

SONG ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

Song Title Mama's Broken Heart Artist: Miranda Lambert

Songwriter(s) Brandy Clark, Shane McAnally, Kacey Musgraves Genre: Country

STRUCTURE: Intro (Verse) (Verse) Pre-Chorus (Chorus) V V CH PR (BRDG) (CH) V CH_X

POINT OF VIEW: (First person) 2nd Person/Direct Address 3rd Person/Omniscient

STRUCTURE	RHYME SCHEME	CHORDS / ACCOMPANIMENT	LYRIC	MELODY / TIME SIG / RHYTHM
Verse	scissors (A) cops (B) liver (A) stop (B)	Two chord song! Am E7 : Am (simple: drums, bass)	12 syllables 2 phrases each line except last 14 syllables 3 phrases	very even vocal line
Verse	baptists (C) hook (D) have it (C) look (D)	Final Am acts as a hard stop for the verse & launches the chorus (electric guitar added)	Last line "Don't" links w/prior verse	vocal goes up 3 rd line "I can hear her" differentiates from V1
Chorus	up/up (E/E) crazy/lady (F/F) better/together (G/G) apart/heart (H/H)	Am E7 : Am (full band & ton of cymbal crashing - CRAZY)	14 syllables 4 phrases Internal rhyme used to shorten phrasing & increase pace	Vocal emphasis on end of line syllables, except last line - changes to first half of line
Verse	dramatic (I) flames (J) matches (I) blame (J)	(drums almost no cymbals, bass, electric guitar) backup singer "aaahhs" added	Great analogy "dramatic" & "matches" close rhyme	
Verse	reputation (K) make (L) generation (K) face (L)		Last line "When" links w/prior verse	
Chorus				
Bridge	toes/closed (M/M) eyes/cry (N/N)	1 chord – not new Am		silence sets up going into final chorus – "dramatic pause"
Chorus				

NOTES: > Tension created by not going to chorus after 1st and 3rd verses
 > No repeating rhymes & internal rhyme used to change the pace of the chorus, creating separation from the verses. Great device for a 2 chord song.
 > AWESOME analogy in V3!
 "like a Kennedy when Camelot went down in flames" – image aligns with the mother's time and frame of reference, pulling you back into the context of the speaker's "mama's softer generation"
 > Language in the song very grounded and visual w/ clever play on words ("dot your eyes")