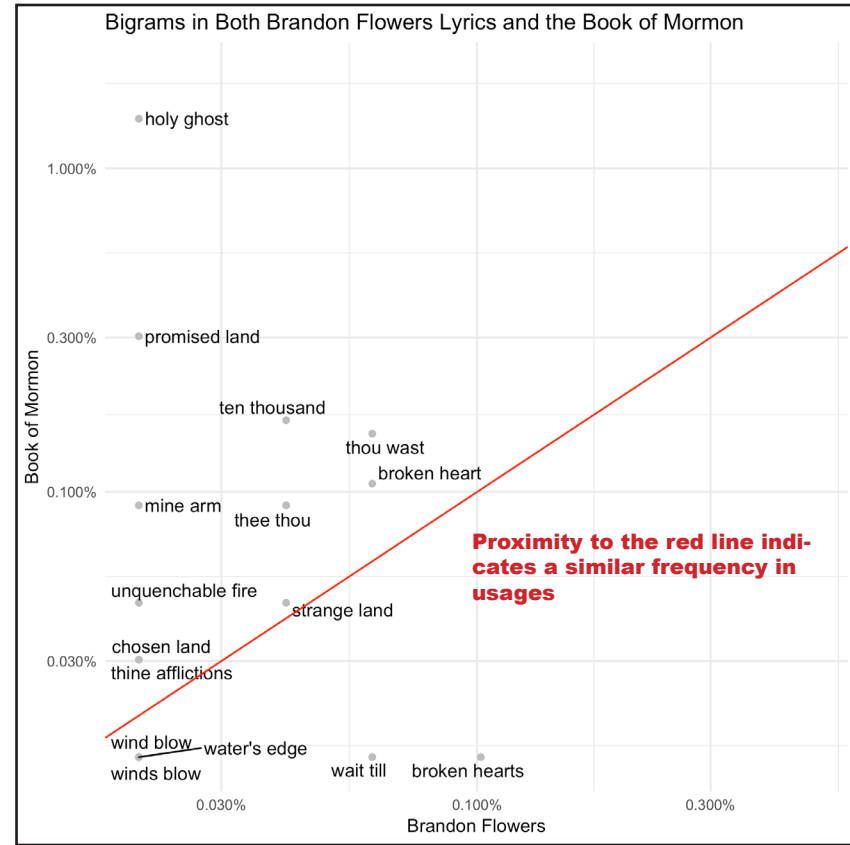


Sound, Scripture & Space

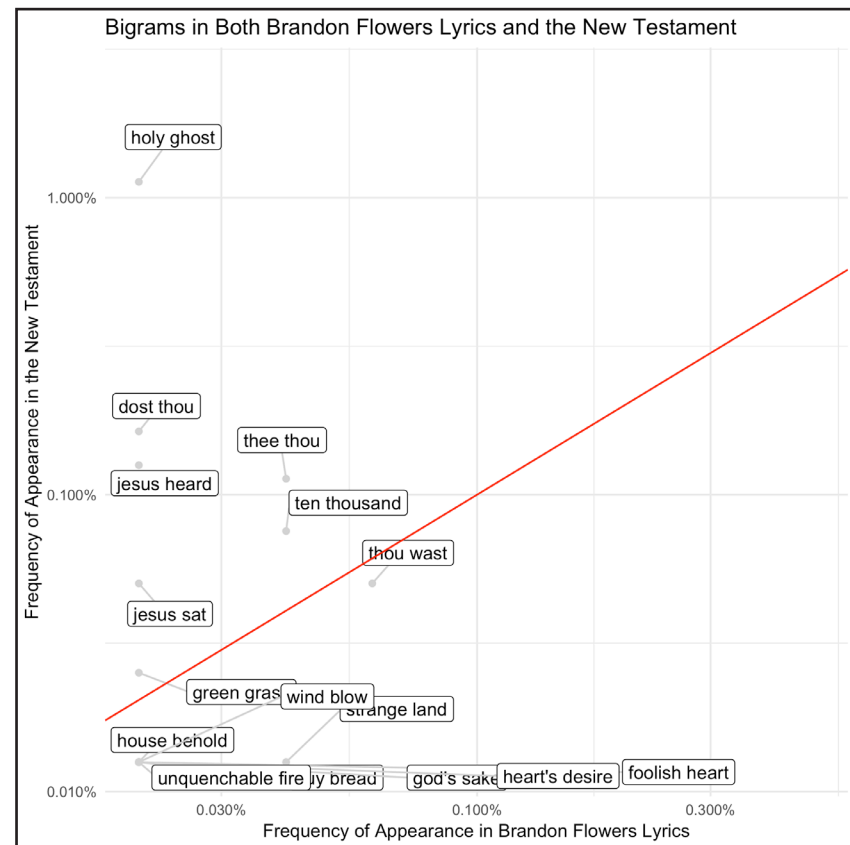
Visualizing the Music of Brandon Flowers

