

I have always held a love for history and its major players. Bob Dylan, a man who shook the world through song, is one such figure. I can't remember the first time I heard Bob Dylan's music, but it has held me in its grip, fascinated, ever since. While Dylan's voice is not perfect, his complex and profound lyrics are the pinnacle of musical poetry. In many ways, his songs are poems set to music. I especially like his songs "Desolation Row" and "Like a Rolling Stone" because they are filled with vivid images of literary, historical, and other figures, that tell a story.

To me, the most important part of music is the lyrics; what the song is saying and how. The power and message of songs like "Blowin' in the Wind" or "The Times They Are a-Changin'" strike a chord in my heart. I understand the feeling and emotion behind the songs despite their being written over 20 years before my birth. Their emotive power evokes my sympathy and outrage at injustice and violence in the world. The way Dylan presents his points makes them seem indisputable. His songs have imbued me with idealism and a strong sense of civil obligation.

Dylan's incredible range of musical styles is as inspiring as his manipulation of lyrics. Rock, folk, gospel, blues, and more are all part of his library of songs. Dylan's wide musical range reminds me of the importance of being well rounded. I hope to emulate Dylan's breadth with a strong and deep liberal arts education that builds upon the firm foundation I have constructed in high school.

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