

**AN ANALYSIS ON THE DENOTATIVE AND CONNOTATIVE MEANING  
OF CREED'S SONGS LYRICS**

**GRADUATING PAPER**

**Submitted To Board of Examinees in Partial Fulfillment of The Requirements for The Degree of  
Educational Islamic Studies (S.Pd.I) In The English Educational Department**



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**2014**



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**Faizal Risdianto S.S M.Hum** Salatiga, September 2014

The Lecturer of Education Faculty  
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ATTENTIVE COUNSELOR'S NOTE

Case : Fatkurrohman Graduating Paper

Dear

The Head of State Islamic  
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*Assalamu'alaikum, Wr. Wb.*

After reading and correcting Fatkurrohman graduating paper entitled

**AN ANALYSIS ON THE DENOTATIVE AND CONNOTIVE MEANING OF  
CREED'S SONG LYRICS**

I have decided and would like to propose that if it could be accepted by education faculty, I hope it would be examined as soon as possible.

*Wassalamu'alaikum, Wr. Wb.*

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## **DECLARATION**

### *Bismillahirrahmanirahim*

Hereby, I certify that the thesis I wrote to fulfill the requirement for the degree of educational Islamic studies entitled “An Analysis on the Denotative and Connotative Meaning of Creed’s songs lyrics” is truly my original work. It does not incorporate any materials previously written or published by another person, except those indicated in quotations and bibliography. Due to the fact, I am then only person responsible for the thesis if there is any objection or claim from others.

Salatiga ,15 september 2014

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**STATEMENT OF CERTIFICATION**

**AN ANALYSIS ON THE DENOTATIVE AND CONNOTATIVE MEANING OF  
CREED'S SONG LYRICS**

**Arranged By**

**FATKURROHMAN**  
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Has been brought to the Board of Examiners of English Departemet, State Institute for Islamic Studies (STAIN) Salatiga in September 27<sup>th</sup> 2014, and hereby considered to completely fullfillment of the requirement for the degree of S1 *Sarjana Kependidikan Islam* in the english and educational faculty.

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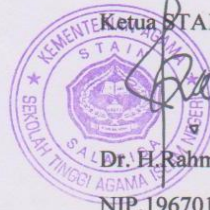
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Four handwritten signatures are shown, each on a horizontal line. From top to bottom, they correspond to the Head, Secretary, 1st Examiner, and 3rd Examiner.

Salatiga, September 2014

Ketua STAIN Salatiga



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## **MOTTO**

Learn from the Mistake in the past, try by using different way, and always hope for a successful future.

([www.caramudahbelajarbahasainggris.net](http://www.caramudahbelajarbahasainggris.net))

## **DEDICATION**

This graduating paper dedicated to:

- My highly valued parents, my mother Siti Insiyah and my father Muhyidin.
- My elder brother, Nur Rohim.

- My elder sister, Lailatul Khasanah.
- My uncle, Ahmad Mustofa.
- My nephew, Fatir Ilhami.
- All my friends who have motivated and helped me to finish this graduating paper.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

*Assalamu'alaikum Wr. Wb*

I would like to show my best gratitude to our almighty, Allah who has given me drop of knowledge with a million powers and patience. Peace and salutation be upon to greatest reformer in Islam, he is Muhammad SAW. Through his endless mediation that I am recognized as a true exist Moslem.

Because of that divine gift of grace from Allah, I am finally able to finish this thesis entitled *An Analysis on the Denotative and Connotative Meaning of Lyrics of Creed's Songs* as the requirement for the degree of educational Islamic studies (S.Pd.I) in the English educational department at State Institute for Islamic Studies (STAIN).

In addition, along in process of finishing this thesis I would like to dedicate my best thank to:

1. Mr. Dr. Rahmat Hariyadi, M.Pd. the rector of State Islamic Studies Institute (STAIN) for giving me the chance and opportunity to study in this institute.
2. Mrs.Rr.Dewi Wahyu.M, S.S,M.Pd as head of faculty.
3. Mr. Faizal Risdianto, S.S.M.Hum, the consultant of my graduating paper, thanks for his careful guidance, wisdom, kindness, and suggestion during the completion of this graduating paper.
4. All lectures of English in English department, who have given the knowledge patiently.
5. All my friends especially in CORNERS GANG, Ulin, Ali, Riyan, Ainul, Muthoif, Jumeri, Makmun and those who cannot one by one.
6. Thank for my friend's Aseng and Tri Mulyono, who have motivated me to complete this graduating paper and given me information in this campus.

Finally, this graduating paper is expected to be able provide useful information to the readers.

*Wassalmu'alaikum Wr.Wb.*

Salatiga, 14 september 2014

The writer

Fatkurrohman

## **TABLE OF CONTENT**

TITLE.....	i
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ATTENTIVE COUNSELOR NOTE.....	ii
DELARATION.....	iii
PAGE OF CERTIFICATION.....	iv
MOTTO.....	v
DEDICATION.....	vii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	ix
TABLE OF CONTENT.....	xii
ABSTRACT.....	xiii
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION	
A. Background of study.....	1
B. Statement of the problem.....	4
C. Objective of the study.....	5
D. Scope of the study.....	5
E. Benefit of the study.....	5
F. Graduating paper outline.....	6
CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED THEORY	
A. Semantic.....	8
B. Kind of lexical meaning.....	11
C. Denotation.....	12
D. Connotation.....	13

E. Biography of creed (band).....	16
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### CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHOD

A. Research design.....	20
B. Research object.....	21
C. Data sources.....	21
D. Research instrument.....	22
E. Data collection.....	22
F. Data analysis.....	22

### CHAPTER IV ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

A. Data presentation.....	24
B. The analysis of denotative and connotative meaning found in creed's song lyrics.....	30

### CHAPTER V CLOSURE

A. Conclusion.....	62
B. Suggestion.....	64

### BIBLIOGRAPY

### APPENDIX

## ABSTRACT

Fatkurrohman, 2014. *An analysis on the denotative and connotative meaning of creed's song lyrics*.graduating paper,educatioanal Islamic studies, English department.state Institute for Islamic studies (STAIN) salatiga.

Consultant: Faizal Risdianto S.S. M.Hum

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Semantics as the study of meaning stands at the very center of the linguistic quest to understand the nature of language and human language abilities. It is obvious that semantics has an important role in understanding and comprehending a language, especially for English. Semantics not only concern with the study of meaning but also with the relationship between language and culture. Denotative meaning and connotative meaning: both of them are based on a relationship between words & world. Denotation is the meaning of a word which is primarily refers to the real word, the "dictionary definition" for instance "cow" shows a kind of animal, "house" shows a kind of building. Connotation meaning is the aspect of meaning added to the denotation of a word it relates to the association that a word has above its denotation. The connotative meaning differs from one society to another. Connotation may be subject to variable exchange from generation to the next. Connotation may be rather subjective and not shared in the same way by all speakers of a language. Our individual experience of language and its relation to the world is to some extent unique and idiosyncratic. Connotation is not stable. That Creed's songs are analyzed using the descriptive qualitative approach in finding its denotative and connotative meaning. The data are taken from lyric of Creed's songs which consists of 5 lyrics from different albums such as My Sacrifice, Don't Stop Dancing, One Last Breath, My Own Prison; the researcher chooses those lyrics because it contains allusion and a popularly Christian theological concept, of absolute individual belief, usually Monotheistic. It also focuses on questions of faith, Christianity, and eternity.

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

## **A. BACKGROUND OF STUDY**

Language is one of the most important cultural elements among other elements. Through language, people can express and describe what they are doing, thinking, and what they are wanted. Through the language, people can communicate with another people. In fact, in Indonesian context, language became a useful instrument in the life of the nation and state building. In the language contained some of words and every word have different meaning.

In the holy Qur'an surah ali imran verse 7 Allah said:

“It is He who has sent down to you (Muhammad) the Book (this Qur'an). In it are Verses that are entirely clear, they are the foundations of the Book [and those are the Verses of Al-Ahkâm (commandments, etc.), Al-Farâ'id (obligatory duties) and Al-Hudud (legal laws for the punishment of thieves, adulterers, etc.)]; and others not entirely clear. So as for those in whose hearts there is a deviation (from the truth) they follow that which is not entirely clear, seeking Al-Fitnah (polytheism and trials, etc.), and seeking for its hidden meanings, but none knows its hidden meanings save Allah. And those who are firmly grounded in knowledge say: "We believe in it; the whole of it (clear and unclear Verses) are from our Lord." And none receive admonition except men of understanding” (Ali Imran: 7).

This verse explains that in the Holly Qur'an, there are two kinds of verse; Muhkam and Mutasyabih verses. Muhkam is verse with clearly meaning and it can be interpreted. Mutasyabih is verse with meaning that cannot be understood except by Allah Himself. From the explanation above, we know that Islam allows us to analyze text because Qur'an as a holy book of Islam can be interpreted or analyzed.

We know that meaning is necessary to be understood. If you said "I sat on the chair", you may have defined the word "chair" as a piece of furniture with a back and four legs designed to be sat upon. But if you have been walking all day and you finally get a chance to rest, you might see a chair and say "Ah! At last a chair." Or you were walking through a dark room and tripped over a chair, hurting yourself, you might say "Stupid chair!". These three sentences used the same word. But, do they have the same meaning?

Words have two main kinds of meaning, it is a denotation and connotation meaning. Denotation is the meaning of a word which primarily refers to the real world, the "dictionary definition". It is the type of meaning which may be described in terms of a set of semantic properties which serves to identify the particular concept associated with the word in question. For instance "cow" shows a kind of animal, "house" shows a kind of building (Fromkin, 1990: 205).

Connotation arises as words become associated with certain characteristics of the items to which they refer, for instance, the burdening of woman for many years with attributes such as *frailty, inconstancy and irrationality* has resulted in these becoming connotations of the word woman for many people. The words "for many people" are important here because connotation is related to the real world experience that one associates with a word and they will therefore vary (unlike denotative meanings) from individual to individual, and community to community. The word "woman" has different connotations for a *misogynist* than will have for a *feminist* (Fromkin, 1990: 205).

The study of meaning normally refers to Semantics. Semantics is the study of meaning in language. It means that language must have meaning. Language without meaning is useless. In Linguistics, Semantics is the subfield that is devoted to the study of meaning, as borne on the

syntactic levels of words, phrases, sentences, and even larger units of discourse (referred to as *texts*). As with any empirical science, Semantics involves the interplay of concrete data with theoretical concepts. Traditionally, Semantics has included the study of connotative *sense* and denotative *reference*, truth conditions, argument structure, thematic roles, discourse analysis, and the linkage of all of these to syntax. Semantics is appropriated to be used on investigating the meaning of lyrics of songs because it deals with the meaning of language used by people in order to convey their intended meaning of speaking or message of a language used.

The writer chooses Creed's songs as the object of study because the word Creed itself (also the band's namesake), denotes a popularly Christian theological concept, of absolute individual belief, usually monotheistic. It also focuses on questions of faith, Christianity, and eternity.

Based on the previous explanation, the researcher is interested in conducting research about **"An Analysis on the Denotative and Connotative Meaning of Creed's lyrics Songs"** because the researcher thinks that Creed's Songs are not just the song but it contains an individual believe and understanding the denotative and connotative meaning of lyrics of Creed's songs will be fascinating.

