FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN "LIKE THE WAY IT BE" SONG BY SOUND OF A MIRROR

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ABSTRACT

This study is entitled Figurative Language in "Like The Way It Be" song by Sound of A Mirror. This study aimed to analyzed the types of figurative language found in the song lyrics. This study used the theory proposed by Perrine (1997) to conduct this study. Qualitative method was employed in this study. Several steps done were collecting the data, such as downloading the song lyric from the internet, listening the song and read the lyric intensively to find out the figurative, and nothing the type of figurative found. The data found then analyzed and presented descriptively based on the theory. The analysis of the data identified six types of figurative language. The data found involved 1 simile, 2 metaphor, 1 apostrophe, 1 paradox, 1 symbol, 1 hyperbole, 1 irony. These findings are significant because they reveal how the artist employs various figurative devices to convey deeper meanings, emotions, and themes within the lyrics. Figurative language adds layers of interpretation, enriching the listener's experience by encouraging them to think beyond the literal meanings of the words. Additionally, the presence of diverse figurative elements reflects the complexity and creativity of the song's composition, showcasing the songwriter's skill in using language to evoke imagery and provoke thought. This analysis not only enhances our understanding of the song's artistic depth but also demonstrates the importance of figurative language in music as a form of expression.

Keywords: Figurative Language, Language, Sound of a Mirror

I. Introduction

Language is essential for conveying messages to humans. According to Wallek and Waren in Adiputra (1946) language consist of sounds, words, and patterns that people use to think and express emotions, both explicitly and implicitly. To fully comprehend a language and it used within a particular social context, one must have a broad understanding of it. Communication, whether spoken or written, is crucial for fulfilling our needs in life. Spoken

language, in particular, allow for direct communication through words, accompanied by tone and body language.

Figurative language is a literary tool used to convey meaning. According to (Kreidler, 1998), language serves as a symbol can take the form of spoken words, written text, or hand signs. Figurative language includes various types such as metaphors, personification, simile, and hyperbole. These device help lighten the atmosphere and ensure that the audience clearly understands the message. Specifically, hyperbole expressions can be powerful tools for conveying messages in song lyrics. The meaning expressed through words allows individuals to convey their emotions. However, if we don't fully grasp the lyric of a song, especially when figurative language is involved, it can lead dissatisfaction. Many people enjoy a song simply for its music or because they like the singer, often overlooking the meaning of the lyrics. Yet, understanding the lyrics is crucial for fully comprehending the song's message. This study focuses on songs created by a single songwriter who embeds deep meanings into the lyrics, aiming to engage listeners and help them grasp the intended message.

Many researchers were conducted previously on figurative language in song lyrics, yet they each examine different artist and employ various theoretical frameworks. The three articles provide detailed analyses of figurative language in song lyrics, each utilizing different theoretical frameworks and methodologies to explore the expressive power of language in music. Swarniti (2022) examined Adele's "Easy On Me," applying Miller and Greenberg's theory of figurative language to categorize and analyze the lyrics, finding a variety of figurative elements, with symbols being the most frequent. Her study highlights how the song uses figurative language to create vivid imagery and evoke emotions. In contrast, Yusnitasari (2022) focused on the song "You Are My Sunshine" by Anne Murray, employing a qualitative descriptive method to identify and classify the types of figurative language in the lyrics, emphasizing the role these elements play in shaping the song's emotional tone. Lastly, Simatupang, Jayantini, and Resen (2023) analyzed Ariana Grande's lyrics, using a combination of Knickerbocker and Reninger's theory on figurative language and Leech's theory on meaning to not only identify the types of figurative language but also interpret their meanings within the context of the lyrics. While all three studies share a common focus on exploring how figurative language enhances the emotional and imaginative depth of song lyrics, they differ in their theoretical approaches Swarniti using Miller and Greenberg, Yusnitasari employing a general qualitative method, and Simatupang et al. combining theories by Knickerbocker, Reninger, and Leech.

II. Methods

The source of data for this study was the song lyrics of "Like The Way It Be" by Sound of a Miroor. This research is qualitative, specifically utilizing a descriptive qualitative method.This study aimed to analyze the different types of figurative language present in the song

lyrics. This study Data collection involved gathering the lyrics from the internet, transcribing them, and identifying figurative language within the song. The analysis applied Perrine's theory of figurative language, which categorized figurative language into six types : simile, apostrophe, paradox, symbol, hyperbole, and irony. The collected data were systematically reviewed and evaluated using document analysis, as outlined by Gleen Bowen (2009). Perrine's theory of figurative language was chosen for this study because it offers a structured and well-established approach to identifying and classifying different forms of figurative language in literary texts. The theory is particularly effective for analyzing song lyrics, where figurative language often plays a key role in conveying emotions, themes, and deeper meanings. Document analysis, as outlined by Gleen Bowen (2009), was crucial in this process. This method allowed for a systematic review of the song lyrics, treating the lyrics as a document to be interpreted. Through document analysis, the study was able to objectively evaluate the song's use of figurative language, following a step-by-step process of coding and categorizing the data. The method also facilitated the identification of patterns and themes within the lyrics, which were then connected to the figurative devices outlined by Perrine's theory. This combination of Perrine's theoretical framework and document analysis ensured a thorough and rigorous examination of the figurative language in the song.

III. Findings and Discussion

The purpose of this study was to identify the types of figurative language present in the song lyrics of "Like The Way It Be" by Sound of a Mirror, using the theory proposed by Perrine (1977).

Simile

According to Perrine (1977:61), a simile is a comparison between two fundamentally different things, based on a similarity in one aspect. It uses connecting words like "like" and "as" to highlight the resemblance.

