

Date 1 / 24 PV Log: (circle one) Poem / Movie / Picture / LyricTitle "Let Her Go"Author / Director / Passenger

Context (Where Found / Viewed / Read?)

I have heard "Let Her Go" by Passenger a number of times, but recently, while driving to the movie theater on Greenback Lane, I heard the song, and, listening more closely to the lyrics, I decided to do a long on it.

Content / CD / Summary / Precis (Say? "Plot? Setting/Situation? Key lines/phrases scenes, etc? )

"Let Her Go" is primarily a romantic song about a person, presumably a guy, who is suffering over the loss of a girlfriend, wife, or even just someone that he seemed to have a strong desire or attraction for, as the singer sings, "Only know you love her when you let her go / And you let her go." The lyrics also discuss various other instances and circumstances under which a person may regret or feel unsettled by what he or she sees in hindsight, such as when the singer sings, "Only miss the the sun when it starts to snow... Only hate the road when you're missin' home." Ultimately, the lyrics are about examining the past and learning from one's mistakes.

Content / CM / Meaning? / Theme(s)?

The lyrics of "Let Her Go" revolve around the themes of regret and hindsight, or knowledge gained through tangible experience. The song also particularly touches on the idea of taking things for granted, and the tragedy and deprived feeling one experiences when he or she loses something significant. The lyrics of the song not only speak to people in relationships, who often take things for granted until it's too late to go back, but they also speak to all people who become blinded by happiness and the good, only to recognize their fortune and favorable circumstances when they are actually taken away and abolished. People miss things they no longer have, or things that are taken away from them. The song urges people not to live only in the now, which seems ironic because that is how life should be ideally lived in order for it to be enjoyed, but instead it encourages the listener to contemplate and examine his or her own life, so that he or she will not have to regret any decisions in the future.

Form (Diction? Construction Terms? Symbolism?)

"Let Her Go" is an indie pop, acoustic song that on the surface primarily seems like a song about breakups and relationships, as it uses a lot of words about love and intimacy. Nevertheless, the song has a bigger idea going on and is more about not really knowing and fully understanding what one has until it is truly gone. This sort of hidden meaning and duplicity symbolizes the very point that the lyrics are trying to make. Just like the more profound meaning of the song isn't necessarily known right away, people do not necessarily have legitimate knowledge until they experience things for themselves, such as when they lose something or someone important.

Commentary (What do you want to say? Why like? Questions? Synthesis / Allusions-Connections / Relevance to personal experience, to literature, 20Q's? etc.)? "Poetic" Traits?

"Let Her Go" is such a great song because it literally can be relevant to so many people in so many different ways, including to those who reflect on missed opportunities or even those who are fearful of the present circumstances in a variety of different ways. Moreover, the soothing, melodic voice of Michael Rosenberg, the actual singer of the song, can be alleviating and easing in any situation, especially when one wants to take his mind off things. The lyrics of the song also particularly pertain to Annie Dillard's essay "Seeing" as well as Plato's "Allegory of the Cave" in terms of perception and judgement relative to oneself. Just like the people in "Seeing" are fixed of their blindness and exposed to a world more beautiful than they could ever imagine, the lyrics of the song urge people to step into the light, like in the "Allegory of the Cave," and to observe their surroundings from an impersonal standpoint, so that they can ultimately arrive at the truth. I find this idea of perception and discerning between the real and unreal poetic because it allows people to live genuinely and without a wasted, fruitless time on earth. Moreover, I think the lyrics of this song are significantly poetic because they advocate living in the present and appreciating all that one has, because, ultimately in the future, what a person has, including both possessions and relationships, will not always stay the same.

over (do not mix logs; e.g., no poem log in front, and movie log on back)