## **B. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEMS**

Based on the description above, the researcher is going to show that there are some problems related with this study, the problems are as follows:

1. What kind words of denotative and connotative meaning that are shown on the lyrics of Creed's songs?

2. How many words of denotative and connotative meaning found in the lyrics of Creed's songs?

### **C. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY**

This research is aimed at investigating the mentioned problems. To be more specific, this study is intended to:

1. Describe the denotative and connotative meaning shown on lyrics of Creed's songs.
2. Describe the dominant words of denotative and connotative meaning found on the lyrics of Creed's songs.

### **D. SCOPE OF STUDY**

The researcher focuses on observing the denotative and connotative meaning of lyrics of Creed's songs. The researcher chooses *five lyrics* such as My Sacrifice, Don't Stop Dancing, One Last Breath, My Own Prison, What's this Life for. The researcher chooses those lyrics because it contains allusion to Christian theology (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Creed>).

### **E. THE BENEFIT OF STUDY**

By conducting this research, there are some benefits expected from this study, such as:

1. Theoretically, the result of this study is expected to be useful and give new information to the semantic study especially about the connotative meaning on lyrics of Creed's songs.

2. Practically, the result of this study would give contribution for the lectures and the students of STAIN Salatiga, especially at English Department. It is expected to be able to broaden the knowledge in understanding the denotative and connotative meanings of lyrics of songs. Also it is hoped to give contribution for readers who are interested in this study and it will be the alternative reference for the readers who are interested in researching this area.

## **F. GRADUATING PAPER OUTLINE**

These key terms are the method to get the right interpretation and understanding of the study.

### **Semantic**

Semantic is one of the branches of linguistics studying about the meaning and considered as a major branch of linguistics devoted to study of meaning in language (Crystal, 1991:310). According to what has long been the most widely accepted as theory of semantic, meanings are ideas or concepts that can be transferred from the mind of the speaker to the mind of the hearer by embodying them, as it were, in the forms of one language or another. (Lyon, 1995:136).

### **Denotative and Connotative meaning**

A word's denotation is its primary or literal significance, whereas connotation is the range of secondary significance which a word commonly suggests.

For instance, the word "sea" denotes a large body of water, but its connotative meaning includes the sense of overwhelming space, danger, instability; whereas "earth" connotes safety, fertility and stability. Of many potential connotations, the particular ones evoked depend upon the context in which words are used. Specific kinds of language (such as archaisms) also have



special connotations, carrying a sense of the context in which those words are usually found  
([http://The UVic Writer's Guide. \*Connotation and Denotation\*](http://TheUVicWriter'sGuide.com/ConnotationandDenotation))

## **Creed**

Creed was the name of a rock band from Tallahassee, Florida that became popular in the late 1990s and early 2000s. The band won a Grammy Award for Best Rock Song for the song "With Arms Wide Open" in 2001. In June 2004, Creed broke up, and Stapp began recording a solo album, *The Great Divide* with Roadrunner Records recording artist Goneblind. The other band members (including former bassist Brian Marshall) formed a new band, Alter Bridge, with Myles Kennedy (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Creed>).

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF RELATED THEORY

In this chapter, the researcher would like to put some theories related to the problems of the study to support this thesis. The followings are some descriptions which are related to the topic discussed in this thesis. They are Semantics and kind of Lexical Meanings.

#### A. SEMANTICS

In etymology, Semantics is derived from the Greek "σῆμαι δέησις" or *semantikos*, meaning "significant". It could be from the Greek noun "sema" which means sign or signal, and from the verb "semaino" which means signal. The word *semantic* appears in French as *sémantique*, as used by Michel Bréal during the 19th century, in his 1897 book published in Paris, *Essai de sémantique*, considered the first use of the term "semantics" in the modern sense. (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/semantics>).

In linguistics, semantics is the subfield that is devoted to the study of meaning, as borne on the syntactic levels of words, phrases, sentences, and even larger units of discourse (referred to as *texts*). As with any empirical science, semantics involves the interplay of concrete data with theoretical concepts. Traditionally, Semantics has included the study of connotative *sense* and denotative *reference*, truth conditions, argument structure, thematic roles, discourse analysis, and the linkage of all of these to syntax. The decompositional perspective towards meaning holds that the meaning of words can be analyzed by defining meaning atoms or primitives, which establish a language of thought. An area of study is the meaning of compounds; another is the

study of relations between different linguistic expressions (homonymy, synonymy, antonym, polysemy, hyponymy etc).

In this study, some theories are used that provided by Crystal and Akhmajian, Lyons, Goddard, Wittgenstein, Alfred Korzbsky, Hurford and Heasley, etc to support this analysis. According to Crystal in Sarifah (2003), “semantics is the study of meaning in language”. Akhmajian in Sarifah (2003) states that “Semantics is the study of meaning and reference.” Lyons (1995:138) concludes that semantics is the study of meaning. The term of meaning in the theory of semantics can be described from the mind of speaker to the mind of hearer by embodying them, as it was, in the form of one language or another. If the term *meaning* is described as ideas or concept, than it will not help us to answer such that question because the term *concept* is not clearly defined, and it is too vague and general. Moreover, he states that the word *meaning* may not have the same range of application as any single word in other languages. For examples: there are contexts in which “meaning” can be translated into French with signification or sense, and the context of meaning (signification or sense) does not match with “bedeutung and sinn” in German.

Wittegenstein (1953:31) concludes that “for a large sense ‘having’ the meaning of a word is its use in language”. Hurford and Heasley (1984:1) say that “Semantics is the study of meaning in language. Because of this, semantics cannot be separated from the so-called word”. In this century, the study of meaning has expanded to include not only the symbols referent relationship (traditional ‘semantic’) but also the behavior that result from our language habit. Alfred Korzbsky (1877-1950) believes that ‘general semantic’ language influenced not only our thinking but also all of human behavior.

Semantics as the study of meaning stands at the very center of the linguistic quest to understand the nature of language and human language abilities. It is obvious that semantics has an important role in understanding and comprehending a language, especially for English. Semantics is not only concern about the study of meaning but also the relationship between language and culture as what Goddard (1998:1) states:

“Another concern of semantics is to shed light on the relationship between language and culture. Much of the vocabulary of any language and even part of the grammar will reflect the culture of its speakers indeed, the culture specific concept and ways of understanding embedded in a language are an important part of what constitutes a culture.”

## **B. KIND OF LEXICAL MEANING**

The term lexical meaning which is used in semantics is interpreted as the meaning of lexeme whether it is lexeme or Para phrasal lexeme. Lyon (1995:140) concludes that the meaning of sentence depends upon the meaning of its constituent lexemes (including its phrasal lexemes if it contains any) and the meaning of same is not all, lexemes depends upon the meaning of sentences in which they occur.

In addition, Chaer (1994:289) says that lexical meaning refers to the real meaning, meaning that proper with our sense observation, or for granted meaning. It has been known that a language has amount of lexical system by which the semantics structure can be expressed based its meaning relation of paradigmatic and syntaxmatic.

Lexical meaning covers among other things the discussion about denotation, connotation, ambiguity, synonymy, hyponymy, polysemy, homophony, and homonymy. But this research

only focuses on the denotative and connotative meaning in order the discussion becomes deeper again.

As quoted by Lyon (1995:139), Semantics concern with aspect of meaning in language, work in semantic deals with the description of word and sentence meaning. There are certain kinds of meaning or certain aspects of meaning in linguistics such as:

### **C. DENOTATION**

Words convey two kinds of meaning; today's dictionaries provide only one kind. When you look up a word in any good dictionary, such as the *Oxford* or *Merriam-Webster*, what you get is *one* kind of meaning. It is called *denotative* meaning (also known as objective, literal, intellectual, or cognitive meaning).

Words have two main kinds of meaning, denotation and connotation. Denotation is the meaning of a word which is primarily refers to the real word, the "dictionary definition". It is the type of meaning which may be described in terms of a set of semantic properties which serves to identify the particular concept associated with the word in question. For instance "cow" shows a kind of animal, "house" shows a kind of building.

Denotation is a word or phrase is a part of its meaning; however, several parts of meaning may take this name, depending on the contrast being drawn: Connotation and denotation are either: in basic semantics and literary theory, the *figurative* and *literal* meanings of a word, or in philosophy, logic and parts of linguistics, the intension and extension of a word.

According to Harimurti (in Pateda, 2001:98), denotation means the meaning of word or group of word which depend on the word itself or depend on the certain convention. For example, most of people in the world agree that coin or printed paper accepted when buying or

selling is called by *money*. So, *money* has only a meaning as something which is used to buy and to sell. From those explanations denotation can be defined as the meaning of word which comes from the word itself.

#### **D. CONNOTATION**

Connotation is the kind of lexical meaning which is related to the certain item it refers to. According to Pateda (2001: 112), he states that “connotation is the meaning which appears by association of language used by the speaker or listener about the language which they speak or read”.

Connotation also means:

Connotation is more or less synonymous with *intension*. Connotation is often contrasted with *denotation*, which is more or less synonymous with *extension*. Alternatively, the connotation of the word may be thought of as the set of all its possible referents (as opposed to merely the actual ones). A word's denotation is the collection of things it refers to; its connotation is what it implied about the things it is used to refer to. The denotation of dog is (something like) four legged canine carnivore. So saying "you are a dog" would imply that you were ugly or aggressive rather than stating that you were canine. Connotation also the kind of meaning which is indicated that we abstract away from emotional and sociocultural aspects of meaning, restricting ourselves to what an expression refers to. For example word dog in Arabic if someone called as a dog you are not good people because in Arab dog has negative connotation as the dirty animal in contrast in west country dog has good connotation as the symbol of faithfulness.

Connotations are shifting and idiosyncratic associations which a word may have for some speaker but not for others (as opposed to the fixed and generally accepted meaning of word). For

instance, the word “feminist” and “environment” tend to have very different connotations depending on a person’s attitudes and experience.

Connotation plays a major role in the language of advertising, politics and literature. For example the word “democracy, freedom, and communist” often occur with emotive connotations of such highly-charged nature that speaker may be blind to the fact that there is no agreed-upon definition underlying their use. It is their potent affective meanings which makes such words attractive to the propagandist or political fanatic who wishes to arouse strong feeling without inviting critical examination of his case (Fromkin, 1990: 206).

Connotation is more complicated than denotation. J. N. Hook in Widarso (1989:69) states that besides the denotative meaning, a word sometimes has the emotional overtones or we call ‘connotative’ meaning. The other important thing whenever we are talking about connotation is that the involvement of affective and emotive in our mind.

Furthermore, Wilkins (1983:122) affirms that connotative meaning is additional to denotative meaning and need be related to it only in an indirect way. It is altogether more concerned with the attitudes of the language user, his emotional reactions to the use of a word.

In addition, J. N. Hook in Widarso (1989:71) states that connotative meaning can be divided into two kinds, namely positive connotative (purr word) and negative connotative (snarl word). Besides the positive and negative connotative meaning, there is neutral that is most of them is jargon language.

Here are the examples of positive and negative connotative meaning (J. N. Hook in Widarso) (1989:71):

Positive Connotation	Neutral	Negative Connotation
Cottage		Shanty/shack
Soiled linen		Dirty Underwear
Sanitary engineer		Dustman/ Garbage man
Lingering illness	Carcinoma	Cancer
Mercy Killing	Euthanasia	Legal Murder
Pass away	Die	Kick the bucket
Mentally unbalanced/	Psychotic	Mad/Crazy
Disturbed		
Svelte	Slim/Slender	Skinny
	Dry (climate)	Arid (climate)
Marketing	Selling	Peddling

Words such as *celebration*, *springtime*, and *kiss* arouse unique assemblages of positive emotional connotations. Words such as *homeless*, *cancer*, and *rape* summon clouds of negative emotional connotations. Many words and phrases, such as *bullfight*, call up mixed positive and negative connotations. Connotative meaning also includes the evocation of other sensations and impressions, such as power (e.g., *war*) and activity (e.g., *carnival*).