Data 1
just let it flow, like the way it be
("Like The Way It Be" line 17)

The sentence above can be categorized as simile because the phrase "like the way it be" directly compares "let it flow" to "the way it be." The use of the word "like" establishes this as a simile. By comparing the flow (likely emotions, events, or life itself) to "the way it be." The lyricist invokes a sense of naturalness and ease, suggesting that things should progress in a natural, unforced manner.

Metaphor

According by Perrine (1977:61), metaphor is also figurative language. Metaphor is a type of analogy that directly compares two things, and it is somewhat similar to a simile.

Data 2
hey you're my soul
("Like The Way It Be" line 5)

The sentence above can be categorized as metaphor because this metaphor equates the person to the speaker's soul, implying that they are an essential, integral part of the speaker's being and existence. In "hey you're my soul." The speaker identifies the other person with their soul, suggesting that this person embodies qualities or plays a role that is deeply integral to the speaker's existence, similar to how a soul is essential to a person's being. The metaphor "hey, you're my soul" suggests that the person being addressed is essential to the speaker, much like a soul is integral to life and identity. It emphasizes a deep emotional connection, where the individual is seen as fundamental to the speaker's existence. In a broader context, such metaphors often appear in love songs or poetry, enhancing themes of devotion and elevating the person's role from a mere partner to someone integral to the speaker's emotional and spiritual well-being.

Data 3
brought me into your heaven
(Like The Way It Be" line 19)

The sentence above is categorized as metaphor because this metaphor suggests that the person has created a perfect, blissful state for the speaker, akin to heaven, indicating immense happiness and peace brought by their presence. In "brought me into your heaven." the speaker identifies the experience created by the person with heaven, suggesting that this experience embodies qualities or creates a state of joy and bluss that one might associate with heaven.

Apostrophe

According to Perrine (1977:65) apostrophe is typically a type of figurative language that involves addressing someone who is absent or something as if they were present and captable of responding. It's a way of speaking to an absent person or entity as if they were there and could react to what is being said.

Data 4
Oh my destiny, how are you now?

hey you're my soul
(Like The Way It Be" line 5)

The sentence above can be categorized as a apostrophe because these lines address "destiny" and "soul" directly. Destiny is an abstract concepts, and the soul, while part of a person, is often treated as an abstract or spiritual entity. The speaker addresses these nonhuman entities as though they can hear and respond.

Paradox

According to Perrine (1977:101) paradox is a part of figurative of speech that contain a statement with contrary ideas or conflicting expression to what is expected in the situation and can lead to illogical and unacceptable conclusion.

Data 5
one thing i tell to you, let this heart always with you
(Like The Way It Be" line 16)

The sentence above is categorized as a paradox because at first glance, the line "let this heart always with you" seems contradictory because, in a literal sense, a heart cannot always be with someone physically. The heart is a vital organ that remains within one's body, so the idea of it being with someone else all the time appears paradoxical. "let this heart always with you" initially contradicts physical reality because a heart cannot physically be with another person all the time.

Symbol

According to Perrine (1977:82) a symbol simply signifies that something is being used to represent or convey the meaning of something else.

Data 6
one thing i tell to you, let this "heart" always with you
(Like The Way It Be" line 16)

The sentence above is categorized as a symbol because the "heart" symbolizes loce, passion, emotional connection. It represents the core of the speaker's feelings and their desire for an enduring emotional bond with the other person. The speaker is expressing a desire for their emotional essence, symbolized by the heart, to remain with the other person perpetually.

Irony

According to Perrine (1977:103) is a part of figurative language of speech that contains the statement by expressing with the language which was normally related to opposite one and aims to create humorous or emphatic effect.

Data 7
tell me that you always loving me
i want you to be mine forever cause you always be in my heart
hey, please watch over me
(Like The Way It Be" line 10)

The sentence above can be categorized as a irony because the speaker expresses a deep longing for a positive and permanent Relationship, evident in lines like "i want you to be mine forever" and "cause you always be in my heart." The speaker's repetitive requests for reassurance ("tell me that you always loving me" and "hey, please watch over me") suggesr insecurity and doubt about the stability of the relationship. This discrepancy between the hopeful statments and the underlying insecurity created situational irony.

Hyperbole

According to Perrine (1977:102) hyperbole is a part of figurative of speech that contain the exaggerated statement in explaining something better, to be bigger, or even worse than usual.

Data 8
Brought me into your heaven
(Like The Way It Be" line 19)

The sentence above is categorized as hyperbole because the term "heaven" usually denotes a perfect, blissful state. If the reality of the realtionship is far from perfect, the refering to it as "heaven" could be ironic, highlighting the gap between the idealized vision and the true nature of the realtionship.

This phrase is a hyperbole because it exaggerates the effect that being with the loved one has on the speaker, likening it to being in heaven, which implies an ideal or perfect state that is beyond ordinary human experience. This exaggeration emphasizes the profound positive impact the loved one has on the speaker's life.

IV. Conclusion

Based on the results of this research, it can be concluded that the types of figurative language that found in this song lyrics can be classified into six out of 12 types namely, simile, metaphor, apostrophe, paradox, symbol, and hyperbole. There was 1 datum of simile, 2 data of metaphor, 1 datum of apostrophe, 1 datum of paradox, 1 datum of symbol, and 1 datum of hyperbole. The most predominant type of figurative language found in the selected data was metaphor. Based on the analysis results, this song lyric contains numerous instance of figurative language. This suggests that the lyric uses figurative language to express the feelings or ideas in a creative and imaginative way. In other words, the lyric aims to evoke a vivid image and elicit emotions.

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