



Rhetorical Grammar in Fiction and Non-Fiction

An excerpt from Barack Obama's speech at the MLK Memorial Dedication in Washington D.C. on October 16, 2011

And finally, there are the multitudes of men and women whose names never appear in the history books -- those who marched and those who sang, those who sat in and those who stood firm, those who organized and those who mobilized -- all those men and women who through countless acts of quiet heroism helped bring about changes few thought were even possible. "By the thousands," said Dr. King, "faceless, anonymous, relentless young people, black and white...have taken our whole nation back to those great wells of democracy which were dug deep by the founding fathers in the formulation of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence." To those men and women, to those foot soldiers for justice, know that this monument is yours, as well.

An excerpt from Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*- Atticus is cross examining Mr. Ewell about why he failed to retrieve a doctor for his injured daughter. This book was written in 1960.

"Mr. Ewell," Atticus began, "folks were doing a lot of running that night. Let's see, you say you ran to the house, you ran to the window, you ran inside, you ran to Mayella, you ran for Mr. Tate. Did you, during all of this running, run for a doctor?"