

THEME AND MORAL VALUES IN “CLOSER THAN VEINS” BY OUTLANDISH

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Abstract: This research examines the Theme and Moral Values in "Closer Than Veins" by Outlandish. It is a band that originated in Denmark with Hip hop/R&B. This study aims to provide readers with insight into the songs' contents, themes, and moral messages. This research is qualitative research, where the Theme and Moral Values are independent variables while “Closer Than Veins” is a dependent variable. 1). Themes are social problems 38%, moral implication 25%, Coming of age 25%, The complexity of human relationship 12%, The struggle for human dignity 6%, The truth of human nature 0%, A moral or philosophical riddle 0%. 2). Moral values are commitment to something greater than oneself 56%. In comparison, the other moral values are self-respect but humanity 25%, self-discipline and acceptance of personal responsibility 19%, respect and caring for others, caring for other living things and environment 0%.

Keywords: Theme, Moral values, Song.

Introduction

God creates humans with the perfection that no other creatures on earth have. Humans are given advantages in the form of reason, different from animals that are only given survival instincts. Reason and instinct are two different things. Humans are given the mind to think. People's thinking is indeed not the same, depending on how deeply he thought of the phenomenon, the thought process has levels, starting from knowing, understanding, applying, analyzing, evaluating, and creating. When finding a phenomenon, the brain will respond to this phenomenon. It will identify whether this phenomenon, then understands more than apply and analyze the phenomenon, and finally evaluate and create something. This starts with responding to phenomena with the process of thinking.

Each person will be different ways of responding to a phenomenon that occurs. Everyone will be different from how high the level of thinking is done in response to a phenomenon. Some people know enough; some people come to analyze; even people respond to the phenomenon by producing something. For example, when someone sees a phenomenon of flooding in the capital. Indeed, from many people about the phenomenon of the flood responding with a variety of different types, some people say "yes, I know there is a flood," this response includes levels of knowing, there are also people who respond by making in-depth analysis of how the phenomenon of flooding can occur, this response includes the level of analyzing, even some people respond by creating tools to minimize flooding, this response includes the level of creating.

Another example is when looking at the phenomenon of corruption and legal injustice in a country. For ordinary people, it might only be able to say, "yes, I know corruption and injustice are happening in this country; in contrast to a critic, they will respond by analyzing the problem, different from a legislative member or executive member, they will respond with making a policy. For an artist, the form of response to phenomena is to create works of art. Artworks can be written or oral. Oral artworks can be poems or songs, and so on; written works can be short stories, memes, novels.

We can enjoy the artwork by listening to poetry and songs or reading short stories and novels. Examples of poetry that are quite well-known in this country are Taufik Ismail and W.S. Rendra, while more songs depend on the type of songs itself, such as the famous Roma Irama in the genre of Dangdut,

Chrisye in the POP genre, or Doel Sumbang in the Sundanese POP genre. Besides artists in the country, we also know artists from abroad; for example, William Shakespeare is famous for his poems, Michael Jackson and Mariah Carey, with its work. In the art of writing, we know well-known characters and works, such as JK Rowling's Harry Potter novel of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes novel, and so on.

The song is one type of literature that is quite popular, which conveys the contents of feelings or opinions. Alternatively, even we can say that the song is the most popular literature in great demand in various parts of the world. This is because songs are more straightforward to enjoy than other literary works. The thing that attracts the song is the use of tone or rhythm and accompaniment instruments. The tone makes the song more beautifully sung. The use of musical instruments adds color to the song. People who listen to the song will be hypnotized, and mainly if the lyrics are easily digested and understood, accompaniment instruments are played with full appreciation. Of the many popular songs/music, I know several popular music types in the world, such as Classic, POP, Jazz, Blues, RnB, Hip Hop, Reggae, and Country. Every song that is created must be from a response to the phenomenon that occurs. The song's background raises the theme and content of the song; the song's theme can be about yourself, others, activities, surroundings, imagination, objects, or beliefs.

The theme of self is usually in the form of feelings about the conditions experienced about himself, for example, feeling happy, sad, hopeful, hopeless; The theme of other people can be relationships of friendship, family, friendship, romance, and work; the theme of an activity can be experienced in the environment, school activities, business activities, social activities; the theme of imagination can be a story in the future, life on a planet, super abilities, etc.; the theme of an object can be daily equipment, office or school equipment, equipment in public places, etc.; the theme of belief can be faith in gods, angels, invisible things.