Another definition of connotation explains that connotation refers to all kinds of occasions words may evoke: emotional, situational, etcetera, particularly in certain context, over and above denotation and conceptual meaning. It can be concluded that denotation is meaning of word from the word itself without relate to another factor.



## **E. BIOGRAPHY CREED (BAND)**

### **1. Band member**

Scott Stapp – Vocals

Mark Tremonti - Guitar, vocals, bass guitar on *Weathered*

Scott Phillips - Drums, percussion, keyboards

Brian Marshall (departed in 2000) - Bass guitar

**Creed** was a rock band from Tallahassee, Florida that became popular in the late 1990s and early 2000s. The band won a Grammy Award for Best Rock Song for the song "With Arms Wide Open" in 2001. The band broke up in 2004 after three multiplatinum albums.

### **2. History**

Creed originally came together in Tallahassee, Florida in 1993 as Naked Toddler when Scott Stapp and guitarists Mark Tremonti and Brian Brasher, college friends, got together and started collaborating and writing songs. They soon added bassist Brian Marshall and drummer Scott Phillips. Brian Marshall came up with the band name "Creed", taken from the name of his former band, Mattox Creed.

Once the band was complete as a 5 piece in late 1993, (Scott Stapp, Mark Tremonti, Brian Brasher, Brian Marshall and Scott Phillips) the band was soon dominating the Tallahassee local music scene and was one of the only local bands playing all original music in a town where club owners wanted local bands to play cover songs and music that people know. The 5 members had already written and collaborated (3) three of the songs that would go on to become chart topping singles on their debut album "My Own Prison". The songs were "One", "Sister" and "What's this Life for".

They then found work at a live music bar, where they impressed promoter Jeff Hanson and Andy Levine enough to let them play at one of their bigger venues known as Floyd's Music Store on the Tennessee Street Strip in Tallahassee. Hanson and Levine liked the band so much that he convinced producer John Kurzweg to record the band.

### **My own prison**

Their debut album *My Own Prison* was independently released and only cost them \$6,000 to produce, and distributed to Florida radio stations. This drew the attention of several labels that agreed to see the band, only to pass. Rejected, Creed was playing a small gig when Diana Meltzer from Wind-Up Records heard the group. She had heard their independent album, and after hearing them live, signed the band to her label. After a remix to make it more radio friendly, *My Own Prison* was re-released by Wind-up Records across the country. The album was a surprise success, reaching the Top 40 on the Billboard Top 200, and spinning off several singles ("My Own Prison," "Torn," "What's This Life For," and "One") that topped the rock radio charts. The band's hit song "My Own Prison" was also featured as a live performance on the charity album *Live in the X Lounge*.

### **Human clay**

Their second album, *Human Clay*, was released in 1999 and debuted on the Billboard 200 album chart at number one, based on the strength of its first single, "Higher", which spent several weeks on the top of the rock radio charts. It wasn't until early 2000 that the single crossed over onto pop radio going to the Top Ten on the Billboard Pop Chart, and Creed became a household name. Its follow-up, "With Arms Wide Open," also hit number one that fall.

Meanwhile, Brian Marshall particularly offended many fans when he criticized Pearl Jam on a Seattle radio station (KNDD). He was soon kicked out of the band, and Brett Hestla (Virgos

Merlot, Dark New Day) took over on the *Human Clay* tour, and subsequent tours. Around that time, Fred Durst of Limp Bizkit bad-mouthed Stapp at New York's Krock 92.3 "Dysfunctional Family Picnic Concert" where they were both performing. In response to this, Scott Stapp invited Fred Durst to an open boxing match which Durst declined.

## **Weathered**

In the fall of 2001, "My Sacrifice", the first single off of Creed's last album *Weathered*, was used in a series of promotional tribute videos made by World Wrestling Entertainment. They also had "Young Grow Old," a B-side to the 1999 release *Human Clay*, featured as the official theme song for World Wrestling Entertainment WWE's Backlash pay-per-view event in April 2002. In early 2002, "Bullets" was released as a single, along with a costly, special effects-laden video. The song and video were possibly Creed's least successful since achieving mainstream success. However, Creed rebounded quickly, with one of the summer's biggest hits, "One Last Breath". Camp left the band in 2001, and Stapp replaced him.

Stapp was involved in a car accident in April 2002 and it had seemed that the tour that they had planned was not going to happen. However, Stapp recovered in time to appear in the last few shows. "Don't Stop Dancing" was a minor hit for Creed in late 2002/early 2003.

## **CHAPTER III**

### **RESEARCH METHOD**

This chapter presents the research methods of this study. They are research design, research object, data resources, research instruments, data collection, and data analysis.

#### **A. RESEARCH DESIGN**

The descriptive qualitative method is used to conduct this research because the aim of this research is to describe the denotative and connotative meaning of lyrics of Creed's songs in a complete, detailed description but not to classify features, count them, and construct statistical models in an attempt to explain what is observed (Qualitative). It is called descriptive qualitative because it is natural base, more focusing on process than result, analytic-inductive, descriptive and its scheme is temporal (Moeloeng, 2002:30).

According to Bodgan and Biklen (1982), Qualitative research has the following five features: (1) the natural setting is the data source and the researcher is the key data-collection instrument; (2) it attempts primarily to describe and only secondarily to analyze; (3) the concern is with process, that is, with what has transpired, as much as with product or outcome; (4) its data are analyzed inductively, as in putting together the parts of a puzzle; and (5) it is essentially concerned with what things mean, that is, the *why* as well as the *what*.

In the qualitative research, the researcher is the most important collector data instrument. Because the research is carried out in discussing lyrics of songs as data, the researcher needs to observe the lyrics of Creed's songs by reading and understanding lyrics of Creed's song. The

objective of this research is to describe and identify the denotative and connotative meaning of lyrics of Creed's songs. So, the report will be in the form of descriptive research. The main objective of it is to understand the lyrics more deeply, and then, produce hypotheses to make a form of theory. The analysis in each data required in descriptive form.

## **B. RESEARCH OBJECT**

This study concerned with observing five lyrics of Creed's songs such as My Sacrifice, Don't Stop Dancing, One Last Breath, My Own Prison, What's this Life for.

## **C. DATA SOURCES**

Data sources that will be used in study approach are usually of three types: (1) interviews of various people; (2) Documents such as minutes of meetings, news paper accounts, autobiographies, lyrics, compact disk, tape etc; (3) observation of the phenomena in action. So, documents are suitable data sources for this study. Those documents will be taken from internet in the form of lyrics of songs. The researcher gets the lyrics from **www.getlyrics.com**. After finding Creed's name, the researcher chooses *five lyrics* of Creed's songs such as My Sacrifice, Don't Stop Dancing, One Last Breath, My Own Prison, What's this Life for.

## **D. RESEARCH INSTRUMENT**

Research instrument is important to obtain the result of this study. It is a set of method, which is used to collect the data. In qualitative research, the researcher is the key-data collection instrument. In the words, the researcher uses Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary by A S Hornby to get deep research and analysis on the denotative meaning of lyrics of Creed's songs.

## **E. DATA COLLECTION**

The data are fully from those five lyrics of Creed's songs. The way to collect the data is finding five lyrics of Creed's songs on internet. After that, the researcher:

1. Reads and understands the lyrics and then looks for the denotative and connotative meaning from those five lyrics of Creed's songs.
2. Looks for the dominant word of denotative and connotative meaning found in the Creed's song lyrics.

## **F. DATA ANALYSIS**

There are three concurrent flows of activity needed in conducting qualitative data analysis (Stainbeck, 1988:21):

First, data reduction refers to the process of selecting words that have denotative and connotative meaning. This first process is finding words, presenting its denotative meaning and showing its connotative meaning based on the theory of J. N Hook.

Secondly, data display is an organized assembly of information that permits drawing and action taking. After analyzing whole data founded from the lyrics, the researcher displays the result of the analysis on the descriptive form based on each category of denotative and connotative meaning.

The third step of analysis is drawing conclusion. It is put after presenting the whole findings of the analyzed data that aimed to clarify and note the most important points to avoid vagueness.

## CHAPTER IV

### ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter presents the analysis of the data that is done in line with the research questions.

The data is analyzed descriptively based on the theory of denotative and connotative meaning by

J. N Hook

#### A. DATA PRESENTATION

##### 1. data of my sacrifice song lyrics

No	DATA	DENOTATIVE	CONNOTATIVE	DATA CODE AND LINE
1	Friend	A person one knows and likes, usually somebody who is not member of family	A truly friend or close friend	A1 Line: 1
2	Fly	To move to the air using wings	Becoming better or greater than others	A2 Line: 11
3	Tears	A drop a salty water that comes from the eyes when one cries	Pain or sorrow	A3 Line: 12
4	Eyes	Each of two organs on the face that are used for seeing	Represent the meaning of “our lives”	A4 Line: 13
5	sacrifice	the action of giving up something that one values for the sake of something more important or	giving up or surrender	A5 Line: 14

		valuable or a thing that one gives up in this way		
6	Ups and down	in one direction and then in the opposite direction	happy and sad, good or bad	A6 Line: 15
7	reunite	to cause two or more people to come together again	come together or meet	A7 Line: 18

## 2. Data of don't stop dancing song lyrics

No	DATA	DENOTATIVE	CONNOTATIVE	DATA CODE AND LINE
1	Wicked	morally bad; evil	bad and evil	B1 Line: 1
2	Light	the natural force that makes things visible	to understand or accept something after much difficulty or doubt	B2 Line: 1
3	Silver lining	Silver (n)" means; a chemical element. line (n)" means; (1) a long thin mark on the surface of something	dream or hope without action	B3 Line: 2
4	Knees	the joint between the upper and lower parts of the leg	falling or failed	B4 Line: 6
5	Dance	to move in a series of steps, alone or with a partner or in group	do something or survive	B5 Line: 10
6	Fly	to move through the air, using wings	becoming better or greater than others	B6 Line: 11



7	Unfair	not right or just; not fair	bad, wicked, and evil	B7 Line: 13
8	Dot	a small round mark	Worthless or paltry.	B8 Line: 14
9	Shadow	a dark area on a surface caused by an object standing between direct light and that surface	fear or hopeless	B8 Line: 22

### 3. Data of one last breath song lyrics

No	DATA	DENOTATIVE	CONNOTATIVE	DATA CODE AND LINE
1	Road to nowhere	“road” means; a way between places, especially one with a prepared surface which vehicles can use, “nowhere” means; not at or to any place; no place	death	C1 Line: 3
2	Thunder	the loud noise that follows a flash of lightning	equivalent to the voice of God	C2 Line: 5
3	Breath	the air taken into and sent out from the lungs	being give up or almost die	C3 Line: 6
4	Six feet from the edge	Foot (pl feet) ” means; the lowest part of the leg, below the ankle, on which a person or an animal stands. “edge (n)” :the outside limit or boundary of an object, a surface or an area	grave	C4 Line: 10
5	Sad eyes	sad (adj) ”	the apathy he is	C5

		represents; showing or causing sorrow or regret; unhappy. “eye (n)” means; each of two organs on the face that are used for seeing	getting from mankind	Line: 25
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#### 4. Data of my own prison song lyrics

