

Date 11 / 16 PV Log: (circle one) Poem / Movie / Picture / LyricTitle "We Remain"Author / Director / Christina Aguilera

Context (Where Found / Viewed / Read?)

"We Remain" is part of the *Hunger Games: Catching Fire* soundtrack, and, once the album was released on iTunes, I immediately listened to the all of the songs. "We Remain" is one of my favorite songs in the album.

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

"We Remain" is most likely written from the perspective of Katniss Everdeen in the *Hunger Games* trilogy by Suzanne Collins. Katniss is igniting a revolution against the country of Panem, and the lyrics of this song embody her standing up against the oppression of the people by the Capitol. The speaker claims that she can handle anything the government does to her, and she almost dares the government to "burn [her] with fire / Drown her with rain." Despite everything, she and the over revolutionaries will still remain.

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

"We Remain" is about standing up for justice and rights in face of severe oppression and tyranny. The lyrics of the song show the true strength and determination of societal reformers and revolutionaries who fight for and desire human liberties, which are such an intrinsic part of humanity. Humans are born free and unimpeded, but it is ultimately members of their fellow species that unfairly restrict their ability to independently prosper and thrive. Nevertheless, the burning and passionate desire to achieve individual freedom that is present within oppressed individuals greatly outweighs the forces that restrict them.

Form (Diction? Construction Terms? Symbolism?)

"We Remain" is an arena pop power ballad. A ballad is a form of narrative verse in music, while a power ballad is a specific type of a sentimental ballad that begins with slowly and builds with a crescendo to a loud and emotional chorus backed by a variety of instruments. The person that the speaker is singing to in the lyrics denoted as "you" could either signify the oppressive government or perhaps another revolutionary who is fighting with her in their battle against Panem.

Commentary (What do you want to say? Why like? Questions? Synthesis / Allusions-Connections /

Relevance to personal experience, to literature, 20Q's? etc.)? "Poetic" Traits?

"We Remain" is by far one of my favorite songs of the entire year, especially because it is performed by the amazingly talented Christina Aguilera. The lyrics are powerfully evocative, and Christina's vocal delivery makes the song even more sentimental. The lyrics in particular speak to anyone who has ever had enough courage to fight for justice in the face of persecution and suppression, such as the historical figures Nelson Mandela and Mahatma Gandhi. These people embody the poetic courage it takes to achieve righteousness and to spur the world forward in recapturing the inherent, natural liberties of every human being. For Mandela at least, the South African government thought that they were able to silence his movement against apartheid; however, despite imprisoning him and afflicting him with other maltreatment, he and his revolution still remained and persisted until they attained complete justice and equality. Just like the speaker of the song, Mandela did not back down for any reason whatsoever. Finally, the lyrics of "We Remain" are definitely poetic because they symbolize and represent all of the go-getters and brave activists who will not take "no" for an answer. These types of poetic people are the ones who can make a difference in the world, inspiring others along the way.

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