In each song, there is always a moral message to be conveyed in the lyrics; the moral message to be conveyed begins with the theme raised, as explained earlier about the theme, then the moral message can be in terms of self, relationship with others, relationships with the environment or spiritual relationships (divinity). One of the well-known music groups is the Outlandish band. Outlandish is a Danish hip-hop band. Established in 1991, consists of Isam Bachiri (born in Denmark and of Moroccan descent), Waqas Ali Qadri (born in Denmark and of Pakistani descent), and Lenny Martinez (born in Honduras and of Cuban descent). All band members are religious, Isam and Waqas are Muslim, and Lenny is a Catholic. The band members live in Brøndby Strand.

Outlandish's style of music (hip-hop/ R & B) influenced many of the backgrounds of its personnel (Moroccan/Arabic/Pakistani/Punjab and Latin American), and although most of their songs were in English, they usually performed song lyrics in Spanish, Urdu, Danish and Arabic. Outlandish often raise Islam's theme and contemporary issues regarding Muslim youth in the West in their music.

Their first single, "Pacific to Pacific," is associated with Amnesty International's charity event. The single "Saturday Night" became the soundtrack of a Danish film, Pizza King. These singles followed their first album, Outland's Official, in 2000, which only circulated in Denmark. Popular Songs on the debut album, "Walou," were later rearranged and included in the second album, Bread & Barrels of Water.

Their second album's songs significantly impacted international music charts, including their cover version, "Aicha," which became number one in Germany and significantly impacted Asia, including South Korea. "Guantanamo" is also popular with European charts.

For the third album, Closer than Veins, the group recorded Leon Gieco's English cover, "Solo le Pido a Dios" (I Only Ask God). Of the three albums that have been mentioned, the author is interested in the third album, which is "closer than veins." Among the reasons why the authors are interested in the album is that there are many themes about humanity that contain profound moral messages, including those contained in the song titled "Look into My Eyes." This song themed about the occupation of the Israeli army against the Palestinians, especially the citizens of Gaza; this song besides contains criticism of the cruelty of the Israeli army as well as criticism of the American government and its citizens because the American government made an immense contribution to the Israeli government so that Israel was able to finance every terrorist attack on Palestinians innocent. In contrast, criticism of Americans because they are powerless to stop the government's program that always supplies financing to Israel. This song also contains criticism of the world Muslim countries' leaders. The latter are unable to stop the violence that occurred in Palestine. This song is based on themes and moral values that are very weighty; therefore, the authors

believe that they will provide a useful conclusion by examining this song. Based on these reasons, the author decided to study entitled "Theme and Moral Values in "Closer Than Veins" by Outlandish Band."

Method

In a study, a researcher must first determine the form of the method used in his research, and this is needed so that research can be carried out as expected. In general, the form of research is divided into two, namely, quantitative and qualitative research. In this study, the author uses qualitative research based on the theory and opinions expressed by experts.

Merriam & Tisdell (2015, p. 19) qualitative research is a type of research that encompasses some philosophical orientations and approaches. This means that qualitative research is based on a profound thought involving feelings and assumptions; this research type is not based on mathematical calculations because feelings or assumptions cannot be calculated. Bryman (as cited in Hammersley, 2012, p. 1) stated that qualitative research is a research strategy that usually emphasizes words rather than quantification in collecting and analyzing data. This means that qualitative research in data collection emphasizes using words rather than numbers, commonly used in quantitative research. Furthermore, Sandelowski (2012, p. 1) stated that qualitative research is "an umbrella term for an array of attitudes towards and strategies for conducting an inquiry" to discover how human beings understand, experience, interpret, and produce the social world. This means that qualitative research is not aimed at assessing something by measuring numbers because qualitative research is based on observations whose data is outlined in data. Hammersley (2012) states that qualitative research is shaped by very different ideas – about the nature of social phenomena and how they can be understood – from quantitative work. This means that qualitative research is aimed at examining social phenomena.

From some opinions expressed by experts, it can be concluded that qualitative research is research that emphasizes more on observing social phenomena, the data raised in the form of words. In this research, the method of collect data applied is documentation (Creswell, 2009). Documentation is the method used in scientific research to collect data by using a document or evidence list.

Before the writer describes the data, some steps must be done and met with collecting the data. In the case of data collection procedures, Creswell (2009) stated that the data collection steps include: (a) setting the boundaries for the study, (b) collecting information through unstructured or semi-structured observation and interviews, document and visual materials, (c) establishing the protocol for recording information. Data analysis is not a collection of independent tools. The available methods have rather complex interrelationships, and there is no perfect tool for a problem of interest. Several methods are usually applicable, each with subtle differences, preconditions, or assumptions. Furthermore, research questions to be answered by data analysis are usually not formulated precisely enough to justify the application of one method alone. The analysis often reveals new questions that must be answered by applying different methods or the initial question changes during analysis, and this process can be iterated several times.