No	DATA	DENOTATIVE	CONNOTATIVE	DATA CODE AND LINE
1	Court	a place where trials or other law cases are held; a law court		D1 Line: 1
2	Verdict	a decision reached by a jury on a question of fact in a law case	judgment	D2 Line: 1
3	The walls	a continuous upright solid structure made of stone, brick or concrete, used for enclosing, dividing or protecting something, an area of land	the grave	D3 Line: 4
4	Cage	a structure made of bars or wires in which birds or animals are kept or carried	the coffin	D4 Line: 5
5	Steel	a strong hard metal made of a mixture of iron and carbon	“its strength	D5 Line: 5
6	Sun	the star that shines in the sky during the day	sacrifice of Christ	D6 Line: 20-21

		and gives the earth heat and light		
7	Thunder	the loud noise that follows a flash of lightning	equivalent to the voice of God	D7 Line: 23
8	Sad day	showing or causing sorrow or regret; unhappy	the day when Christ sacrifices himself	D8 Line: 26
9	Lion	a large powerful animal of the cat family that eats meat and is found in parts of Africa and southern Asia	Jesus Christ	D9 Line: 27
10	Light	the natural force that makes things visible	forgiveness that can save people from their prison	D10 Line: 29
11	prison	a place where people are kept as a punishment for crimes they have committed or while waiting for trial	the Hell	D11 Line: 39

### 5. Data of what this life for song lyrics

No	DATA	DENOTATIVE	CONNOTATIVE	DATA CODE AND LINE
1	Laid to rest	to put something or somebody in a certain position	to relax, sleep or do nothing after a period of activity or because of illness	E1 Line: 3
2	Rest	to relax, sleep or do nothing after a period of activity or because of illness	die or passed away	E2 Line: 3
3	Gray = grey	of the color of ashes or lead	unknown or unpredictable	E3 Line: 6
4	Wrist	the part of the	pain	E4

		body between the hand and the arm		Line: 8
5	king	(the title of) the male ruler of an independent state, inheriting the position by right of birth	GOD	E5 Line:14

**B. THE ANALYSIS OF DENOTATIVE AND CONNOTATIVE MEANING FOUND  
IN CREED'S SONG LYRICS**

**1. Lyrics of my sacrifice**

**My Sacrifice**

Hello my friend we meet again

It's been awhile where should we begin

Feels like forever

Within my heart a memory

A perfect love that you gave to me

Oh I remember

Chorus:

When you are with me

I'm free

I'm careless

I believe

Above all the others we'll fly

This brings tears to my eyes

My sacrifice  
We've seen our share of ups and downs  
Oh how quickly life can turn around  
In an instant  
It feels so good to reunite  
Within yourself and within your mind  
Let's find peace there

CHORUS:

When you are with me  
I'm free  
I'm careless  
I believe  
Above all the others we'll fly  
This brings tears to my eyes  
My sacrifice  
I just want to say hello again  
I just want to say hello again  
My sacrifice

**Analysis**

This song tells about a sacrifice someone to his friend. Many people think that this song correlated with Christian's belief, but creed refuses that opinion. In this song *creed* tries to describe a sacrifice to truly friend.

## **Friend (n, A1 line 1)**

### **Denotative meaning:**

This word has six related meanings; first, a person one knows and likes, usually somebody who is not a member of one's family, second, a person who supports a particular cause, organization or charity, e.g. by contributing money or being a member, third, a person who is of the same country or group as oneself and can be considered to have the same views or interests, fourth, a thing that is very helpful or familiar, fifth, a member of the society of friends, sixth, a person who is being talked about or addressed in public (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.473).

### **Connotative meaning:**

When we read whole text of the lyrics, we can find that beside its denotative meaning, the word "friend" also has connotative meaning. It means "truly friend" a friend that always accompany in every condition such as sadness and happiness condition. In this song the word "friend" is correlated with the "sacrifice".

## **Fly (v, A2 line 11)**

### **Denotative meaning:**

The word "fly" in this text means; (1) to move through the air, using wings, (2) to move through air or space, to travel in an aircraft or spacecraft, (3) to direct or control the flight of an aircraft, to transport goods or passengers in an aircraft, (4) to go or move quickly; to rush, to move suddenly and with force, to pass very quickly, (5) to make a kite rise and stay high in the air, to raise a flag so that it is displayed, (6) to move about freely; to be carried about in the air,

(7) to escape from somebody or something, (8) (of stories, rumors, etc) to be talked about by many people, to be current (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.453).

**Connotative meaning:**

The word "fly" includes neutral connotation. Human being has no wings so they cannot fly like a bird. So, this word connotes "becoming better or greater than others".

**Tears (n, A3 line 12)**

**Denotative meaning:**

The word "tears" means a drop of salty water that comes from the eye when one cries, etc (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.1226).

**Connotative meaning:**

The word "tears" includes negative connotation. Someone or something is impossible to bring tear to someone's eyes. It means "pain or sorrow".

**Eyes (n, A4 line 13)**

**Denotative meaning:**

The word "eye" means; (1)( a) each of two organs on the face that are used for seeing, (b) the visible colored part of this, (2) [often Pl] the power of seeing, the ability to see, (b) [usual sing] the ability to make good judgments about something one sees, 3 a thing like an eye (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.410).

**Connotative meaning:**

This word contains neutral connotation. The word "eye" represents the meaning of "our lives" because we see the world with our eyes.

**Sacrifice (n, A5 line 14)****Denotative meaning:**

The word “sacrifice” means; (1) the action of giving up something that one values for the sake of something more important or valuable or a thing that one gives up in this way, (2) the offering of something valuable to a god, often an animal killed in a special ritual (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.1035).

**Connotative meaning:**

The word “sacrifice” includes negative connotation. This word means “giving up or surrender”. According to Christian’s belief, the word “sacrifice” is about the sacrifice of Christ.

**Ups and downs (A6 line 15)****Denotative meaning:**

The word “ups and downs” can mean; (1) in one direction and then in the opposite direction, (2) moving upwards and downwards, (3) sometimes good and sometimes bad, (4) good and bad luck, experiences, events, etc (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.1312).

**Connotative meaning:**

The word “ups and down” includes neutral connotation because it is impossible for people to share in one direction and then in the opposite direction. Therefore, this word connotes “happy and sad, good or bad”

**Reunite (v, A7 line 18)****Denotative meaning:**



This word has two related meanings; first, to cause two or more people to come together again, second, to join together again separate areas or separate groups within an organization (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.1005).

**Connotative meaning:**

The word "reunite" includes neutral connotation. This word means "come together or meet". According to Christian's belief, the word "reunite" means reunite with God.

**2. Lyrics of don't stop dancing**

**Don't Stop Dancing**

At times life is wicked and I just can't see the light

A silver lining sometimes isn't enough

To make some wrongs seem right

Whatever life brings

I've been through everything

And now I'm on my knees again

But I know I must go on

Although I hurt I must be strong

Because inside I know that many feel this way

[Chorus:]

Children don't stop dancing

Believe you can fly

Away...away

At times life's unfair and you know it's plain to see

Hey God I know I'm just a dot in this world

Have you forgot about me?

Whatever life brings

I've been through everything

And now I'm on my knees again

But I know I must go on

Although I hurt I must be strong

Because inside I know that many feel this way

[Chorus]

Am I hiding in the shadows?

Forget the pain and forget the sorrows

Am I hiding in the shadows?

Forget the pain and forget the sorrows

But I know I must go on

Although I hurt I must be strong

Because inside I know that many feel this way

[Chorus]

Am I hiding in the shadows?

Are we hiding in the shadows?

## **Analysis**

This song tells about motivation to survive for life. In this song the song writer tries to describe how to keep moving and don't surrender to the condition.

### **Wicked (adj, B1 line 1)**

#### **Denotative meaning:**

This word means; (1) morally bad; evil, (2) intended to harm or capable of harming somebody, (3) tending to annoy or shock people in a playful way, (4) very good (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.1363)

#### **Connotative meaning:**

This word includes negative connotation. This word means "bad and evil".

### **Light (n, B2 line 1)**

#### **Denotative meaning:**

This word has six related meanings; first, the natural force that makes things visible, an amount or quality of this, second, a source of light, especially an electric lamp, third, a device used to produce a flame or spark, fourth, understanding, fifth, a window or opening to let light in, sixth, a part of a picture that is brighter than the areas around it (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.681).

#### **Connotative meaning:**

The word "light" includes neutral connotation. This word means "to understand or accept something after much difficulty or doubt".

## **Silver lining (B3 line 2)**

### **Denotative meaning:**

The word “silver (n)” means; (1) a chemical element, (2) coins made of silver or of a metal looking like it, (3) dishes, ornaments, etc made of silver (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.1102).

The word “line (n)” means; (1) a long thin mark on the surface of something, (2) a mark like a line on the skin, (3) a general shape; an outline, (4) a mark on the ground to show the limits of a playing area, running track, etc, a boundary, (5) a series of defensive position where an army is fighting, (6) a row of people or things, (7) a series of people following one another in time, especially generations of the same family, (8) a row of words on a page of writing or in print, a letter, especially the short one, the words spoken by a particular actor, a punishment in which a child is told to write out a certain sentence a number of times, (9) a length of thread, rope, etc used for a particular purpose, (10) a telephone or electricity wire or connection, (11) a single track of a railway, (12) a course of action, behavior or thought, (13) a direction or course, (14) a company that provides transport for people or goods with a number of ships, aircraft, buses, etc, (15) the line [sing] (a) (in British army) the regular soldiers fighting on foot, (b) (in the US army) the regular fighting units of all kinds, (16) [sing] (a) an area of activity or business, (b) a type of product (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.684-685).

### **Connotative meaning:**

The word “silver lining” includes neutral connotation. This word means “dream or hope without action”. In this song the writer tries to describe that someone who has dream and hope, but he can't able to make it become real.

### **Knees (n, B4 line 6)**

#### **Denotative meaning:**

The word “knee” means; (1 ) (a) the joint between the upper and lower parts of the leg, where it bends, (b) the upper surface of the top part of somebody's leg when they are sitting, (2) the part of a garment covering the knee (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.653).

#### **Connotative meaning:**

The word “knee” includes neutral connotation. It means “falling or failed” because someone who fails to do something sometimes expresses it by sitting and looking his knees.

### **Dance (v, B5 line 10)**

#### **Denotative meaning:**

The word “dance” means; (1 ) (a) to move in a series of steps, alone or with a partner or in group, usually in a way that matches the speed and rhythm of music, (b) to perform a particular dance, (2) to move in a lively way, usually up and down (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.292).

#### **Connotative meaning:**

The word “dance” includes positive connotative meaning because it indicates of happiness etc. This word means “do something or survive”. In this song the word “dance” is

opposite with word “silver lining” the song writer tries to describe to make change something we must do it something.

### **Fly (v, B6 line 11)**

#### **Denotative meaning:**

The word “fly” in this text means; (1) to move through the air, using wings, (2) to move through air or space, to travel in an aircraft or spacecraft, (3) to direct or control the flight of an aircraft, to transport goods or passengers in an aircraft, (4) to go or move quickly; to rush, to move suddenly and with force, to pass very quickly, (5) to make a kite rise and stay in high in the air, to raise a flag so that it is displayed, (6) to move about freely; to be carried about in the air, (7) to escape from somebody or something, (8) (of stories, rumors, etc) to be talked about by many people, to be current (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.453).

