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**Project Overview**

Through Hozier’s lyrics on his self-titled album “Hozier”, we will analyze the way in which religion is expressed through song and how that relates to the modern-day world view and culture of religion.

***About Page***

**Overview**

Andrew Hozier-Byrne, known professionally as Hozier, is a 31-year-old Irish musician known for his unique music style. Hozier’s songs consist of a mix of blues, gospel, and soul music that has led him to international fame. He is most well-known for his song “Take Me to Church”, which peaked at 100 on the U.S. Billboard charts. To date, he has released two full-length albums: “Hozier” and “Wasteland, Baby!”. Prior to his solo success, he toured with an Irish choral group known as Anuna.

**Writing style**

Hozier is a self-taught guitar player and songwriter. In an interview, he said that he tries to record more from his home to create a sound that he feels closer to. He says he likes to start with some sort of core feeling or a few lines that convey a message. From there, he loosely plays with ideas and melodies until he finds what he likes. He describes his writing style as simple and straightforward; “I try not to lean too much on verbose phrases, attempting to cut right to the heart of the sentiment.”

**Use of literary devices**

Use of religion as a literary device and analyze how he critiques it

**Background with religion**

Religion has been a source of frustration for Hozier. He grew up Catholic, but found the church very hypocritical. He channeled this anger into his breakout hit “Take Me to Church’. Despite his frustrations, he says that he wouldn’t label himself as an atheist, and is comfortable not knowing much about higher powers. In an interview with Ireland’s National Public Service Radio, Hozier says that he has strong opinions regarding the Catholic church and says that the effects of religion are certainly generational. He goes on to say that the damage the church has done to Ireland is “irreparable”, and he believes faith as a whole is an absurd concept.

“There are no answers because the universe never asked a question in the first place.”

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