Moleong (2017) said that data analysis involves organizing data into categorical patterns and unit of analysis. It means that after collecting the data, the researcher began to classify and analyze it. According to the theory above, it can conclude that the steps to collect the data are:

- 1) Reading some book and relevant material under the theme and moral value
- 2) Intensive listening songs of "closer than veins" album by the outlandish band.
- 3) Reading all the lyric songs of each song in this album.
- 4) Analyzing the theme in every song.
- 5) Analyzing the moral value of each song.
- 6) Using theories to convince themes and moral values that have been analyzed.

Results and Discussion

After hearing the songs and reading the lyrics intensively, the writer presented the data's description of the theme and moral values in "Closer Than Veins" by Outlandish.

1. Analysis of the theme

a. Introspective

To determine the song's theme, we must examine each paragraph's ideas, sentence lines, and words used in the song's text. The first paragraph caught the idea of arousing motivation to persist in every

pain experienced, always believe in God, and continue to pray; the air at dawn brings extra energy. This song encourages us to learn to manage emotions by fasting. We must dare to say that we are Moros (Muslims).

Based on this analysis, the authors argue that the theme contained in the song titled "Introspective" is **the struggle for human dignity.**

b. Any Given Time Lyrics

This song tells about self-awareness of his god; he is aware of the apostasy of life, he feels many things are learned to deal with life but escapes how to deal with the ego in him, the regret is accompanied by an awareness of the importance of communicating with God, he realizes that God is closer than veins, he wants to learn how to give affection without boasting, give gifts without conditions, give kindness without anger and forgive without anger.

From this explanation, the researchers concluded that this song has the theme of **Coming of age/loss of innocence/growing awareness.**

c. Look into My Eyes

This song begins with a criticism of some people who have discriminatory attitudes and discriminate between people based on skin color. This criticism then gives a picture of people who become discriminatory objects with a subject who is a discriminatory actor, that for that gratitude when they wake up calmly. At the same time, we are grateful to have passed the night in living conditions; you worry about your education. In contrast, we worry about our lives are vulnerable if we live today while we do not know if we are still alive tomorrow; what you fear is whether you can get a show ticket, but for us, the fear is whether the tank that just left will turn around and come back.

This song tells of the oppression carried out by the Zionists against the Palestinians; they committed terror for decades, they robbed Palestine property, torturing women, imprisoning innocent adult men, children killed with bullets, bulldozers destroying houses, tanks and planes destroying every inch of Palestinian land. Then in the next paragraph, criticism is directed at the world that seems to blame the Palestinians for resisting the Zionists, even though the terrorists are not us but them; furthermore, in the next paragraph, the criticism is directed at the American people specifically, are they aware that the tax paid by their intention to the USA government is to add trauma to us because part of the wealth of the USA is allocated to support every act of aggression carried out by Zionist Israeli.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the theme of **Social Problems.**

d. Just Me

This song contains criticism of the media, both electronic and print media, every day they contain news that always corners people like us (immigrants), the news contains about the ugliness committed by a small portion of immigrants, the news is about a robbery, assault of women on the bus, about young immigrants and thugs, about immigrants selling drugs, the news is quite painful to our eyes.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the theme of **Social Problems.**

e. Kom Igen

This song contains a moral message to us, tries to understand God's word, do not be blinded by treasure, do not ever want to look rich or famous like Hollywood artists. Try to love the world less, do not be like a greedy Pharaoh with his wealth. Try to reflect on where we came from than where we will return, ask for mercy from Him, God will not let us be displaced, ask for protection from hell and the conspiracy of the devil.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the theme of **Moral Implication.**

f. Nothing Left to Do

This song tells about the mistakes of someone who has been tempted by a beautiful woman, having fun at night with her, until finally, regret comes, he realizes it is too late, he has contracted a virus, day for the sake of the day his illness gnawed at his body until he was helpless.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the theme of **Moral Implication**.

g. Beyond Words

This song tells the story of someone who has visited God's house (Kaaba, in Mecca), a journey that was never imagined before; he thought he would come to that place in old age, even though he is still young. He was very impressed with the rituals performed while near the Kaaba; everyone looked like brothers, so calm. All people who come there have only one goal: to devote themselves to God by multiplying worship; they are immersed in worship, all seem like leaving the world's life, their goal is only one, namely God. During this ritual, they were incessantly facing the sky, thanking God for the life that has been given.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the theme of **Moral Implication**.