#### **Connotative meaning:**

The word “fly” includes neutral connotation. This word means “becoming better or greater than others”.

### **Unfair (adj, B7 line 13)**

#### **Denotative meaning:**

This word means; (1) not right or just; not fair, (2) not following normal rules or principles (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.1301).

#### **Connotative meaning:**

This word takes account of negative connotation. This word means “bad, wicked, and evil”.

**Dot (n, B8 line 14)****Denotative meaning:**

The word “dot” means; (1) a small round mark, (2) a mark used as a symbol in writing, 3 a tiny distant object (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.347).

**Connotative meaning:**

The word “dot” includes neutral connotative meaning. This word means; worthless or paltry. The song writer tries to describe that human is not perfect in front of GOD.

**Shadow (n, B9 line 22)****Denotative meaning:**

The word “shadow” has six related meanings; (1) (a) a dark area on a surface caused by an object standing between direct light and that surface, (b) darkness caused by an object blocking direct light, (2) a dark patch or area, (3) (a) a person or animal that constantly follows somebody, (b) a person, eg a detective, who follows and watches somebody closely and often secretly, (4) [sing] ~of something (usually in negative sentence) a very small amount of something, (5) a thing that is not real or impossible to obtain, (6) [sing] the ~ of somebody/something, the strong influence of somebody or something (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.1079).

**Connotative meaning:**

The word “shadow” includes negative connotation. This word means “fear or hopeless”. It means that always negative thinking.

### 3. Lyrics of one last breath

#### One Last Breath

Please come now I think I'm falling  
I'm holding on to all I think is safe  
It seems I found the road to nowhere  
And I'm trying to escape  
I yelled back when I heard thunder  
But I'm down to one last breath  
And with it let me say  
Let me say  
Hold me now  
I'm six feet from the edge and I'm thinking  
That maybe six feet  
Ain't so far down  
I'm looking down now that it's over  
Reflecting on all of my mistakes  
I thought I found the road to somewhere  
Somewhere in His grace  
I cried out heaven save me  
But I'm down to one last breath  
And with it let me say  
Let me say  
Hold me now



I'm six feet from the edge and I'm thinking  
That maybe six feet  
Ain't so far down  
Sad eyes follow me  
But I still believe there's something left for me  
So please come stay with me  
'Cause I still believe there's something left for you and me  
For you and me  
For you and me  
Hold me now  
I'm six feet from the edge and I'm thinking

### **Analysis**

In this song, the person that the song writer sings about thinks that his life is over, but with his last breath he's trying to hold on to life and the things he loves about it. He's going nowhere in his life, and he's trying to escape. Later in the song, his outlook gets even darker ("now that it's over"), and he's reflecting on the mistakes he made and crying out to heaven for help. In the last part of the song he has found the strength to go on ("But I still believe there's something left for me"), and even though he's down to his last breath, he still thinks that his life will get better.

### **Road to nowhere (C1 line 3)**

#### **Denotative meaning:**

The word “road” means; (1) (a) a way between places, especially one with a prepared surface which vehicles can use, (b) (in compound) of or concerning such a way or ways, (2) in names of roads, esp. in town, (3) the way to achieving something (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.1016). The word “nowhere” means; not at or to any place; no place (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.792).

**Connotative meaning:**

The word “road to nowhere” consists of neutral connotation because people usually know where they want to go. So, this word means “death”.

**Thunder (n, C2 line 5)**

**Denotative meaning:**

This word means; (a) the loud noise that follows a flash of lightning, (b) any similar noise (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.1247-1248).

**Connotative meaning:**

The word “thunder” includes negative connotation because someone yelled back when he heard thunder to show his anger. So, this word connotes “equivalent to the voice of God”.

**Breath (n, C3 line 6)**

**Denotative meaning:**

The word “breath” signifies; (1) (a) the air taken into and sent out from the lungs, (b) a single act of taking air into the lungs, (2) ~ of sth [sing] a slight movement of air, (3) ~ of sth [sing] a slight suggestion, feeling or sign of something (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.136).

**Connotative meaning:**

The word “one last breath” includes negative connotation. This word connotes about “being give up or almost die”

**Six feet from the edge (C4 line 10)****Denotative meaning:**

The word “foot (pl feet) (n)” means; (1) the lowest part of the leg, below the ankle, on which a person or an animal stands. (2) (usual sing) the part of a sock or stocking that covers the foot. (3) a measure of length equal to 12 inches. (4) (a) the lowest part of something; the base or bottom of something, (b) the end of a bed where one’s feet normally are when one is lying in it. (5) A manner of walking or moving, 6 a unit of rhythm in a line of poetry containing one stressed syllable and one or more syllables without stress. Each of the four divisions in the following line is a foot (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.458).

The word “edge (n)” denotes; (1) the outside limit or boundary of an object, a surface or an area, (2) (a) the narrow part along or around a thin flat object, (b) the sharp part of a blade, knife, sword, etc that is used for cutting,( 3) (usual the edge) [sing] the point or state immediately before something unpleasant , dangerous or exciting occurs, (4) [sing] a slight advantages over somebody/something, (5) [sing] a strong, sharp and often exciting quality, (6) [sing] a sharp, slightly threatening tone of voice, often showing anger or annoyance (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.368).

### **Connotative meaning:**

The word “six feet from the edge” contains negative connotation. This word connotes about “grave”. The depth of grave is six feet under the ground.

### **Sad eyes (C5 line 25)**

#### **Denotative meaning**

The word “sad (adj )” represents; (1) showing or causing sorrow or regret; unhappy, (2) deserving blame or criticism; bad, (3) worse than is deserved, and so making one feel pity or regret (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.1035).

The word “eye (n)” means; (1) (a) each of two organs on the face that are used for seeing, (b) the visible colored part of this, (2) (a) [often Pl] the power of seeing, the ability to see, (b) [usual sing] the ability to make good judgments about something one sees, (3) a thing like an eye (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.410).

#### **Connotative meaning**

The word “sad eye” embraces negative connotation. This word connotes about “the apathy he is getting from mankind”.

## **4. Lyrics of my own prison**

### **My Own Prison**

A court is in session, a verdict is in

No appeal on the docket today

Just my own sin

The walls are cold and pale

The cage made of steel

Screams fill the room

Alone I drop and kneel

Silence now the sound

My breath the only motion around

Demons cluttering around

My face showing no emotion

Shackled by my sentence

Expecting no return

Here there is no penance

My skin begins to burn

(And I said oh) So I held my head up high

Hiding hate that burns inside

Which only fuels their selfish pride

(And I said oh) We're all held captive

Out from the sun

A sun that shines on only some

We the meek are all in one

I hear a thunder in the distance

See a vision of a cross

I feel the pain that was given

On that sad day of loss

A lion roars in the darkness  
Only he holds the key  
A light to free me from my burden  
And grant me life eternally  
Should have been dead  
On a Sunday morning  
Banging my head  
No time for mourning  
Ain't got no time  
I cry out to God  
Seeking only his decision  
Gabriel stands and confirms  
I've created my own prison  
I cry out to God  
Seeking only his decision  
Gabriel stands and confirms  
I've created my own prison

### **Analysis**

Lead singer Scott Stapp wrote this about his struggles with life at a time when he was questioning his faith. He realized he had created a prison within his own mind. After Creed

became wildly popular (and at the same time, reviled), Stapp created another kind of prison for himself with drug addiction, alcoholism, and a series of unflattering incidents the tabloids lapped up. In 2012, he was able to take an honest look at his life and re-evaluate his priorities, which he wrote about in his memoir *Sinner's Creed*. When we spoke with Stapp the following year, he explained, "Any time we have reconciliation in life, and any time there's balance brought back into life and perspective, at the end of those things, you find peace and joy and contentment, and that's where my life is today."

### **Court (n, D1 line 1)**

#### **Denotative meaning:**

This word has several meanings such as; (1) (a) a place where trials or other law cases are held; a law court, (b) the court [sing] the people present in a law court, especially those directly involved in a trial, (2) (a) the official residence of a king or queen, (b) the court [sing] the king or queen and all his or her advisers, officials, family, etc. (3) (sport) a space marked out for tennis or similar games, either indoors or outdoors. (4) (Brit) (abbr Ct) (used in the names of short enclosed streets or blocks of flats) (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.267).

#### **Connotative meaning:**

The word "Court" has negative connotation because this word does not mean a place where trials or other law cases are held when someone is still alive but it will happen when someone passed away.

### **Verdict (n, D2 line 1)**

#### **Denotative meaning:**

This word means; (1) a decision reached by a jury on a question of fact in a law case, (2) (on something/somebody) a decision or an opinion given after testing, examining, or experiencing something (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.1324).

**Connotative meaning:**

This word consists of neutral connotation. This word connotes "judgment". Most Christians believe that human beings experience divine judgment and are rewarded either with eternal life or eternal damnation. This includes the general judgment at the Resurrection of the dead as well as the belief held by Catholics, Orthodox and some Protestants in a judgment particular to the individual soul upon physical death.

**The walls (n, D3 line 4)**

**Denotative meaning:**

This word means; (1) (a) a continuous upright solid structure made of stone, brick or concrete, used for enclosing, dividing or protecting something, eg an area of land, (b) any of the upright sides of a building or room, (2) a thing that forms a barrier or stops one making progress, (3) the outer layer of a hollow structure, especially an organ or a cell of an animal or a plant (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.1338).

**Connotative meaning:**

This word includes neutral meaning. It connotes "the grave" which is cold and pale.



**Cage (n, D4 line 5)****Denotative meaning**

This word has several meanings such as; (1) a structure made of bars or wires in which birds or animals are kept or carried, (2) an enclosed platform used to raise and lower people and equipment in a mine (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.157).

**Connotative meaning**

The word "cage" has negative connotation. It connotes "the coffin".

**Steel (n, D5 line 5)****Denotative meaning:**

This word means; (1) (a) a strong hard metal made of a mixture of iron and carbon, used for making vehicles, tools, knives, machinery, etc, (b) the industry that produces steel; the production of steel, (2) (arch or rhet) weapons for fighting with (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.1168).

**Connotative meaning:**

This word embraces neutral connotation. Usually the coffin made of wood so the word "steel" connotes "its strength" because people could not be free from it.

**Lion (n D6 line 20-21)****Denotative meaning:**

This word has several meanings such as; (1) a large powerful animal of the cat family that eats meat and is found in parts of Africa and southern Asia, (2) (dated) a brave or famous person (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.686).

**Connotative meaning:**

Usually, people give special name because of his characteristics. The word “Lion” connotes “Jesus Christ” for his brave and sacrifice. This word includes neutral connotation.

**Sun (n, D7 line 23)****Denotative meaning:**

This word denotes; (1) the star that shines in the sky during the day and gives the earth heat and light, (2) the light and heat from the sun, (3) any star, especially one with planets moving around it (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.1197).

**Connotative meaning:**

This word includes neutral connotative meaning. This word connotes “sacrifice of Christ” and realization that only Christ's sacrifice can help them escape.

**Thunder (n, D8 line 26)****Denotative meaning:**

This word means; (a) the loud noise that follows a flash of lightning, (b) any similar noise (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.1247-1248).

**Connotative meaning:**

The word “thunder” includes negative connotative meaning. This word connotes “equivalent to the voice of God”.

**Sad day (D9 line 27)****Denotative meaning:**

The word “sad (adj)” represents; (1) showing or causing sorrow or regret; unhappy, (2) deserving blame or criticism; bad, 3 worse than is deserved and so making one feel pity or regret (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.1035).

