

Date 11 / 3 PV Log: (circle one) Poem / Movie / Picture / LyricTitle "What a Wonderful World"Author / Director / Louis Armstrong

Context (Where Found / Viewed / Read?)

I saw "What a Wonderful World" on the "Playing for Change" channel on Youtube, a multimedia music project which aims at bringing musicians together from around the world. I then looked up the lyrics from a different source.

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

"What a Wonderful World" is about a person who is observing various beautiful aspects of nature such as "trees of green, red roses too," "the colors of the rainbow so pretty in the sky," and much more. The speaker even observes the peaceful interchange between two amicable people. All of these things make him think stop and think about the wonderful world he lives in.

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

The lyrics of "What a Wonderful World" do not try and influence the listener to believe that everything that occurs in life is always going to be beautiful and perfect; rather, they try to persuade the listener to take a step back and to observe all the wonderful beauty in life. Despite the fact that there are so many inadequate and sad conditions that plague the world, such as starvation, disease, and pollution, the song promotes the admiration and appreciation of all of the good things in nature and life that are often overshadowed by unfortunate circumstances. Still, however, the negative issues going on the world can not be ignored; rather, they must be approached from the perspective that no matter how bad things can get, there is still hope for a wonderful future.

Form (Diction? Construction Terms? Symbolism?)

"What a Wonderful World" is a traditional pop song written as a source for optimism during some struggling times in America. The lyrics of the song are relatively simple and straightforward without any metaphorical comparisons, and they are broken down into four stanza-like portions. The first two discuss the beauty of nature, while the last two discuss the beauty of humans.

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

"What a Wonderful World" will forever be a classic song, appreciated because of its optimism and uplifting spirit. There is probably not one other song that I have heard that presents views of the world in such a hopeful and confident manner. Although the way the lyrics approach life may seem too encouraging and promising, they are ultimately poetic because they cause the listener to stop and reflect and to perceive the enjoyable and pleasant things that are there. The world is full of much more hope and beauty than may outwardly appear, and this song inspires the listener to acknowledge and treasure just that because the good in life is what primarily makes it so wonderful. This song transforms such a dreary, dire situation, otherwise known as the human condition, into a positive and optimistic one through the utilization of perception.