

Siddhartha (Part I.): Text-Based Song Analysis

Chapters 1, 2, 3, & 4

- You have listened to enough of my music, now it's your turn! Instead of an in-class text-based analysis, as I originally had planned, I would like you to explore your music library to find a song that you feel would best serve as Siddhartha's theme song for the first part of this novel.
- Similar to what I illustrated with Pete Townshend's "The Sea Refuses No River" and the Indigo Girls' "Closer to Fine," you are to carefully examine the lyrics of a song that you feel best encapsulates Siddhartha's first steps towards enlightenment. How has he grown to better understand his life and his journey?

Step One: Examine your music library and select a song. Remember: do not select a song that can be correlated on a literary level! The song must be interpreted and correlated to Siddhartha's journey metaphorically. The more literary techniques and elements you see and use, the better! You will be making a hypothesis on authorial intent.

Step Two: List the quotations from the chapters that could be used to support the correlations you made in the song. These will be used as evidence to back up your claim.

Step Three: Bring this annotated song and quotations to class! You will be using your findings to write a text-based analysis of the song focusing on two of the most relevant and analytical correlations. In doing so, you will be connecting the lyrics you focus on directly to the novel. Your thesis? The search for the self and the obstacles that are faced during this journey are archetypal.