**Connotative meaning:**

The word “sad” has negative connotation. It connotes “the day when Christ sacrifices himself”.

**Light (n, D10 line 29)****Denotative meaning:**

This word has six related meanings; first, the natural force that makes things visible, an amount or quality of this, second, a source of light, especially an electric lamp, third, a device used to produce a flame or spark, fourth, understanding, fifth, a window or opening to let light in, sixth, a part of a picture that is brighter than the areas around it (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.681-682).

**Connotative meaning:**

The word “light” includes positive connotative meaning. This word connotes “forgiveness that can save people from their prison”.

**Prison (n, D11 line 39)**

**Denotative meaning:**

This word means; (1) (a) a place where people are kept as a punishment for crimes they have committed or while waiting for trial, (b) a place from which somebody cannot escape (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.920).

**Connotative meaning:**

This word includes negative connotation. It connotes "the Hell".

**5. Lyrics of what's this life for**

**What's This Life For**

Hurray for a child that makes it through  
If there's any way, because the answer lies in you  
Their laid to rest, before they've know just what to do  
Their souls are lost, because they could never find  
What's this life for  
I see your soul it's kind of gray  
You see my heart, you look away  
You see my wrist, I know your pain  
I know your purpose on your plane  
Don't say a last prayer, because you could never find  
What's this life for  
But they ain't here anymore

Don't have to settle no goddamned score  
Because we all live under the reign of one kin

## **Analysis**

This song is a track from Creed's first album, Scott Stapp and Mark Tremonti wrote the song about one of their friends who committed suicide. The lyrics deal with how hard it is to find happiness and meaning in the world. (Thanks, Matt - Morristown, TN)

### **Laid to rest (E1 line 3)**

#### **Denotative meaning:**

This word has several meaning:

Placing something in a certain position, (1) (a) to put something or somebody in a certain position, (b) to put something in a suitable or the correct position for a particular purpose, (2) \_something (on/over) to spread something on something; to cover something with a layer of something, Causing somebody or something to be in a certain state, (3) (formal) to cause somebody or something to be in a certain state or situation, (4) to make something settle, (5) (formal) to relieve or remove something. Other meanings, (6) \_something (on something) to bet money on something; to place a bet, (7) (especially passive) (of a man) to have sex with a woman, (8) (of certain creatures, especially birds and insects) to produce egg, (9) (used in the combination lay + n + preposition/infinitive, when the phrase has the same meaning as a verb related in form to the noun) (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.667-668).

### **Rest (v, E2 line 3)**

#### **Denotative meaning**

This word denotes; (1) (a) to relax, sleep or do nothing after a period of activity or because of illness, (b) to cause or allow something/somebody to do this, (2) (something) on/against something, to lie or to be placed on/against something for support, (3) (formal) (of a subject being talked about) to be left without further discussion, (4) (especially law) to bring one's argument to an end; to have no more to say about something, especially because one believes that one's point has been proved (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.1000).

#### **Connotative meaning**

This word has positive connotation. It connotes "die or passed away".

### **Gray (esp US) = Grey (adj, E3 line 6)**

#### **Denotative meaning:**

The word "Grey (adj) " means; (1) (a) of the color of ashes or lead, (b) having grey hair, (c) dull; full of clouds and often raining, (d) (of a person) pale because tired, ill or unhappy, (2) (a) lacking interest or variety; depressing, (b) having no individual or attractive features. Grey (n) means; (1) a grey color, a suit of dark/light/charcoal gray, (2) grey clothes, (3) a grey or white horse (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, p.522).

#### **Connotative meaning:**

The word “grey” embraces negative connotation. This word connotes “unknown or unpredictable”.

**Wrist (n, E4 line 8)**

**Denotative meaning:**

This word means; the part of the body between the hand and the arm; the joint on which the hand moves (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.1382).

**Connotative meaning:**

The word “wrist” embraces neutral connotation. The word my wrist connotes Christ’s wrist that is stabbed by big nail and it connotes “pain”.

**King (n, E5 line 14)**

**Denotative meaning:**

This word means; (1) (the title of) the male ruler of an independent state, inheriting the position by right of birth, (2) a person, an animal or a thing thought of as best or most important in some way, (3) (in compounds) the largest variety of a species, (4) (a) the most important piece in CHESS, (b) a piece in draughts that has reached the opponent’s side of the board and so can move backwards as well as forwards, (c) (in a pack of cards) a card with the picture of a king on it (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, p.651).

**Connotative meaning:**

This word has positive connotation. This word connotes “GOD”.

From explanation above there were 37 words that include as denotative and connotative meanings. It is dominated by words with kinds of noun. There is 22 words of noun, 5 words of verb, and others is adjective word. It can be conclude that in the creed's song lyrics included denotative and connotative meaning.



## CHAPTER V

### CLOSURE

This chapter presents the conclusion and suggestion concerning with the results of the study discussed in the previous chapters.

#### A. CONCLUSION

Based on the finding and discussion, the summary is concerning with **An Analysis of denotative and Connotative meaning found in Lyrics of Creed's Songs**. There are some conclusions:

In lyrics of Creed's songs, there are many words, phases, and sentences refer to the Christian theological concept such as;

Their bands name "**Creed**", according to Christianity the word "Creeds"; (from Latin *credo* meaning "I believe") are concise doctrinal statements or confessions, usually of religious beliefs. They began as baptismal formulas and were later expanded during the Christological controversies of the fourth and fifth centuries to become statements of faith.

**Sacrifice** refers to the sacrifice of Christ.

**God's grave**, Protestantism teaches that Eternal **Salvation** is a gift that comes to an individual by God's grace, sometimes defined as "unmerited favor" on the basis of one's personal belief in and dependence on the substitutionary death and resurrection of **Jesus Christ**. Salvation in this sense refers to God's activities in bringing humans into right relationship with God and with one another through faith in Jesus Christ. It is the belief that one can be saved (rescued)

from sin and eternal death. Other concepts used in the study of how salvation is accomplished include conversion, faith, justification, regeneration, and others. Many Protestants believe in the "assurance of salvation" that God can give the confidence that a believer in Jesus as the Christ has truly received salvation.

**Afterlife and Eschaton,** Most Christians believe that human beings experience divine judgment and are rewarded either with eternal life or eternal damnation. This includes the general judgment at the Resurrection of the dead (see below) as well as the belief (held by Catholics, Orthodox and some Protestants) in a judgment particular to the individual soul upon physical death. And this entire concept makes many people called Creed as Christian Band.

On the other hands, many times Creed's songs are questioning God. And asking why God does such unpleasant things to people if he supposed to be so good. It also focuses on questions of faith, Christianity, and eternity. Nevertheless, it has not been confirmed that the songs were meant to be Christian songs.

Beside that, by understanding creed's song, we as moslem can be motivated to always increase our believed to Allah. Because in the creed's song lyrics tells about believing to the God and motivation of life.

## **B. SUGGESTION**

In accordance with the finding of this research described previously, there is a point that could be suggested; two points need explain while talking about connotation.

The first point connotation is far more intermediate than denotation on one hand. Connotation may be subject to variable exchange from generation to the next. Connotation may be rather subjective and not shared in the same way by all speakers of a language. Our individual

experience of language and its relation to the world is to some extent unique and idiosyncratic. Connotation is not stable.

The second point is the extent to which we relate the lexeme itself rather than to the entity that a lexeme denotes. The connotation of a word to us must reflect our experience of the entity to which the word refers and to the place this entity has in our belief system.

For the students, who study about semantics especially denotative and connotative meaning, are expected to have good comprehension on the content and context of the text by reading the whole text. It will be able to avoid wrong choice of appropriateness meaning of denotative and connotative meaning.

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# APPENDIX

## APPENDIXES

### A. CREED (BAND)



#### Background information

**Origin** : Tallahassee, Florida, United States

**Genres** : Hard rock, post-grunge, alternative metal

**Years active** : 1993–2004, 2009–2012

**Label** : Wind- Up

**Associated act:** Alter Bridge, Projected

**Website** : [www.creed.com](http://www.creed.com)

**Creed** is an American rock band, formed in 1993 in Tallahassee, Florida. The band's best-known line-up consists of lead vocalist Scott Stapp, guitarist and vocalist Mark Tremonti, bassist Brian Marshall, and drummer Scott Phillips. Creed released two studio albums, *My Own Prison* in 1997 and *Human Clay* in 1999, before Marshall left the band in 2000 to be replaced by touring bassist Brett Hestla. The band's third record, *Weathered*, was released in 2001 with Mark Tremonti handling bass before the band disbanded in 2004 due to increasing tension between members. Tremonti, Marshall, and Phillips went on to found Alter Bridge while Stapp followed

a solo career, releasing *The Great Divide* in 2005. After years of speculation, Creed reunited in 2009 for a tour and new album called *Full Circle*.

In early 2012 the band reconvened again to tour and start work on a fifth album. However, the album has since been shelved, with Stapp saying the future of the band is unclear due to a disagreement between himself and Tremonti. However, in interviews Stapp has maintained that the band is still together, just focusing on other projects. He's also said that he's always open to continuing work on a new album when the time is right.

Becoming popular in the late 1990s and early 2000s, the band released three consecutive multi-platinum albums, one of which has been certified diamond. Creed has sold over 28 million records in the United States, and over 40 million albums worldwide, becoming the ninth best-selling artist of the 2000s. Creed is often recognized as one of the prominent acts of the post-grunge movement of the late 1990s and early 2000s.

## **1. History**

### **a. Early years (1993–1996)**

Creed's origins lie in 1993 in Tallahassee, Florida. Founding member vocalist Scott Stapp and guitarist Mark Tremonti had been classmates in high school and friends at Florida State University. Upon reuniting, Stapp and Tremonti realized that they had a mutual love for writing music and performing. After several discussions and times spent writing songs, many of which addressed themes of Christian theology and spirituality due to Stapp's religious background as the stepson of a Pentecostal minister, the duo held auditions which led to the recruitment of rhythm guitarist Brian Brasher, bassist Brian Marshall, and drummer Scott Phillips to complete



the quintet. Originally known as Naked Toddler, the band changed its name to Creed at Marshall's suggestion, after a band Marshall had previously played for called Mattox Creed. By the end of 1995, rhythm guitarist Brian Brasher left the band. Creed then decided to remain as a four-piece band. The four musicians had already written and collaborated on four of the songs that would go on to become tracks on Creed's chart-topping debut album, *My Own Prison*. The band found local success and began to play shows in bars and small venues throughout Tallahassee.

**b. *My Own Prison* and rise to fame (1997–1998)**

With a new name, a new sound and several new songs written, Creed began playing locally. They initially struggled to get gigs in their hometown because no one wanted to hear rock bands, so they set up their own shows at family restaurants and got all their friends to hand out fliers so people would come to these restaurants to watch them play.

Wanting "a real show at a club", they managed to persuade the owner of a bar in Tallahassee to book them by claiming that they could guarantee an audience of 200 people. Owner and manager Jeff Hanson later told Hit Quarters that the band had played mostly cover versions, but two original songs stood out and impressed the manager so much that he promptly signed them to his management and promotions company and set about developing their act. For their first recordings he matched the band up with John Kurzweg, a producer and friend of Hanson's who he felt was an appropriate fit. Together they recorded their debut album for \$6,000, which was funded by Hanson. The album, titled *My Own Prison*, was initially self-released on their own label, Blue Collar Records, selling 6,000 copies throughout the state of Florida.

