

Date 4 / 4 PV Log: (circle one) Poem / Movie / Picture / LyricTitle "Skyscraper"Author / Director / Demi Lovato

Context (Where Found / Viewed / Read?)

I first heard "Skyscraper" on some sort of television show, be it a singing competition show or even a Disney channel show back in the day. Whatever the show may be, I have always loved the message this song relays, and I particularly decided to do a log on this song when I found it on a website under a list of inspirational songs.

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

"Skyscraper" portrays a particular person who is being ridiculed and scrutinized by another but still strongly maintains her ground like a skyscraper. The speaker sings "You can take everything I have / You can break everything I am," but instead of breaking down and giving into the malice and sabotage, she perseveres and becomes even stronger because of it, as she "will be rising from the ground / Like a skyscraper." The speaker isn't necessarily impervious to the pain that others inflict upon her as she sings, "All my windows still are broken;" nonetheless, she learns to cope and deal with the adversity and to "stand on [her] feet" again.

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

"Skyscraper" clearly revolves around the theme of strength and fortitude and rising about all of the trials and tribulations that people face in their everyday lives. Problems and struggles are an intrinsic part of life, and so the lyrics to this song could not be more relevant. The song urges people not to focus on the negativity of their problems but instead to try and overcome them because, ultimately, happiness and peace ensue when people end their relationships with their struggles and pain. Even if people hit the lowest low and the darkest dark, this song makes people realize that they can always get back up and into the light as long as they focus on what is truly important, the goals they want to achieve and the way that they want to live. As for Demi, this song helped to rebuild her character and strength after facing suicidal thoughts, an eating disorder, and other problems that forced her into a phase of rehabilitation. This song in particular reflects the rehabilitation phase of people in face of adversity, like Demi who was in the spotlight for her severe issues.

Form (Diction? Construction Terms? Symbolism?)

A skyscraper is a very tall building with a multitude of stories. A skyscraper rises above all the other buildings in a city, particularly a metropolitan and busy city with an enormous skyline, and that is what the speaker of the song is striving for as well as encouraging others to do. A person who has maintained his ground in face of adversity looks down upon the others that are trying to bring him down, and he acquires great satisfaction in realizing that it was solely he who influenced and brought about his own success. A person who can achieve such a task no longer needs to depend on others nor does he have to worry the slightest about what others think or do because he has successfully built a strong foundation for his skyscraper.

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

"Skyscraper," though seemingly simple and mainstream in its meaning and message that it is trying to send to society, is probably one of the most relevant pieces of music I have ever listened to. Whether it be bullying, some sort of addiction, or even a mental affliction, every single person faces some extreme and severe sort of adversity in his or her life at one point or another. The message of the song pertains to everyone, and its powerful, moving musicality makes it even more captivating and enjoyable. The point of the lyrics and the song itself is that any obstacle is able to be circumvented and ultimately conquered or overcome. Despite any inhibition that brings someone down or holds someone back, the song urges people to build back up and to maintain their ground. Life has its ups and downs and it's up to people to build strong foundations on which they can construct their own skyscrapers in order to achieve ultimate peace and contentedness with themselves and with others. When I think of the song "Skyscraper," I literally and metaphorically think of the tragic terrorist event that occurred on 9/11 in 2001. No matter how the song is interpreted, it is ultimately about hope, and that is why I find it quite poetic. It is about being knocked down, but then getting oneself off, and rebuilding, even in face of adversity. Thirteen years ago, America was devastated by the 9/11 attacks but they rebuilt and regrouped, much like they always will. "Skyscraper" is poetic because it presents a partial solution to the unfortunate human condition, a complete resistance to the mental blockage that the indecency of mankind imposes.