

Word Affirmation of Chapman's Love Languages in
Bruno Mars *Just the Way You are*

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Abstract

The research focuses on the Word Affirmation of Chapman's Love Languages in Bruno Mars' song "Just the Way You Are." The researchers conducted a qualitative study using the song's lyrics as a source of data. The findings show that the lyrics of the song "Just the Way You Are" contain a lot of word affirmation, reflecting Chapman's Love language. The girl portrayed in the song seems to prefer words of affirmation as her love language, and the speaker in the song provides that love language. The message of this song emphasizes the importance of understanding the love languages of each individual and making an effort to meet those needs for a successful partnership. The researchers suggest that listeners not only enjoy the music, but also take the time to understand the meaning of the song, as it has a deeper message about love and relationships.

Keywords: affirmation, love language, song lyrics

A. INTRODUCTION

Love is an incredibly emotional experience, and within love itself, there are various types of affection. There is non-romantic love between friends, love between family members, and deep, genuine love. However, when people talk about love, they often refer to romantic love with a partner. Love is an action, a practice of human will, which can only be expressed freely and not as a result of compulsion (Fromm, 1957:22). This definition suggests that people can demonstrate their love through actions and prove it without being forced by others. They can use their own language to express and demonstrate their love. Sapir, in his book *Language: An Introduction to the Study of Speech* (1921:7), also emphasizes the importance of language in expressing love. Language is as purely human and non instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotion and desire by means of system of voluntarily produced symbol. These symbols are, in the first instance, auditory and they are produced by the so called "organs of speech." Sapir (1921:7) also states that physiological psychologists speak of the localization of speech in the brain, indicating that the sounds of speech are localized in the auditory tract of the brain. The definitions of love and language are related, as they both involve using the brain to express emotions, desires, and ideas without compulsion from others.

Therefore, it is important for people to demonstrate love and to understand that each person has their own unique love language that makes them feel comfortable and loved. The issue often arises when people do not love others based on their individual needs, which can hinder the development of a strong relationship. This lack of understanding can lead to communication breakdowns and discomfort in the relationship. Chapman emphasizes the importance of recognizing and understanding each other's love languages, as failing to do so can result in feelings of discomfort and unmet expectations in the relationship.

Gary Chapman is a psychologist who specializes in human relationships. He was born on January 10, 1938, in China Grove, North Carolina. Chapman is renowned for his concept of the "5 Love Languages," which helps people express and receive love through one of five languages. According to Chapman in his book "The 5 Love Languages: The Secret to Love that Lasts" (Chapman, 1992:3-8), "love languages are a way to communicate love using a secondary language and to understand a spouse's primary emotional needs until they feel loved."

Chapman also states that there are 5 love languages: Words of Affirmation, Quality Time, Receiving Gifts, Acts of Service, and Physical Touch. In this research, the researcher only finds Words of Affirmation in the lyrics. The girl portrayed in the song seems to prefer Words of Affirmation as her love language, and the speaker in the song gives her that love language. According to Chapman (1992: 26), "Words of Affirmation is one way to express love emotionally is to use words that build up."

In this research, the researcher chooses the topic about Love Languages because the researcher wants to show that there is a whole range of love and ways to express it with using the love languages. To let people know how they can express their love and for whom their love to be given until they feel loved. It also can increase your love to express your feelings to someone special.

According to Robert Frost in the book by Kenedy and Gioia entitled "*Literature: an introduction to fiction, poetry, drama, and writing*" (2013:670) "Poetry is the kind of thing poets write. He also states that Poetry is a rhythmical composition of words expressing an attitude, designed to surprise and delight, and to arouse an emotional response"

Based on Reaske in his book entitled *How to Analyze Poetry* (1982:12-21) poetry has some elements, there are : rhythm, lines, rhyme, and stanza. The researcher found the definition of song by Judy Pearsall (1999:1368) states that, song is a short poem or other set of words set to music. Song is a poem, especially one in rhymed stanzas.

From the definition above, songs and poetry can have a rhyming scheme, which renders a melody to the verses or stanzas in recitals. The lyrics of a song are also really similar to poetry, because both have a form of structure and meaning.

Analyzing word affirmation of Chapman love languages in Bruno Mars' *Just the Way You are* is the choice of the researcher because the researcher wants to focus at the Just the Way You are lyrics that prove the data of word affirmation by Gary Chapman and these selected songs that the researcher chooses is best seller because Bruno Mars has a lot of fans around the world. There are many people who know his song lyrics especially for teenagers. Such as the first song is The first song is "*Just The Way You Are*", The writer of this study chooses this song because "*Just the Way You are*" becoming one of the best selling of all times. This song is also lead single from his debut album *Doo-Wops & Hooligans* in 2010. The story of this song is about the compliment of girl that she is beautiful just the way she is. It shows in the lyrics that many of word affirmation that the speaker gave to his girl. This song released on July 20, 2010 and it was written by Bruno Mars, Philip Lawrence, Ari Levine, Khalil Walton and Khari Cain.

This song is about a boy who is completely enamored with his girlfriend. He is deeply in love with her and constantly praises her beauty, believing that she is perfect in every way. From her eyes, to her hair, to her lips, he adores everything about her. Despite the girl's insecurities about what others may think of her, the boy consistently reassures her that she is beautiful just the way she is.

This research will explore how the writer expresses the love languages. Therefore, objectives of how the study are : how are love languages of Chapman described in the lyrics of *Just the Way You are*. To answer the problems, thesis writer uses qualitative method that is descriptive and tends to use analysis. Process and meaning are highlighted in qualitative research.