h. Words Stuck to Heart

This song tells the story of regret for a promise that is not kept; what is said to others will be embedded in the heart, takes time to think and calm the heart.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the theme of **Moral Implication**.

i. Reggada

This song tells the story of one family member's wedding; everyone rejoices, food and drink are provided, bread, chicken, olives, eggs, and juice, and they rejoice by dancing and singing.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the theme of **human relationship complexity**.

j. Callin' U

This song tells the story of someone looking for the truth, looking for and trying to get closer to God; nothing he needs and nothing he calls except God. He asked God to save him from hell, and no one could provide help other than God.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the theme of **Coming of age/loss of innocence / growing awareness**.

k. Sakeena

This song tells the story of two couples who love each other, a husband and wife who need and complement each other; they do not want to build a house from the earth, water, or stone, but from wisdom, pure intention, compassion, and purity heart.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the theme of **human relationships' complexity**.

l. I've Seen

This song tells about how long I want to meet the Prophet as the Prophet missed his people; long ago, Islam was so valued, but what happened today, humiliated Islam, oppressed Islam, each other hate each other.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the theme of **Social Problems**.

m. Una Palabra

This song tells us that the world has wrongly perceived Islam; Islam is considered a terrorist religion; they are campaigning for Islam to be murderers, criminals, and other negative stigmas. All of that is a lie; the world is not fair to Islam; we are waiting for this religion's helpers, as in the past, we know the mighty Abu Dhaar.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the theme of **Social Problems**.

n. I Only Ask of God

This song tells us that only God can be asked for help; God will not abandon us; God will not give us heavy trials.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the theme of **Coming of age/loss of innocence / growing awareness**.

o. Appreciating

This song tells of awareness of the importance of praying to God often; in our hearts, we want to pray to God, but it is laziness that makes us reluctant to do so.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the theme of **Coming of age/loss of innocence / growing awareness.**

p. Redemption Song

This song invites us not to be afraid of anyone; we must be able to fight; we must make a defense.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the theme of **Social Problem.**

Table 1. Theme analysis results table

No.	Title of Song	Kinds of Theme						
		Moral implication	The truth of human nature	Social problems	The struggle for human dignity	The complexity of human relationship	Coming of age/loss of innocence/growing	A moral or philosophical riddle
1.	Introspective				v			
2.	Any Given Time			v			v	
3.	Look into My Eyes			v				
4.	Just Me			v				
5.	Kom Igen	v						
6.	Nothing Left to Do	v						
7.	Beyond Words	v						
8.	Words Stuck to Heart	v						
9.	Reggada					v		
10.	Callin' U						v	
11.	Sakeena					v		
12.	I've Seen			v				
13.	Una Palabra"			v				
14.	I Only Ask of God						v	
15.	Appreciating						v	
16.	Redemption Song			v				
	Total	4		6	1	2	4	
	Percentage	25%		38%	6%	12%	25%	

2. Analysis of The Moral Values

a. Introspective

This song gives us a message to be healthy, survive in the face of fear, always believe in God, learn to manage emotions, and control the ego by cleansing the heart through fasting. Even this song contains an invitation to face each exam; we must believe that every difficulty will be easily faced and resolved by working together. Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the moral value of self-respect but humanity, self-discipline, and acceptance of personal responsibility.

b. Any Given Time Lyrics

This song gives the message that we will get lost when away from God's guidance; we often struggle to resist the outside's temptation. However, we forgot to control yourself and be an obedient servant, devoted to God with full sincerity.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has a moral value **commitment to something greater than oneself.**

c. Look into My Eyes

This song teaches us to be non-discriminatory, do not discriminate between people based on skin color, race, or religion; we are invited to care more for humanity in other parts of the earth; there are more problems to worry about besides getting concert tickets, buying luxury goods, or Education, which is a humanitarian problem. In other parts of the world, our brothers and sisters, such as Palestine, are in poor condition. Do we not think where the tax we pay to the government, especially the Americans? Part of the tax money paid was channeled to finance the military aggression carried out by Israel against the Palestinians, and the Americans should be sensitive to this problem. Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the moral value of **respect and caring for others.**

d. Just Me

This song gives the message that does not trust the media too much, and the media is now controlled by people who have heart disease; often, the media corner a group by bringing up the crime committed by a small number of elements in the group, then the media claims that the group is a criminal group radical are also terrorists. Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has a moral value **commitment to something greater than oneself.**

e. Kom Igen

We learn not to love the world too much through this song, the desire to be rich, abundant wealth, fame like Hollywood artists. All that will not give peace, all just an illusion, in the end, we all will return to Him, pray to God to be kept away from hell and the conspiracy of demons. Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has a moral value **commitment to something greater than oneself.**

