

ENGL 409a Twentieth-Century Pop Lyrics

MIDTERM

**Document 1: "Fantasy" by Mariah Carey**

(Shoo do do do do do do) (Shoo do do do do yeah) x 3

Oh, when you walk by every night talking sweet and looking fine  
I get kinda hectic inside. Mmm, baby I'm so into you  
Darling, if you only knew all the things that flow through my mind

CHORUS:

(But it's just a) sweet, sweet fantasy, baby, when I close my eyes  
You come and you take me (On and on and on)  
So deep in my daydreams, but it's just a sweet, sweet fantasy, baby.

(Shoo do do do do do do) (Shoo do do do do yeah) x 4

Images of rapture creep into me slowly  
As you're going to my head and my heart beats faster  
When you take me over time and time and time again

CHORUS

(Shoo do do do do do) (Shoo do do do do do yeah) x 4

CHORUS

I'm in heaven with my boyfriend  
My laughing boyfriend there's no beginning  
And there is no end feels like I'm dreaming  
But I'm not sleeping

CHORUS x 2

Sweet, sweet fantasy, baby, sweet, sweet fantasy, baby  
(Shoo do do do do do do do)

**Document 2: Guest Rap by Ol' Dirty Bastard**

Ladies and gentlemen - Introducing the ol' dirty doggy

Here we go now me and Mariah  
Go back like babies with pacifiers  
Ol' dirty dog no liar kickin' fantasy hot like fire  
Jump jump and let me see you do the stump  
Girls let me see you shake your rump  
Brothers get in from the back and pump  
And let's do it do it do the hump

I'm a little bit country I'm a little bit rock  
And I'm soul to soul Big letters all big and bold  
Ol' Dirty Bastard across the globe

1) The chorus is an important actor in Greek drama, providing unique commentary on events in a play. How does the chorus play this role in this song? What can be inferred about Mariah's fantasy from the chorus?

2) There has been much suspicion that the lately deceased Ol' Dirty Bastard, who appeared on the "Fantasy" remix, was the "you" Mariah sings about in line 2. Use song lyrics and your knowledge of Mariah's lifestyle to show that this "you" could also have been P. Diddy.

3) How does this guest rap of that same Ol' Dirty Bastard on "Fantasy" remix (printed left) affect the tragic vision of Mariah's hit single?

**Answer ONE of the THREE Questions Below**

3) When Mariah Carey's "Fantasy" hit the airwaves in 1995 it quickly became one of the most tragic songs in pop music history alongside Neil Young's "Ohio." In a song about a destructive fantasy, Mariah "shoo do do do do do do do do's" because she cannot come up with any other syllables to describe her futility in the face of that unattainable "sweet, sweet fantasy." The Ol' Dirty Bastard remix significantly raises the tragic vision of Mariah's fantasy through references to fire and pacifiers and suggests a 12-step plan of fun things to do for Mariah before the unfulfilled fantasy eradicates her.

Line 3 shows that Mariah gets "kinda hectic inside" every night she sees the object of her fantasy. Ecological studies show that such repeated hecticity shortens animal life spans dramatically and imply that the fantasy boyfriend walks by her every night in order to disrupt Mariah's metabolism and slowly emaciate her. Unfortunately Mariah does not realize that her fantasy is trying to kill her instead she thinks she's in heaven with her "laughing boyfriend" not even knowing that boyfriend is laughing because "all the things that run through [Mariah's] mind" are actually an early sign of Alzheimer's disease.

Mariah's health shows even greater deterioration when she admits that she's dreaming but not sleeping. This is the highest level of the tragedy of Mariah's ignorant fantasy: the daydreams insinuate insipient mental retardation for Miss Carey. Ol' Dirty Bastard eggs on this vision in the remix when he adds that "me and Mariah go back like babies and pacifiers," pointing out the baby-like illiteracy of both Mariah and the rapper formerly known as Big Baby Jesus. "Ol' dirty dog no liar kickin' fantasy hot like fire" gives some hope of salvation for Mariah as ODB tries to stop the fantasy from killing Mariah by kicking it. However, ODB fails at this because he cannot put together coherent sentences and instead he gives Mariah a 12-step plan to party before the fantasy kills her - jump (1), jump (2), stump (3), shake your rump (4), get in from the back (5), pump (6), do it (7), do it (8), do the hump (9). Unfortunately ODB only give Mariah nine steps before he flies "across the globe" and Mariah is left to lugubriously expire due to hecticity, Alzheimer's, mental retardation and fiery pacifiers while she crazily repeats "sweet, sweet fantasy baby" and breathes out one last "shoo do do do do do do do" at her last sigh of life.

Even though some may claim that Mariah Carey is still alive and well, "Fantasy" and its remix definitely and tragically kill her as the lyrics showed.

Oh no! What appeared from the sky to be a soft and cushiony Mountain Of Cake And Occasionally Doom, is actually a family of angry bears. As they devour you nonchalantly, you think: *maybe I can grow a few carnivorous plants to keep the bears at bay!* You try it, but the bears eat you anyway because bears eat faster than carnivorous plants. You die.