

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LYRICS AND MELODY

CASE STUDY: *MY HEART WILL GO ON* BY JAMES HORNER AND WILL JENNINGS, AND *BECAUSE YOU LOVED ME* BY DIANE WARREN.

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Table of Contents

1. Chapter One: Introduction

- 1.1 Scope of Study
- 1.2 Research Objectives
- 1.3 Research Preface

2. Chapter Two: Background and Literature Review

- 2.1 *My Heart Will Go On* and *Titanic* (1997).
- 2.2 *Because You Loved Me* and *Up Close & Personal* (1996).
- 2.3 James Cameron: director, writer, and co-producer of *Titanic* (1997).
- 2.4 James Horner: film composer; original music to *Titanic* (1997) and *My Heart Will Go On*.
- 2.5 Will Jennings: lyricist to *My Heart Will Go On* for the film *Titanic* (1997).
- 2.6 Celine Dion: artist.
- 2.7 Jonathan M. Avnet: director to *Up Close & Personal* (1996).
- 2.8 Diane Warren: lyricist to *Because You Loved Me* for the film *Up Close & Personal* (1996).
- 2.9 Literature Review 1
- 2.10 Literature Review 2
- 2.11 Literature Review 3
- 2.12 Literature Review 4

3. Chapter Three: Methodology

- 3.1 Research Approach
- 3.2 Sample 1
- 3.3 Sample 2
- 3.4 Sample 3
- 3.5 Sample 4

4. Chapter Four: Analysis, outcomes and conclusion.

- 4.1 The Craft of Lyric Writing
- 4.2 Inspiration
- 4.3 Text
- 4.4 Rhythm
- 4.5 Form

- 4.6 Phrasing
- 4.7 The Construction of a Melody
- 4.8 Pitch
- 4.9 Rhythm
- 4.10 Form
- 4.11 Repetition in lyrics and melody
- 4.12 The connection of the title to the melody
- 4.13 The relationship between the music and the film
- 4.14 Conclusion

Appendix A: Bibliography

Appendix B: Electronic Sources

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1. Introduction

1.1 Scope of Study

The title of my research topic: *The Relationship between Lyrics and Melody* - focuses on the techniques of writing lyrics and melody, and the relationship between them. The extent of this research encompasses two well-known songs: *My Heart Will Go On*, written by James Horner and Will Jennings, and also, *Because You Loved Me*, by Diane Warren; where I aim at looking into the following three (3) main focuses of interests:

1. Is the construction of lyric writing similar to the construction of melody?
2. Is there any relation that links melody to lyrics?
3. Is there any connection of the melody and lyrics to the motion picture?

1.2 Research Objectives

Popular music is probably the most commonly well received genre of music today. In my opinion, this is most likely since popular music is easily accessible via radio, television, and the World Wide Web. Thus, popular music, especially songs; have coincidentally become part of our daily lives; which brings me to my next point: research objectives. My main objective in conducting this research on the subject matter of the relationship between lyrics and melody; is to understand the concept of lyric writing more in depth. For instance, composers often overlook the lyric writing concept, and focus mainly towards the writing of melody instead. The fact of the matter is, a lot of popular songs are accepted and/or well received mostly because of excellent construction of memorable lyrics. In addition, I am especially interested in understanding the concept of a “winning”