nothing else to see me through  
If I can spend my lifetime loving you