

Date 9 / 15 PV Log: (circle one) Poem / Movie / Picture / Lyric

Title Flower Growing on Asphalt

Author / Director / Source: Internet Monk.COM

Context (Where Found / Viewed / Read?)

I found this picture on a website that I got led to via Google Images when I searched for "inspirational photos."

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

The picture depicts a beautiful, purple flower, alone amongst a landscape of concrete and asphalt. There are some cracks in the concrete and various weedy plants growing in the background, but the alluring flower remains the star of the shot, as it grows, seemingly unbelievably, around the interferences of mankind.

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

This photo in no way can be interpreted pessimistically. Despite interruption of its natural habitat and most likely even the destruction of other members of its species, this lone flower has held on regardless of all odds. It is not uncommon to see weeds and other simple grasses survive the harsh and undesirable conditions that urbanization has created; however, the endurance and survival of this flower sends a bold message to humanity. If a flower can persist in the least likeliest of places, then humans essentially have the ability to achieve anything if they set their minds to it.

Form (Diction? Construction Terms? Symbolism?)

The flower in this photo represents the ambitions and goals that people have in life that they may be struggling with or doubt they may be able to achieve. It symbolizes the fact anything is truly possible in spite of all circumstances. The photo is taken from a slightly upward angle with a supreme focus on the flower itself, and everything else behind it is blurred.

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

I sincerely admire this photo because it essentially depicts the defiance of nature against humanity. Humans are the only organisms with complex enough of intellectual capabilities to actually destroy and harm the beautiful world that has been created for them, and this picture is nature's way of rebelling and taking a stance against its maltreatment. A similar concept can be seen in Robert Frost's poem "Mending Wall" when nature revolts against the wall that is constantly being rebuilt by the two neighbors. Nature consistently wrecks the wall in order not only to destroy the item that inhibits the unity of the neighbors but also to bring them together each year. I do find nature's mysterious and subtle yet suggestive communication to mankind very poetic, especially the picture of this flower surviving all odds. The picture gives people hope that they can aspire to and achieve great things in life, even in face of seemingly insurmountable obstacles and difficulties.