

Fatima Abashera
Soundtrack Far From the Tree Project

Song Choices (8 Songs)

Happiness- Little Mix Confetti Album

My Love Won't Let You Down- Little Mix Confetti Album

Scared of Happy- Fifth Harmony

You Broke Me First- Tate Mcrae

Sweet Melody- Little Mix Confetti Album

Sour Strawberry- Caroline Manning

Just Friends- Audrey Mika

HAPPINESS- LITTLE MIX

"In a better place, no longer stressing"

"Brand new evolution of me..."

"Happiness" by Little Mix represents Maya's mother after rehab and how she is getting her life back on track after the damage that happened to her and her family. One of the lyrics is "In a better place, no longer stressing" and I took that as her mother is in a better place as in she is working on her and decisions she makes. The other lyric "Brand new evolution of me..." is representing how she feels like a new person now that she is working on her addiction and seeking help. Furthermore, in the novel Maya's mother explains to Maya that she has "...made a lot of changes..." and is ready to "...come home and make things right"(361) Here, readers can see that the lyrics in "Happiness" explaining that the mother is in a much better place and almost feels like a new version of herself.

MY LOVE WONT LET YOU DOWN- LITTLE MIX

“I’ll be there with you”

“No matter what you’re goin’ through”

“My Love Won’t Let You Down” by Little Mix represents Mark and Linda’s never ending love for Joaquin and how they constantly try proving that to him by doing things like buying him a car and allowing him to talk to them about anything. One of the lyrics is “I’ll be there with you” and this represents how Mark and Linda want to be there for him no matter what he is going through. Additionally, throughout the novel we see that Joaquin experiences a theme of being let down by other people and this song is Mark and Linda telling him that their love won’t let him down. In the novel, after Joaquin returns from Jessica’s home with his siblings he thinks Mark and Linda are angry with him however it is explained that they “Joaquin’s parents just held him tighter.” and “...they never let him go”(355). Here, readers can see the relationship between Joaquin, Mark and Linda and how they are holding onto him as if they are tethered to him and are there for him no matter what like the lyrics of “My Love Won’t Let You Down” explain.

SCARED OF HAPPY- FIFTH HARMONY

“I never knew a love that doesn’t hurt...”

“No one to blame but yourself...”

“Why am I scared of happy...”

“Scared of Happy” by Fifth Harmony is a song about someone being scared of happiness because they have experienced heartbreak before. When I heard the lyrics of this song they immediately reminded me of Joaquin’s situation where he was scared to be adopted by Mark and Linda because he was scared of being left behind or scared so in a way he was scared of being happy because he was so vulnerable. In the novel, after Joaquin discusses the adoption with Mark and

Linda they ask him “Are you afraid of what will happen if you say yes?”(175). Here, readers can see clearly that Mark and Linda are suspicious of the fact that Joaquin is scared of happiness because he has been let down a lot in the past.

YOU BROKE ME FIRST- TATE MCRAE

“You broke me first”

“...you moved on quicker than I could’ve ever...”

“ You know that hurt”

“You Broke Me First” by Tate Mcrae is a song about a bad breakup however I interpreted this as the Max and Grace situation where he didn’t help her at all and moved on really quickly. There is actually a lyric where it says “...you moved on quicker than I could’ve ever...” which I thought of as Grace thinking and telling Max that he removed himself from the equation whilst hurting Grace in the process of it all. In the novel, Grace talks about how she felt tethered to Peach and how it was easy for Max to move on because he had nothing to lose and didn’t want a relationship with Peach.

SWEET MELODY- LITTLE MIX

“He used to sing me sweet melodies...”

“He played me made me believe it was real love”

“The day he did me wrong the song could not go on”

“Sweet Melody” by Little Mix is a song about someone in a relationship being manipulative and controlling and I thought of that as Birdies take on the situation post breakup with Joaquin. There is no doubting that fact the Birdie was

left broken so this song reminded me of how things were from Birdie perspective. For instance, there is lyric that says “He played me made me believe it was real love”. This lyric is alluding that you got played and manipulated into thinking that the relationship was real which is how Birdie felt post breakup with Joaquin. In the novel, Birdie confronts Joaquin saying “You really hurt me, Joaquin” (370). Here, readers can see that Birdie feels like she was broken after Joaquin broke her and she felt like she was manipulated into thinking it was real what happened between them.

SOUR STRAWBERRY- CAROLINE MANNING

“...stop wasting my time...”

“ Always let my guard down only to be let down”

“Sour Strawberry” by Caroline Manning is a song about how you feel after a breakup and this reminded me a lot about how Maya felt after the breakup with Claire and how she lost a large group of her support system. In the novel, Maya explains that she didn’t tell Claire everything about her family life and got upset when Claire reached out to Lauren. Here, readers can see that after the breakup Maya was feeling many emotions because she trusted Claire with all of her information and now Claire just let her down and wasted her time.

JUST FRIENDS- AUDREY MIKA

“Just friends don’t do what we do”

“ Your on my mind”

“Just Friends” by Audrey Mika is a song that describes someone who got friendzoned in a relationship and is talking about how being friends doesn’t describe their relationship. This reminded me of Grace and Rafe’s situation because Grace described it as a friendship and nothing more but Rafe might of felt a different type of relationship. In the novel, many people see Grace and Rafe and assume they are a couple like the neighbor down the street. However, after a

certain amount of time, Rafe is seen to begin feeling a stronger connection to Grace and realizes that they can't be "just friends".

A screenshot of a Spotify playlist titled "far from the tree songs". The interface is dark-themed. At the top left is a small album cover icon. To its right is the playlist title "far from the tree songs" in white. Further right is a green "PLAY" button and a three-dot menu icon. Below the header is a table of songs with columns for "TITLE", "ARTIST", "ALBUM", and a date column. Each row includes a heart icon on the left.

TITLE	ARTIST	ALBUM	
♥ Happiness	Little Mix	Confetti	5 days ago
♥ My Love Won't Let You Down	Little Mix	Confetti	an hour ago
♥ if u love me	Nessa Barrett	if u love me	an hour ago
♥ Scared of Happy	Fifth Harmony	7/27 (Deluxe)	an hour ago
♥ you broke me first	Tate McRae	you broke me first	an hour ago
♥ Sweet Melody	Little Mix	Sweet Melody	an hour ago
♥ Sour Strawberry	Caroline Manning	Sour Strawberry	an hour ago
♥ Just Friends	Audrey Mika	Just Friends	an hour ago