By Katie Olson



Song & Scripture: The Book of Mormon

Flowers and the Book of Mormon talk about a “strange land” with a very similar frequency. This makes sense with Flowers’s experiences growing up in the middle of the desert, not unlike Nephi and his brothers.

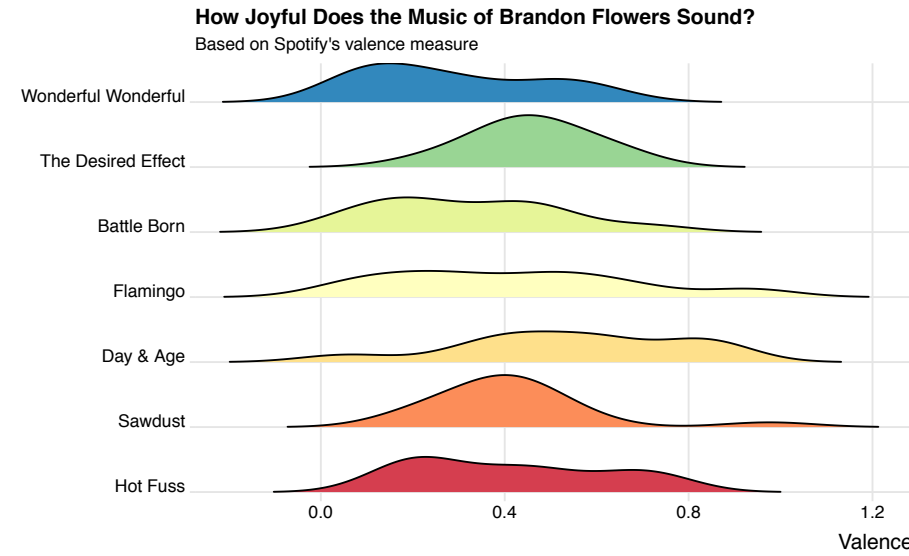


Song & Scripture: The New Testament

My favorite data point here is Brandon Flowers’s usage of “holy ghost” and how he used “thou wast” more than the New Testament. Here, we see two phrases about Jesus hearing and sitting. These come from the song “The Call” in which passages from the book of Matthew are directly quoted at the beginning of the song.

That They Might have Joy

The story this figure shows is what many critics and fans say: Nothing is quite like Hot Fuss. The Desired Effect is the most unique of the set, similar to Sawdust, which has the b-sides and rare songs from the early Killers days. Flamingo, Flowers’s other solo album, spans the widest range of emotions.



What Places Get a Shout-Out?

This idea of promised lands and strange lands also carries over to places that are mentioned in the songs. The Killers have always spoken much of the origin city: Las Vegas. But it’s not only Vegas that gets mentioned. Many of the songs are grounded in place. Naturally, Las Vegas is still the biggest player, obscuring Henderson, which has the second highest number of mentions at 3. My favorite part about this is that it shows the random mention of North Dakota on the Sawdust album. It’s said, “We ended up in North Dakota,”