B.RESERACH METHOD

The researcher applies descriptive qualitative research methods, focusing on analysis and emphasizing process and meaning. The data source for this study was the lyrics of the song "*Just the Way You Are*" written by Bruno Mars, Philip Lawrence, Ari Levine, Khalil Walton, and Khari Cain. The song consists of 11 stanzas, with varying numbers of lines in each stanza: the first, second, fifth, and sixth stanzas have 6 lines each, the fourth and eleventh stanzas have 5 lines each, the third stanza has 4 lines, and the seventh, eighth, and ninth stanzas each have 4 lines.

C. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

These are the lyrics of *Just the Way You are* that contains Word of Affirmation by Gary Chapman :

*Oh, her eyes, her eyes
make the stars look like they're not shining
Her hair, her hair
Falls perfectly without her trying
She's so beautiful
And I tell her every day*

*Yeah, I know, I know
When I compliment her she won't believe me
And it's so, it's so
Sad to think that she don't see what I see
But every time she asks me do I look ok
I say*

*When I see your face
There's not a thing that I would change
Cause you're amazing
Just the way you are*

*And when you smile
The whole world stops and stares for a while
'Cause girl you're amazing
Just the way you are.*

*Yeah
Yeah. Her lips, her lips
I could kiss them all day if she let me
Her laugh, her laugh
She hates but I think it's so sexy
She's so beautiful
And I tell her every day*

*Oh, you know, you know, you know
I'd never ask you to change
If perfect's what you're searching for
Then just stay the same
So, don't even bother asking if you look ok
You know I'll say*

*When I see your face
There's not a thing that I would change
Cause you're amazing
Just the way you are*

*And when you smile
The whole world stops and stares for a while
Because girl you're amazing
Just the way you are*

*The way you are
the way you are
Girl you're amazing
Just the way you are*

*When I see your face
There's not a thing that I would change
'Cause you're amazing
Just the way you are
And when you smile
The whole world stops and stares for a while
'Cause girl you're amazing
Just the way you are
Yeah.*

In this song, the speaker discusses the love language of "words of affirmation" and includes some quotations, such as the first stanza and the first two lines support this with the following quotation:

*"Oh, her eyes, her eyes,
make the stars look like they're not shining"*
(Stanza 1, line 1-2)

The quote above indicates that the speaker is expressing their admiration for the woman's eyes, describing them as beautiful. This falls under the category of "verbal compliments" as defined by Gary Chapman.

The evidence for this can be found in the second stanza and the third and fourth lines of the song.

*"her hair , her hair
falls perfectly without her trying"* (stanza 1, line 3-4)

The quotation above shows that the speaker is affirming that he loves the woman's hair. From that analysis, it falls into the category of "verbal compliments" by Gary Chapman. The data number 3 found in the first stanza and the fifth until sixth lines, can be proven by the following quotation:

“She’s so beautiful and i tell her everyday”
(stanza 1, line 5-6)

The quotation above shows that the speaker is affirming every day that the woman is so beautiful. From that analysis, it falls into the category of “encouraging words” by Gary Chapman.

The data number 4 found in the third stanza and the first until second lines, can be proven by the following quotation:

“when i see your face, there’s not a thing that i would change“ (stanza 3, line 1-2)

The quotation above shows that the speaker wouldn’t change the woman’s looks, especially her face. From that analysis, it falls into the category of “encouraging words” by Gary Chapman.

The data number 5 found in the third stanza and the third until fourth lines, can be proven by the following quotation:

“ ‘cause you’re amazing, just the way you are”
(stanza 3, line 3-4)

The quotation above shows that the speaker is affirming that he thinks the woman is amazing and he loves her just the way she is. From that analysis, it falls into the category of “encouraging words” by Gary Chapman.

The data number 6 found in the fourth stanza and the first until second lines, can be proven by the following quotation:

*“and when you smile ,
the whole world stops and stares for a while”*
(stanza 4, line 1-2)

The quotation above shows that the speaker is affirming that the woman’s smile is amazing. From that analysis, it falls into the category of “verbal compliments” by Gary Chapman.

The data number 7 found in the sixth stanza and the first until second lines, can be proven by the following quotation:

*“Yeah, Her lips, her lips
I could kiss them all day if she let me”*
(stanza 6, line 1-2)

The quotation above shows that the speaker is affirming that he loves the woman's lips and they make him want to kiss her. From that analysis, it falls into the category of "verbal compliments" by Gary Chapman.

The data number 8 found in the sixth stanza and the third until fourth lines, can be proven by the following quotation:

*" Her laugh, her laugh
She hates but I think it's so sexy"* (stanza 6, line 3-4)

The quotation above shows that the speaker is affirming that he loves the woman's laugh. From that analysis, it falls into the category of "encouraging words" by Gary Chapman.

The data number 9 found in the seventh stanza and the fifth until sixth lines, can be proven by the following quotation:

"So don't even bother askin' if you look okay, You know I'll say"
(stanza 7, line 5-6)

The quotation above shows that the speaker is affirming to the woman that she doesn't need to be insecure, because the speaker is always impressed with her looks. From that analysis, it falls into the category of "encouraging words" by Gary Chapman.

D. CONCLUSION

Song lyrics share a close kinship with literature, often originating from poetic compositions that constitute a branch of literary expression. Both songs and poetry exhibit the potential for a rhyming scheme, incorporating melody into the recitation of verses or stanzas. The structural and thematic parallels between song lyrics and poetry further reinforce their literary connection. Analyzing the lyrics of "Just the Way You Are," it becomes evident that the speaker predominantly employs words of affirmation as their love language. This linguistic choice is manifested through the speaker's generous use of compliments directed towards their beloved. Recognizing and catering to the nuances of love languages is imperative for fostering a thriving partnership, as the understanding and fulfillment of these needs contribute significantly to relationship success.

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