

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

This research thesis examines attachment styles as portrayed in Taylor Swift's "Back to December" and "Last Kiss." This research thesis examines the intrinsic components of diction and metaphor, alongside the extrinsic factors of attachment styles, as reflected in the lyrics. The significance of Taylor Swift's "Back to December" and "Last Kiss," which encapsulate emotions of yearning, remorse, and sorrow, is elucidated through the diction and metaphors employed by the songwriter. The reflection of attachment styles is evident in the emotional patterns and relational behaviors of the speakers in each song. Both songs convey the challenges of sustaining intimacy and the anguish of separation.

This discussion about intrinsic elements in Taylor Swift's "Back to December" and "Last Kiss" revolves around diction and metaphor. The phrases in "Back to December," particularly "wishful thinking," show emotional distance and suppression, which shows how the speaker expresses regret in a restrained way. The lines in "Last Kiss," including "sit on the floor wearing your clothes," "I feel you forget me," and "forever the name on my lips," show obsession, longing, and weakness. Metaphor is also essential in amplifying the speaker's feeling. In "Back to December," the metaphor "freedom ain't nothin' but missin' you" shows the paradox of loss and regret. In "Last Kiss," the metaphor "watch your life in pictures like I used to watch you sleep" shows the difference between distance and closeness, which makes the speaker's

obsession with memory stronger. The use of diction and metaphor together makes both songs' emotional depth clearer.

Moreover, the extrinsic elements discussion in this research thesis covers the attachment styles reflected in both songs. In “Back to December”, the reflection of anxious-avoidant (fearful-avoidant) attachment is shown through the speaker’s simultaneous longing for closeness and fear of vulnerability, which leads to regret and emotional distancing. In “Last Kiss”, the speaker's anxious attachment is revealed through their fixation on permanence, inability to let go, and emotional dependency on the partner. These findings show how Swift’s lyrics embody psychological patterns of attachment, bridging literary expression and psychological reality.

The writer personally recommends further research into the broader aspects of the song lyric or Swift’s other body of work to explore how different poetic and musical strategies convey emotions across the genre of modern popular music. This would benefit not only literary scholars but also general audiences, Swift’s fandom, and students of the English Department, offering both enjoyment and academic enrichment.