f. Nothing Left to Do

This song teaches us to strengthen our faith is not be tempted by anything, especially the temptation of women, lest we regret later when we have already had an illicit relationship with a woman, then realize that we have been infected with a dangerous disease. Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has a moral value **commitment to something greater than oneself.**

g. Beyond Words

This song teaches us to always be grateful for God's gift; God is always dear to his servant; God never hates his servants; God always wants to see his servants happy. Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the moral value of **self-respect but humanity, self-discipline, and acceptance of personal responsibility.**

h. Words Stuck to Heart

This song teaches us always to keep our promises, do not let our words become meaningless, all the words we say to others will be embedded in his mind, it will always be remembered, let us not promise if it is challenging to keep. Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the moral value of **respect and caring for others.**

i. Reggada

This song teaches us to feel happy when a family member gets happiness, especially if that person is a sibling, who from childhood has always been together in joy and sorrow. Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the moral value of **respect and caring for others.**

j. Callin' U

This song teaches us always to seek the truth so that life feels comfortable and peaceful and gets closer to ourselves because God gives us peace. Do not despair of God's help; ask to be kept away from hell because God created hell. Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the moral value of **self-respect but humanity, self-discipline, and acceptance of personal responsibility.**

k. Sakeena

This song teaches us always to love our partners, care for them, love sincerely; they are part of our lives, lovers must give and complement each other, all must feel equal without any higher feelings, one of them. Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the moral value of **respect and caring for others.**

l. I've Seen

This song teaches us always to imitate the teachings of the prophet. The people who were once known to be very good are now helpless, there is a desire to meet the prophet, but that is not possible because the prophet is gone; what can be done is to follow every teaching delivered by the prophet.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the moral value of **self-respect but humanity, self-discipline, and acceptance of personal responsibility.**

m. Una Palabra

This song contains a message not to be prejudiced, hate, and even antagonize Islam, not because of hearing false news about Islam's bad, you hate Islam, try to get closer, learn Islam well. We are not as bad, as bad as you think. Do not make us a scapegoat for all your interests; we are not fools who can be fooled. Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has a moral value **commitment to something greater than oneself.**

n. I Only Ask of God

This song teaches us always to ask God for help, and God will not let us be in a suffering that is impossible for us to overcome. Believe and believe in Him. Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has the moral value of **commitment to something greater than oneself.**

o. Appreciation'

This song teaches us always to get closer to God, do not hesitate to ask Him, do not hesitate to ask Him. Often, we feel too busy with all our daily activities, even though it only takes a few minutes to dialogue with God. The time given to us is enough for us to have a dialogue with Him, but often we are lazy to do it. Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has a moral value **commitment to something greater than oneself.**

p. Redemption Song

This song teaches us always to dare to speak the truth, do not be afraid of the threat of intimidation from evil parties, we do not need to wait for God to send prophets and be killed. It is time we speak the truth. Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that this song has a moral value **commitment to something greater than oneself.**

Table 2. Moral Values analysis results table

No.	Title of Song	Kinds of Moral Values			
		commitment to something greater than oneself	self-respect but humanity, self-discipline, and acceptance of personal responsibility	respect and caring for others	caring for other living things and the environment
1.	Introspective		V		
2.	Any Given Time	V			
3.	Look into My Eyes			V	
4.	Just Me	V			
5.	Kom Igen	V			
6.	Nothing Left to Do	V			
7.	Beyond Words		V		
8.	Words Stuck to Heart			V	
9.	Reggada			V	
10.	Callin' U		V		
11.	Sakeena	V			

12.	I've Seen		V		
13.	Una Palabra"	V			
14.	I Only Ask of God	V			
15.	Appreciatin'	V			
16.	Redemption Song	V			
	Total	9	4	3	0
	Percentage	56%	25%	19%	0%

Conclusions

After researching the songs on the album "Closer Than Veins" By Outlandish, the author makes the following conclusions: the most dominant theme on this album is a social problem, marked by the discovery of many songs six songs with the same theme that is the theme of is a social problem, or if a percentage is made of 38%, while other themes are Moral implication 25%, Coming of age/loss of innocence/growing awareness 25%, The complexity of human relationship 12%, The struggle for human dignity 6%, The truth of human nature 0%, A moral or philosophical riddle 0%. The most dominant moral value on this album is the commitment to something greater than oneself, marked by the discovery of several songs containing the same moral values committed to something greater than oneself, or if a percentage is made of 56%. In contrast, the other moral values are self-respect but humanity 25%, self-discipline and acceptance of personal responsibility 19%, respect and caring for others, caring for other living things and environment 0%.

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