

Essay One

Critical Methods

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Everyone, at some point in their lives, have been away from a loved one. During that time, there is a feeling of emptiness while waiting to see them again. No matter what, life is missing a piece when that person is gone. This is especially seen in today's mobile and globalized society. The song "I'm Already There" by Lonestar embodies the feeling of missing a loved one while they are away and offers an alternate reality through the use of metaphors. In this essay, I argue that the rhetor uses metaphors to create the presence of one when not physically there.

Description of Artifact The song "I'm Already There" by Lonestar was written by the lead singer Richie McDonald along with bandmembers Gary Baker and Frank Meyers. "I'm Already There" released in March of 2001 as the lead-off single to their fourth studio album. This song is from the point of view of McDonald, a husband and a father who also is the lead singer of Lonestar but can be applied elsewhere as many people are away from loved ones at some point in their lives. The song is set with McDonald on tour in "A lonely hotel room" while he is calling home to talk to his wife and kids. The song itself is about being there with someone you care about and love for in spirit when you are unable to physically be with them. In this song, metaphors are used to create the reality that he is home with his wife and kids, when he is actually hundreds of miles away on tour. Life is experienced through language and in this case, the language being used is expressing that no matter where he is in the country, he will always be with his wife and children through metaphoric comparisons. There are multiple metaphors

five metaphors created a reality where McDonald was compared to sunlight, moonlight, wind, a shadow and an imaginary friend; all which cannot be physically held or felt like the heartbeat.

He is linking himself to the heartbeat because he wants his wife and children to have some sort of physical feeling of him while he is away. When McDonald compares himself to the beat in his wife and children's hearts, he is offering that the beat they feel is him, even though he is away.

The beating heart refers to his heart too, while he's the beat of his children and wife's hearts, they are the beat in his heart. This metaphor holds the most significance, while all other metaphors create a presence of McDonald. This is the only one where his presence can be physically felt.

Rhetorical Contribution Being without a loved one while they are away is a scenario most people have dealt with at some point in their lives. Whether they are gone due to work, in the military, or

and children's heart, the rhetor placed himself inside of them, creating a physical certainty that he will always be there.

Conclusion In conclusion, the rhetor uses metaphors to create the presence of one when not physically there. Everyone at some point in their lives has been away from a loved one. In the duration of000912 dur

Reference

Foss, S. K. (2018). *Rhetorical criticism* {5th ed.} Long Grove, IL: Waveland press.

Lonestar, (2001). *I'm already there* Nashville, TN: BNA records

Artifact

He called her on the road
From a lonely, cold hotel room
Just to hear her say I love you one more time
But when he heard the sound
Of the kids laughing in the background
He had to wipe away a tear from his eye
A little voice came on the phone
Said, "Daddy when you coming home?"
He said the first thing that came to his mind

I'm already there
Take a look around
I'm the sunshine in your hair
I'm the shadow on the ground
I'm the whisper in the wind
I'm your imaginary friend
And I know I'm in your prayers
Oh, I'm already there

She got back on the phone
Said I really miss you, darling
Don't worry about the kids--they'll be all right
Wish I was in your arms
Lying right there besi

