

Name:

Hour:

# Theme Song Novel Activity

*Due: Wednesday, January 29, 2009*

# Theme Song Activity

For this activity, I would like you to find a song that could be used as a “theme song” for the novel that you are currently reading. This song would be the song they could play if your novel was made into a movie.

You need to have:

- Title of Song and Artist
- Lyrics to song (black out any inappropriate words)
- Minimum of one paragraph justifying why this song would serve as an appropriate theme song for your novel

Optional:

- a clean version of the song to play for the class

## Music Restrictions:

For the presentation to the class you may only play the edited (clean-no swear words) version of the song. If you keep the inappropriate words in the song, in the music, a **severe** point deduction will occur. Additionally, you would be subject to further disciplinary action.

## Additional Creative Restrictions

If your novel already has been made into the movie, you may not use any songs from the existing soundtrack.

Example Assignment:

Kathleen Bertolini  
January 21, 2009  
Theme Song Novel Activity  
5<sup>th</sup> Hour

I am selecting the song “Stay (I Missed You)” by Lisa Loeb as a possible quality theme song for the novel New Moon by Stephanie Meyer.

### Song Lyrics:

Stay (I Missed You)  
by Lisa Loeb

You say I only hear what I want to.  
You say I talk so all the time so.

And I thought what I felt was simple,  
and I thought that I don't belong,  
and now that I am leaving,  
now I know that I did something wrong 'cause I missed you.  
Yeah yeah, I missed you.

And you say I only hear what I want to:  
I don't listen hard,  
don't pay attention to the distance that you're running  
to anyone, anywhere,  
I don't understand if you really care,  
I'm only hearing negative: no, no, no.

So I turned the radio on, I turned the radio up,  
and this woman was singing my song:  
lover's in love, and the other's run away,  
lover is crying 'cause the other won't stay.

Some of us hover when we weep for the other who was  
dying since the day they were born.  
Well, well, this is not that;  
I think that I'm throwing, but I'm thrown.

And I thought I'd live forever, but now I'm not so sure. You try to tell me  
that I'm clever,  
but that won't take me anyhow, or anywhere with you.

You said that I was naive,  
and I thought that I was strong.  
I thought, "hey, I can leave, I can leave."  
Oh, but now I know that I was wrong, 'cause I missed you.  
Yeah, I missed you.

You said you caught me cause u want me and one day you'll let me go.  
You try to give away a keeper, or keep me 'cause you know you're just  
scared to lose.  
And you say, "Stay."

And you say I only hear what I want to.

## Example Paragraph Justifying Song as a Theme Song:

Kathleen Bertolini  
January 21, 2009  
Theme Song Novel Activity  
5<sup>th</sup> Hour

Music is an important part of telling a story in a movie format. Music really adds to the emotion and drama of the story for the viewer. Therefore, it is important for the people involved in creating the movie to select an appropriate song. If New Moon by Stephanie Meyer were to be made into a movie, I believe that “Stay (I Missed You)” by Lisa Loeb would be a great theme song for that movie. The lyrics, “And I thought I’d live forever, but now I’m not so sure.” fit perfectly with the plot line of New Moon. In the novel, Bella wants to become a vampire, like her boyfriend, Edward, and thus live forever. However in the book, Edward leaves Bella and therefore her thought of living forever becomes unsure. Additionally, the line, “You said you caught me cause u want me and one day you’ll let me go.” seems to refer to Edward’s struggle with hurting Bella either by staying with her or leaving her. Moreover, the theme of the song is about a person staying, not leaving and missing them if they are away, this is exactly the conflict in the novel New Moon.

Furthermore, in the song it says,

... and I thought that I was strong. I thought, ‘hey, I can leave, I can leave.’ Oh, but now I know that I was wrong, 'cause I missed you. Yeah, I missed you.

This reminds me of exactly the type of dialogue and thinking that the main character, Edward, would say in the novel. He left Bella, but decides that he misses her too much to go on without her. Edward eventually returns to be with Bella and “stays”. For these reasons, I believe that this song would be a fantastic match with the novel New Moon.

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# Theme Song Grading Rubric:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Hour: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Activity Must Include the Following Parts:

Title of Song                      worth 5 points

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Artist                      worth 5 points

\_\_\_\_\_

Lyrics to Song                      worth 10 points

\_\_\_\_\_

(Inappropriate words blacked out)

One paragraph justifying song~

- 3 reasons why song is appropriate to book worth 5 points per reason
- Use quotes from the song lyrics or book worth 5 points
- Use the Elements of Fiction to help support your answer worth 5 points
  - Plot
  - Character
  - Setting
  - Point of View
  - Style, Tone and Language
  - Theme
  - Symbolism, Allegory, and Imagery
- Follows minimum requirements, conventions and formatting of writing assignments worth 10 points

\_\_\_\_\_

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Total Activity Worth 55 points

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