Ryan Tucker Ms. Giknis College English December 9th, 2022

The Road Tracklist

The Ends- Travis Scott (feat. Andre 3000)

To kick off our playlist we have a song fit precisely for an apocalypse just by the title. In this song, Travis Scott tells us how at 2 am there is only one thing that can "fix his mind" and "what's wrong inside". Although he doesn't go into specifics, we know this thing must be essential to him. The Man speaks multiple times about how the boy is "his world's entire".(6) and calls the boy his "warrant". Much like Travis operating in the night time the only thing that makes the man whole and gives him a reason to go on is The Boy. But Father time is slowly starting to take him away from his son.

Father Time - Kendrick Lamar (feat Sampha)

Kendrick Lamar uses three minutes and forty-three seconds to speak about his "daddy issues" and how this affected his life positively and negatively. In the end, he speaks highly of his dad even though he acknowledges that some of his methods were harsh saying "I love my father for tellin' me to take off the gloves Cause everything he didn't want was everything I was." We don't know what happens after our story but what we can say is that the harsh environment that The Boy grew up in will scar him for life but it is ultimately because of his father that he becomes a survivor in this apocalyptic world. This world still traps him in a cage preventing him from being who he could be.

Caged Bird- J. Cole (feat. Omen)

This world has our duo running around scavenging for food resources and happiness. They can't simply exist as a father and son; rather they are trapped in a cage that strips most people of their humanity while trying to hold on to theirs. Jermaine Cole feels the same way as he says "Like real n**** who been stripped of our humanity I see the judge's eyes, I know that he ain't understanding me." Freedom is not real to him but rather something that the world can take away from him.

> "Freedom's just an illusion, that's my conclusion And if it ain't, then how my ***** keep on losin' theirs?"

Blind - SZA

The relationship between the man and his wife is one that we get a small glimpse into but it is just as heartbreaking as any sob story. Her love is evident for her husband but this dull and colorless world has clouded her vision and pushed her to the point where she can't continue in this world. Solana Rowe faces this in her relationships as well singing "I can't see it It's so embarrassing all of the love I see living inside of me I can't see, I'm blind." Both women are blinded by situations ruining the love they can give and receive.

No Child Left Behind - Kanye West (feat. Vory)

The last hope of this world is the boy. The man has described him as the "word of God" aka Jesus Christ. He sees this boy as his last hope and his motivation to keep pushing. Vory echos this religious sentiment when he says "Back again, I used my back against the wall Never called on y'all, never count on y'all, I'll always count on God." The man is counting on the boy in much of the same way to not only save him but to carry the fire of righteousness in this forsaken world.

Work Cited

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