Julia Cabanas
Professor Brady
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Love Is a Necessity

An intense feeling of deep affection is the meaning of love according to the dictionary. Behind that dictionary is a person who wrote that definition but I am confident that the person knew love cannot be simply defined. Love itself is embedded in human nature and yet we struggle to define it. Through the years, we have learned one thing, we cannot live without love in our lives. As expressed in two poems, “Difference” by Nate Klug and “Rime Riche” by Monica Ferrell, love is essential part of the human condition. Music is also a dominant outlet for love as presented in Vance Joy’s song “Call If You Need Me” featured on his latest album. Love is a necessity that would diminish our sense of self if it is taken away.

The first poem has a theme of love as a necessity and a tone that is authentic. “Rime Riche” by Monica Ferrell is filled with imagery that is easily understood. She describes needing a partner, “Like print needs the page.” (Ferrell 2) without words a book remains empty. Her concept is basic, an empty book is an empty heart. Without love a person is shattered and lost, as if being left on the shelf to collect dust. “You taste me the way the claws of a pigeon taste that window-ledge on which it sits” here she compares the clingy piece of love to when a bird grips onto the ledge of a window (Ferrell 6-7). This quotes describes being in love while latching onto that special person and never wanting to let go.

The next poem is titled “Difference” by Nate Klug who demonstrates love is a necessity through a simple way of life, texting. The poem circles around the narrator texting their lover

who is assumed to be in another country. Klug focuses on the simplicity of texting but creates a tone of love and longing "*Talk to you tonight,* I wrote this morning, knowing it would only be the afternoon" in this quote the narrator has dedicated time to figure out when to text their partner at the correct time (Klug 1-3). This quotes shows that the narrator has is constantly thinking about and genuinely cares for their partner. "You half-awake, and irked, into my future/current noon texting for clarification." is the ending quote but the most powerful (Klug 14-16). This quote means that the narrator expects a in-depth future with the person they are texting. It proves that in order for love to be a necessity it needs to have focus on the past, present and future. Without future plans the relationship won't be able to grow in the desired way of the beholders.

Vance Joy's song "Call If You Need Me" describes what it's like to need someone. The song has a simple but constant tune from the guitar. His voice stays at a normal level until the near end. He explains in the beginning that she, a nameless woman, wasn't in love with him but he loved her. "If it don't feel right, babe you can run and hide, babe" he even tells her that if he isn't the one for her then she can pack up and leave but he will wait for her (Joy). He needs her and expresses how he will wait for her to realize that she needs him too. "You can't get struck by lightning if you're not standing in the rain" are words said by her mother (Joy). He expresses the mother's words here because he believes she will listen to them. He wants her to take a chance on him. The lightning is a metaphor, if you don't try to love someone at their worst then you're not going to fall in love. If she not willing to take a risk to be with him then she won't fall in love. She needs to overcome her fear of risks and take a chance with him. The tone begins to evolve into hope, the beat quickens and his voice becomes powerful. She calls him as says "I'm coming home babe" is the climax and when the hope transforms into excitement (Joy). She finally

realizes he's the one and is willing to take the risk. This song ultimately displays the length that someone will go to be with the person they need.

As shown in the two poems and song, people thrive on love to survive. Without love our sense of self and well being diminishes. In “Difference” love is a necessity because it improves your plans for the future and fills your heart with hope. This allows for personal growth as well as growth in relationships. “Rime Riche” expressed the feeling of wanting someone and never let them go. Love makes someone feel whole and no one wants to lose that. In Vance Joy's song love gives a person the drive to be with someone and be committed to them. Love is an essential part of the human condition.

Love is difficult to define even though it is rooted in the human condition. Many years have taught us that humans cannot live without love. The two poems and song express that love is a necessity in human lives. Love takes commitment, passion, and makes you feel whole; this brings forth growth in the relationship and for yourself. Without love we lose our sense of self and we feel empty once again. Love is the drive that keeps a person alive.

Works Cited

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