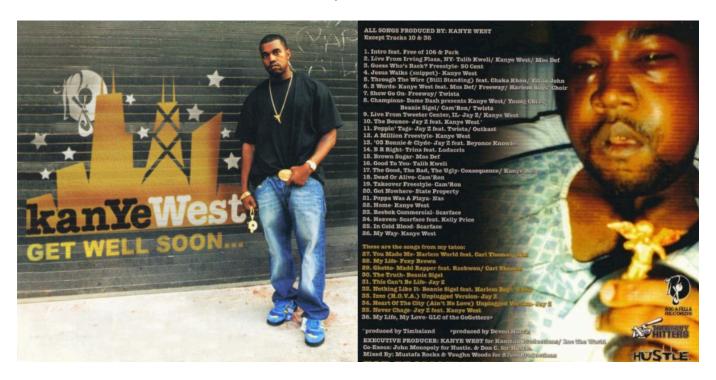


A JOURNAL OF THE SOCIETY FOR MUSIC THEORY

## MTO 29.2 Examples: Tatar, Injury, Affirmation, and the Disability Masquerade in Ye's "Through the Wire"

(Note: audio, video, and other interactive examples are only available online) https://www.mtosmt.org/issues/mto.23.29.2/mto.23.29.2.tatar.html

**Example 1.** Front and back covers of Ye's mixtape, *Get Well Soon...* (2002). "Through the Wire" is listed as track 5, where it is labeled "Through the Wire (Still Standing) feat. Chaka Khan/Elton John."



**Example 2.** Screenshots from the video clip for the 2003 version of "Through the Wire." Timestamps for the images left-to-right down the collage: 0:02, 0:39, 0:45, 0:53, 1:40, and 2:34.



**Example 3.** Formal outline of "Through the Wire." As the 2002 and 2003 versions are structurally identical with one another, their respective formal sections can be indicated using a single timestamp (+/- approximately 1 second)

Timestamp	Section	Beginning line
0:00	Chorus 1 / Ad-lib 1	Yo, Gee, they can't stop me from rapping, can they?
0:35	Verse 1	I drink a Boost for breakfast
1:21	Chorus 2 / Ad-lib 2	I really apologize for everything right now
1:50	Verse 2	What if somebody from the Chi' that was ill got a deal
3:00	Chorus 3 / Ad-lib 3	Y'know what I'm sayin'?

**Example 4.** Lyrics of the first verse as excerpted in Audio Example 5, with changes between the two versions marked in bold

Original 2002 Recording	Differences in the 2003 Version
<ul> <li>How can you console my mom or give her light support</li> <li>when you're tellin' her her son's on life support?</li> <li>And just imagine how my girl feel</li> <li>On the plane scared as hell that her guy look like Emmett Till</li> <li>She was with me before the deal, she'd been</li> </ul>	How <b>do</b> you console my mom or give her light support Tellin' her her son's on life support?
tryna be mine She a Delta, so she'd been throwin' that Dynasty sign No use me tryna be lyin', I been tryna be signed Tryna be a millionaire, how I used two lifelines	
<ul> <li>In the same hospital where Big and Tupac died</li> <li>The doctor said I had blood clots, but I ain't Jamaican, man</li> <li>Story on <i>MTV</i> and I ain't tryna make a band</li> <li>I swear, this right here: history in the makin', man</li> </ul>	In the same hospital where <b>Biggie Smalls</b> died

**Example 5.** Transcription of Chaka Khan's chorus as it appears in the opening measures of "Through the Wire." Note that this excerpt is approximately four semitones higher than the original excerpt heard in Audio Example 12