*My Own Prison* had been circulating around the music industry for a while when, in May 1997, Diana Meltzer from Wind-Up Records heard the album for the first time and decided almost immediately that she wanted to sign them to the label, which had recently dropped Baboon over the latter's reluctance to alter their image and sound to suit the label's demands. Meltzer later said that she heard "an arena band". Within the same week, Meltzer, together with Wind-up president Steve Lerner, CEO Alan Meltzer, and A&R representative Joel Mark, flew to Tallahassee to see Creed perform live and decide for certain whether to offer them a contract. "Seeing the energy in the room when Scott Stapp stepped up to the mike, and hearing his powerful voice fill the room, alongside Mark Tremonti's now legendary guitar riffs and that big Creed anthemic rock sound, was all I needed," she told HitQuarters. According to Hanson, before Wind-up signed Creed, fourteen labels had already passed on the band, and at one point he was tempted to take charge of them himself.

*My Own Prison* was remixed, given a more radio-friendly sound, and re-released by Wind-up Records. Four singles were released from the album: "My Own Prison", "Torn", "What's This Life For", and "One". Each of these songs reached No. 1 on the *Billboard* Hot Mainstream Rock Tracks chart, making Creed the first band to accomplish such a feat with a debut album. With little MTV exposure, media coverage, or label support, *My Own Prison* sold extremely well, moving over six million copies and going six times platinum. Creed continued to top year-end charts and was recognized as the Rock Artist of the Year at the 1998 *Billboard* Music Awards. *My Own Prison* was also the highest-selling heavy music record of 1998 on Nielsen SoundScan's Hard Music chart. The band's hit song "My Own Prison" was also featured as a live performance on the charity album *Live in the X Lounge*. The band covered Alice Cooper's song "I'm Eighteen" for *The Faculty* soundtrack in 1998. Critical reception toward *My*

*Own Prison* was mostly favorable. Stephen Thomas Erlewine from Allmusic gave it four out of five stars and said that Creed "work well within their boundaries" despite "basically [falling] into the category of post-Seattle bands who temper their grunge with a dose of Live earnestness." The album lyrically deals with themes of questioning and struggling with faith and spirituality.

### **c. Human Clay and Marshall's departure (1999–2000)**

With money made from *My Own Prison*, the band started to write for their second album, *Human Clay*. The album's first single, "Higher," spent a record-breaking seventeen weeks on the top of the rock radio charts. In 2009, "Higher" was ranked as the 95th greatest hard rock song of all time by VH1. The album was released in 1999, when *My Own Prison* was still doing reasonably well.<sup>[18]</sup> However, *Human Clay* was an instant and overwhelming success debuting at No. 1 on the *Billboard* 200 and selling over ten million copies over the next two years, allowing it to become one of the few rock albums to be certified diamond by the RIAA. The album was the band's first to hit No. 1 in the U.S., where it debuted with first week sales of 315,000, and stayed on top for two weeks. After the album's release, follow-up singles were released: "With Arms Wide Open," "What If," and "Are You Ready." The first three of those topped radio charts, giving Creed a total of seven chart-topping singles. The band would later go on to win their first, and to date only, Grammy Award for "With Arms Wide Open" for Best Rock Song in 2001.

Reviews for *Human Clay* were largely positive. Stephen Thomas Erlewine from Allmusic said that the record "does make it clear that there is an audience for post-grunge hard rock, as long as it's delivered without pretension and as long as it meets the audience's desire for straight-ahead, hard-hitting music." The lyrical content of *Human Clay* is a slight departure from that of *My Own Prison*, touching on subjects such as lucid dreaming ("Higher") and fatherhood ("With

Arms Wide Open"), as well as darker, more violent themes such as sexual abuse ("Wash Away Those Years") and hostility ("What If").

During the summer of 2000, bassist Brian Marshall began a spiral into alcoholism and addiction. While under the influence, Marshall threatened to beat up Tremonti, began missing band obligations, and verbally attacking and online attacking Stapp. The band had a meeting with management to discuss Marshall's future. Stapp and Tremonti supported Marshall going to rehab and attempted to talk Marshall into going, but at that point, Marshall was too far gone to recognize he needed help. Brett Hestla of Virgos Merlot was initially contacted to "fill in" while Marshall went to rehab, but that never happened. Initially, the public thought Marshall was let go because he criticized Pearl Jam frontman Eddie Vedder in a radio interview with KNDD in June 2000, claiming that Scott Stapp is a better songwriter, and criticized Pearl Jam's recent albums for "having songs without hooks." Stapp later distanced the rest of the band from Marshall's comments and stated, "Yes, we get tired of the PJ question, but there is no excuse for the arrogance and stupidity [of Marshall]. I ask you all not to judge Creed as a band, because the statements made were not the band's feelings, they were Brian's. I'm sorry if Brian offended anyone, and he has already apologized for his comments." Although it was reported Marshall left Creed "on friendly terms," he didn't. Tremonti and Stapp were concerned for Marshall and their collective friendships, but soon after the controversy, Marshall formed a new band called Grand Luxx with his old Mattox Creed band mates. Marshall was temporarily replaced by touring bassist Hestla. Stapp stated Marshall's leaving was his choice and was unrelated to the Pearl Jam comments.

#### **d. Weathered and break-up (2001–2004)**

Creed worked on their third album for most of 2001, with Tremonti choosing to play bass on the record himself instead of Hestla to "[preserve] the band's initial core," although Hestla remained in Creed's touring lineup. *Weathered* was released on November 20, 2001. Six singles were released from the album: "My Sacrifice" (which earned the band a nomination for a Grammy Award for Best Rock Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocal in 2003), "One Last Breath", "Hide", "Don't Stop Dancing", "Weathered" and "Bullets." The album was a commercial bestseller and was certified platinum six times over and debuted at No. 1 on the *Billboard* Top 200. It remained at that spot for eight weeks, a record which Creed notably shares with The Beatles. The tour to promote *Weathered* was met with considerable controversy; it was delayed in April 2002 when Stapp suffered a concussion and vertebrae damage after being involved in a car accident. As a result, in addition to his growing addiction to alcohol, he became addicted to pain medication. This, along with other events, led to a considerably controversial concert on December 29, 2002 at the Allstate Arena in Rosemont, Illinois, which ultimately led to the band's disunion. Four disappointed concertgoers filed a lawsuit against the band, claiming that Scott Stapp "was so intoxicated and/or medicated that he was unable to sing the lyrics of a single Creed song." Creed later issued an apology on Stapp's behalf, although Stapp would later deny the claims. Ultimately, the case was dismissed. Stapp later confirmed that he was intoxicated during the concert, but was not incoherent.

After remaining inactive for over a year, it was announced in June 2004 that Creed had disbanded. Tremonti cited tensions between Stapp and the rest of the band as the reasoning. He said that the relationship with Stapp had become so strained that the creative juices were no longer flowing. The reality was that Stapp was in Maui battling his addiction to alcohol and drugs. Almost simultaneous with the announcement of Creed's break-up, Stapp opted for a solo

career. So on November 22, 2004, Wind-up Records released Creed's *Greatest Hits*, after which Stapp released his debut solo album *The Great Divide* in 2005 with Roadrunner Records recording artist Goneblind. Meanwhile, Tremonti and Phillips had reunited with Marshall to form a new band, called Alter Bridge with singer Myles Kennedy, formerly of The Mayfield Four and the current frontman of Slash's latest project. Alter Bridge, who continues to tour and record today, has released four studio albums: *One Day Remains* (2004), *Blackbird* (2007), *AB III* (2010) and *Fortress* (2013).

**e. Reunion and *Full Circle* (2009–2010)**

From 2004 onward, Tremonti promised that Creed would never reform. However, on April 27, 2009, Creed's website announced that the band had reunited for a new tour and plans for a new album. According to Tremonti, "We're all very excited to reconnect with our fans and each other after seven long years." He later added that being in Creed again was "the last thing [he] expected." Phillips also stated: "Our career as Creed came to a very abrupt and unforeseen ending. After reflecting on some of the greatest personal and professional moments of our lives, we've come to realize that we are still very capable of continuing that career and our friendship on a grander scale than ever before." In an interview for *People* magazine, Stapp elaborated on the reunion, saying, "We never felt like we weren't together. We're not looking at this as a reunion. It's more of a rebirth."

In June, Creed performed with Marshall on bass for the first time in nine years on Sessions@AOL, showing the band playing four of their hits. In addition, the band performed live on *Fox & Friends* on June 26, 2009. Creed's reunion tour, with touring guitarist Eric Friedman, kicked off on August 6, 2009 and concluded on October 20. *Full Circle*, Creed's first album in

eight years, came out on October 27, 2009. Stapp elaborated on the title, which is also the name of a track to appear on the album: "It really defines and articulates, melody-wise and lyrically, what's happened with us. We've come full circle and it's a great place to be." The first single from *Full Circle*, "Overcome," was posted on the band's official website on August 19, the same day the radio premiere started along with its release as a digital download on August 25. The second single, "Rain," was released to radio stations on September 23 and became available on October 6 as another digital download. On September 25, 2009, Creed performed a concert in Houston, Texas that was recorded, broadcast via a live internet stream, and released on December 8, 2010, as a concert film titled *Creed Live*, the band's first live recording. The performance broke four world records, including the world record for the most amount of cameras used at a live music event (239). The previous holder of this record was Justin Timberlake. The performance also featured the very first usage of the "big freeze" technology, popularized by *The Matrix*, in a concert environment. The band's first live recording, the record-breaking concert film titled *Creed Live*, was released on December 8, 2009. Drummer Scott Phillips also confirmed that *Full Circle* will not be the band's final album. The same announcement confirmed that Creed was to go on a world tour in support of *Full Circle* between April and September 2010, starting with an Australia/New Zealand tour, followed by South America, Europe, and North America. The tour was called The 20-10 Tour. Tickets for the tour were ten and twenty dollars to stand up against rising concert ticket prices. The first 2,010 tickets purchased for every concert did not include any service fees. Due to high ticket sales, Creed was put in high numbered areas. Skillet joined the tour as main support.

**f. Touring, fifth studio album and hiatus (2011–2012)**

Creed reconvened in late 2011 and early 2012 to begin work on what would be their fifth studio album, and first since *Full Circle* in 2009. A tour was also announced in which the band would perform their first two albums, *My Own Prison* and *Human Clay*, from front to back over the course of two nights, with selected tracks from *Weathered* and *Full Circle* also featured. This tour kicked off with two shows on April 12 and 13, 2012, at the Chicago Theatre in Chicago, Illinois, with the band performing *My Own Prison* the first night and *Human Clay* the second. They also toured in South America and Indonesia. It was announced that lead singer Scott Stapp and lead guitarist Mark Tremonti would enter the studio to start recording new songs in June, but it would appear no progress was made during this time.

In October 2013, Stapp noted in an interview that extensive work was done on the new album throughout 2011 and 2012. However, the project was suddenly abandoned, and Stapp stated he is unaware as to why. Stapp also hinted that the relationship between himself and Tremonti had once again broken down, leaving the future of the band uncertain. In December 2013, Stapp elaborated on this, saying Tremonti is dictating to him what he wants the band's creative direction to be, and that unless he agrees to Tremonti's demands, the guitarist won't work with him. In January 2014, Stapp once again confirmed in an interview the personal and creative differences between him and Tremonti, stating that future material by the band looks unlikely to happen at the moment, and that he is concentrating on his solo career. Despite these differences, Stapp has maintained that the band is still together, if inactive, saying that "There's no real time table, we're still a band." He's also said that he's always open to continuing to work on a new album when the time is right and if everyone can agree to continue. None of the other members of Creed have commented on the status of the band or Stapp's statements.



## **2. Musical style**

Creed's music is generally considered to be rock. According to *Rolling Stone* magazine, Scott Stapp's vocals have been influenced by Jim Morrison of The Doors. Creed is often labeled a Christian rock band due to the fact that all their albums focus on questions of faith, Christianity, and eternity. The band was never signed to a contemporary Christian music label, nor did it perform in Christian music venues or get any widespread regular play on Christian radio. However, the band's name itself refers to the religious concept of a creed. Also, themes within their musical titles such as "My Own Prison", "My Sacrifice", "What's This Life For", "With Arms Wide Open", and "One Last Breath" all contain allusions to Christian theology. Band members have stated that while the members may be Christians, they do not see Creed as a Christian band. Bassist Brian Marshall, who named the band, said that singer Scott Stapp uses spiritual imagery as a metaphor.

## **3. Legacy and reception**

Creed was one of the most commercially successful rock bands of the late 1990s and early 2000s, having sold an estimated 53 million records worldwide. Their first three studio albums, *My Own Prison*, *Human Clay*, and *Weathered*, have all gone multi-platinum in the United States, selling 6 million, 11 million, and 6 million copies respectively. The band also won a Grammy Award for Best Rock Song for the song "With Arms Wide Open" in 2001. However, in spite of this enormous commercial success, Creed was poorly received by professional critics, such as Robert Christgau, among others. Jonah Weiner of *Slate* has tried to make the case that the band was "seriously underrated," "most people hate Creed's combination of overwrought power-

balladry and Christian-infused testosterone." However, the band's live shows from throughout their career have been critically acclaimed.

In 2011, *Billboard* ranked Creed as the 18th best artist of the 2000s. In 2012, lead vocalist Scott Stapp published his own memoir titled *Sinner's Creed*, which details his early life and tenure with the band. In 2013, readers of *Rolling Stone* voted Creed the worst band of the 1990s, whilst criticizing the band and saying the competition "wasn't even close." Also included in the list were other such artists as Nirvana, Dave Matthews Band and Nickelback.

#### **4. Member**

Scott Stapplead : vocals (1993–2004, 2009–2012)

Mark Tremonti : guitar, vocals (1993–2004, 2009–2012); bass guitar on *Weathered* (2001)

Brian Marshall : bass guitar (1993–2000, 2009–2012)

Scott Phillips : drums, percussion, keyboards (1993–2004, 2009–2012)

#### **B. LIRICS OF CREED'S SONG**

##### **My Sacrifice**

Hello my friend we meet again

It's been awhile where should we begin

Feels like forever

Within my heart a memory

A perfect love that you gave to me

Oh I remember

Chorus:

When you are with me

I'm free

I'm careless

I believe

Above all the others we'll fly

This brings tears to my eyes

My sacrifice

We've seen our share of ups and downs

Oh how quickly life can turn around

In an instant

It feels so good to reunite

Within yourself and within your mind

Let's find peace there

CHORUS:

When you are with me

I'm free

I'm careless

I believe

Above all the others we'll fly

This brings tears to my eyes

My sacrifice

I just want to say hello again

I just want to say hello again

My sacrifice

## **Don't Stop Dancing**

At times life is wicked and I just can't see the light

A silver lining sometimes isn't enough

To make some wrongs seem right

Whatever life brings

I've been through everything

And now I'm on my knees again

But I know I must go on

Although I hurt I must be strong

Because inside I know that many feel this way

[Chorus:]

Children don't stop dancing

Believe you can fly

Away...away

At times life's unfair and you know it's plain to see

Hey God I know I'm just a dot in this world

Have you forgot about me?

Whatever life brings

I've been through everything

And now I'm on my knees again

But I know I must go on

Although I hurt I must be strong

Because inside I know that many feel this way

[Chorus]

Am I hiding in the shadows?

Forget the pain and forget the sorrows

Am I hiding in the shadows?

Forget the pain and forget the sorrows

But I know I must go on

Although I hurt I must be strong

Because inside I know that many feel this way

[Chorus]

Am I hiding in the shadows?

Are we hiding in the shadows?

### **One Last Breath**

Please come now I think I'm falling

I'm holding on to all I think is safe

It seems I found the road to nowhere

And I'm trying to escape

I yelled back when I heard thunder

But I'm down to one last breath

And with it let me say

Let me say

Hold me now

I'm six feet from the edge and I'm thinking

That maybe six feet

Ain't so far down

I'm looking down now that it's over

Reflecting on all of my mistakes

I thought I found the road to somewhere

Somewhere in His grace

I cried out heaven save me

But I'm down to one last breath

And with it let me say

Let me say

Hold me now

I'm six feet from the edge and I'm thinking

That maybe six feet

Ain't so far down

Sad eyes follow me

But I still believe there's something left for me

So please come stay with me

'Cause I still believe there's something left for you and me

For you and me

For you and me

Hold me now

I'm six feet from the edge and I'm thinking

## **My Own Prison**

A court is in session, a verdict is in

No appeal on the docket today

Just my own sin

The walls are cold and pale

The cage made of steel

Screams fill the room

Alone I drop and kneel

Silence now the sound

My breath the only motion around

Demons cluttering around

My face showing no emotion

Shackled by my sentence

Expecting no return

Here there is no penance

My skin begins to burn

(And I said oh) So I held my head up high

Hiding hate that burns inside

Which only fuels their selfish pride

(And I said oh) We're all held captive

Out from the sun

A sun that shines on only some

We the meek are all in one

I hear a thunder in the distance

See a vision of a cross

I feel the pain that was given

On that sad day of loss

A lion roars in the darkness

Only he holds the key

A light to free me from my burden

And grant me life eternally

Should have been dead

On a Sunday morning

Banging my head

No time for mourning

Ain't got no time

I cry out to God

Seeking only his decision

Gabriel stands and confirms

I've created my own prison

I cry out to God

Seeking only his decision

Gabriel stands and confirms

I've created my own prison

**What's This Life For**



Hurray for a child that makes it through  
 If there's any way, because the answer lies in you  
 Their laid to rest, before they've know just what to do  
 Their souls are lost, because they could never find  
 What's this life for  
 I see your soul it's kind of gray  
 You see my heart, you look away  
 You see my wrist, I know your pain  
 I know your purpose on your plane  
 Don't say a last prayer, because you could never find  
 What's this life for  
 But they ain't here anymore  
 Don't have to settle no goddamned score  
 Because we all live under the reign of one king

**C. DATA PRESENTATION**

**1. data of my sacrifice song lyrics**

No	DATA	DENOTATIVE	CONNOTATIVE	DATA CODE AND LINE
1	Friend	A person one knows and likes, usually somebody who is not member of family	A truly friend or close friend	A1 Line: 1
2	Fly	To move to the air using wings	Becoming better or greater than others	A2 Line: 11

3	Tears	A drop a salty water that comes from the eyes when one cries	Pain or sorrow	A3 Line: 12
4	Eyes	Each of two organs on the face that are used for seeing	Represent the meaning of “our lives”	A4 Line: 13
5	sacrifice	the action of giving up something that one values for the sake of something more important or valuable or a thing that one gives up in this way	giving up or surrender	A5 Line: 14
6	Ups and down	in one direction and then in the opposite direction	happy and sad, good or bad	A6 Line: 15
7	reunite	to cause two or more people to come together again	come together or meet	A7 Line: 18

## 2. Data of don't stop dancing song lyrics

No	DATA	DENOTATIVE	CONNOTATIVE	DATA CODE AND LINE
1	Wicked	morally bad; evil	bad and evil	B1 Line: 1
2	Light	the natural force that makes things visible	to understand or accept something after much difficulty or doubt	B2 Line: 1
3	Silver lining	Silver (n)” means; a chemical element. line (n)” means; (1) a long thin	dream or hope without action	B3 Line: 2

		mark on the surface of something		
4	Knees	the joint between the upper and lower parts of the leg	falling or failed	B4 Line: 6
5	Dance	to move in a series of steps, alone or with a partner or in group	do something or survive	B5 Line: 10
6	Fly	to move through the air, using wings	becoming better or greater than others	B6 Line: 11
7	Unfair	not right or just; not fair	bad, wicked, and evil	B7 Line: 13
8	Dot	a small round mark	Worthless or paltry.	B8 Line: 14
9	Shadow	a dark area on a surface caused by an object standing between direct light and that surface	fear or hopeless	B8 Line: 22

### 3. Data of one last breath song lyrics

No	DATA	DENOTATIVE	CONNOTATIVE	DATA CODE AND LINE
1	Road to nowhere	“road” means; a way between places, especially one with a prepared surface which vehicles can use, “nowhere” means; not at or to any place; no place	death	C1 Line: 3
2	Thunder	the loud noise that follows a flash of lightning	equivalent to the voice of God	C2 Line: 5
3	Breath	the air taken into	being give up or	C3

		and sent out from the lungs	almost die	Line: 6
4	Six feet from the edge	Foot (pl feet) ” means; the lowest part of the leg, below the ankle, on which a person or an animal stands. “edge (n)” :the outside limit or boundary of an object, a surface or an area	grave	C4 Line: 10
5	Sad eyes	sad (adj )” represents; showing or causing sorrow or regret; unhappy. “eye (n)” means; each of two organs on the face that are used for seeing	the apathy he is getting from mankind	C5 Line: 25

#### 4. Data of my own prison song lyrics

No	DATA	DENOTATIVE	CONNOTATIVE	DATA CODE AND LINE
1	Court	a place where trials or other law cases are held; a law court		D1 Line: 1
2	Verdict	a decision reached by a jury on a question of fact in a law case	judgment	D2 Line: 1
3	The walls	a continuous upright solid structure made of stone, brick or concrete, used for enclosing, dividing or	the grave	D3 Line: 4

		protecting something, an area of land		
4	Cage	a structure made of bars or wires in which birds or animals are kept or carried	the coffin	D4 Line: 5
5	Steel	a strong hard metal made of a mixture of iron and carbon	“its strength	D5 Line: 5
6	Sun	the star that shines in the sky during the day and gives the earth heat and light	sacrifice of Christ	D6 Line: 20-21
7	Thunder	the loud noise that follows a flash of lightning	equivalent to the voice of God	D7 Line: 23
8	Sad day	showing or causing sorrow or regret; unhappy	the day when Christ sacrifices himself	D8 Line: 26
9	Lion	a large powerful animal of the cat family that eats meat and is found in parts of Africa and southern Asia	Jesus Christ	D9 Line: 27
10	Light	the natural force that makes things visible	forgiveness that can save people from their prison	D10 Line: 29
11	prison	a place where people are kept as a punishment for crimes they have committed or while waiting for trial	the Hell	D11 Line: 39

## 5. Data of what this life for song lyrics

No	DATA	DENOTATIVE	CONNOTATIVE	DATA CODE AND LINE
1	Laid to rest	to put something or somebody in a certain position	to relax, sleep or do nothing after a period of activity or because of illness	E1 Line: 3
2	Rest	to relax, sleep or do nothing after a period of activity or because of illness	die or passed away	E2 Line: 3
3	Gray = grey	of the color of ashes or lead	unknown or unpredictable	E3 Line: 6
4	Wrist	the part of the body between the hand and the arm	pain	E4 Line: 8
5	king	(the title of) the male ruler of an independent state, inheriting the position by right of birth	GOD	E5 Line:14