

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The background of the study

Language is a tool used by people for communicating with other people in their daily life. People need a language to communicate, interact and get information from other people. Nowadays, people can interact and speak with people through song. Through a song someone can convey his voice to many people, so people can understand his feelings from the song, generally a lot of songs can express our feelings, especially the song with theme of love, politics, social, etc.

Song is a part of literature, According to Meyer (1997), literature is a term used to describe written text marked by careful use of language, including features such as creative metaphors, well-turned phrases, elegant syntax, rhyme, alliteration, which are aesthetically read or intended by the author to be aesthetically read and are deliberately somewhat open in interpretation. Song is the art and act of singing. Song is a combination of music and words and sung to express the thoughts and feelings. Song has two elements, such as music and lyrics.

Listening to music is a fun activity, but the listener cannot get pleasure and enjoy the song if they do not understand the figurative language, figurative language commonly found in a song. So there are some similarities between song and poem. A song definitely has a rhythm so does a poem. Rhythm is one of important thing in songs and poetry. In fact, even a form of poetry which is made

into music called a lyric poem. They can be used in songs to express the thoughts and feelings of the writer. “A music without words is poetry, but only not in the generalized sense”.

Song commonly consist of figurative language because figurative language used in the lyrics that is written well. The descriptive words of figurative language in the lyrics has a meaning in sense other than literal, even the words in the lyrics convey precise meaning. Based on reason, it makes researcher to analyze. In this research, the researcher analyzed figurative language in song lyrics of Averiana Barus. In the lyrics of the song, the songwriter usually beautified the language they used by any figurative language, so the listeners would be more enjoyable and attracted in listening the song.

Basically, figurative language is part of the semantic, as semantic leads the listeners to understand more about the true meaning in a song. When people listening a song they not only focus on the lyrics used in the song, especially if the song contains a figurative element. Usually listeners tends to listen to the music because the instruments were good. Knowing and understanding the meaning of a lyrics brings the listeners deeper into the song. One of the famous Karonese Female singer is Averiana Barus. She was born in March 29, 1987 in Delitua, Deliserdang North Sumatera. Genre of her music is pop. She is not only a singer, but also a songwriter and Karo culture activist especially in woven fabrics (kain tenun).

The writer interested to do this research because the writer and the other listener found some difficulties in understanding the meaning from the song lyrics. Songs chosen by researcher were from Averiana Barus who are Karonese singer, which songs that she sang has a very deep and meaningful lyrics in them. Karonese people still doing their cultural ceremony until now in every year which is very interesting called “Pesta Tahunan”, in this moment they are doing traditional dance, singing, big feasting party, and many cultural activities. The lyrics of the Karonese songs are typically consist of poetry, rhyming nature, and also story. It was because the songwriter used many figurative language to make her songs sounds more interesting, and aesthetic.

All of the songs by Averiana Barus has a very deep meaning. Averiana Barus is also famous because her ability to put her feelings, thoughts and her sensitivity toward songs that she sang. Therefore, the listeners somehow could feel her talking through her song lyrics. Some of her famous songs like “Lalit Dua, Ula Persoken Beluh Nami-Nami, Perbual, Korban Ate Ngena, Kena ku Kena, Gula Tualah” consist sense of belongings, beautiful diction, and figurative language. Therefore, researcher interested in analyzing the figurative language in Averiana Barus’ song. Averiana Barus song became popular around society especially in Sumatera and Java. As a singer she has to know the meaning of any lyrics she sang, therefore she could bring the listener to sing the song, and drown in the moment.

Expression and appreciation are important elements when someone sings a song. As researcher was interested in studying certain topics which involving music, researcher realized that song is not only to be listened, but also they has to be felt and understood as complete piece of art, which is including the meaning, the history, and the value.

This research used theory of figurative language by Reaske's theory because the theory support the problem of my research Reaske (1966) said that figurative language is a language which employs various figures of speech. Figurative language is a kind of language that deviate from the language use traditional or literal ways to describe the person or object. It is usually obvious whether when a writer is using figurative language or literal language. Figurative language according to Croft (2000) is a symbolic or metaphorical and meant to be taken literally. Bratfort T. Stull in his book Elements of Figurative Language, stated that figurative language is a language that avoids speaking directly or frankly about the subject under study. There were so many types of Figurative language in Averiana Barus' songs. Therefore, it is easier for researcher to identify the figurative language in her songs.

An example of Figurative Language in Averiana Barus' song titled Lalit dua

*Duri ras uga gia simanbentasen Ma Nangin La aku mbiar gelah jumpa
ras kena*

*Mesera kinpe geluhta ngasup nge aku mesayang Gelah ras kita ngasa
metua*

In these lyric it is translated to English become

*Even thorns and poisonous plants that I will go through them As long
as I can meet with you, Honey*

And even our life gets hard my love

As long as I can be with you until forever

In the lyrics we found that “*Even the thorns that I have to go
through, Ma Nangin, As long as I can meet with you*”, the song
writer mention “Thorns” as

an obstacle to meet with her lover, so it means the person in that song will
do anything as long as she can meet with him, whatever it takes.

According to Reaske (1966), *Hyperbole* is figure of speech which employs
exaggeration. So, it can put piece of lyrics above in *Hyperbole* according to
Reaske.

Metaphor, Personification, Idiom, Simile, Hyperbole, Symbol, Synecdoche,
and repetition figurative language used by performing the artist when composing
his or her songs. Figurative language has a different meaning from the words in
the lyrics, but sometimes forces the readers to make an imaginative thinking in
order to comprehend a writer’s point.

The song from the famous Karonese singer Averiana Barus to find out the
types of Figurative Language that occur in the song of Averiana Barus and the
meanings of the Figurative Language in the songs. So, the differences between this
study and another study are different object and the problem of the study.

B. The problems of the study

Based on the explanation above, the problems of the study were formulated as follow:

1. What types of Figurative Language are found in the seven songs lyric by Averiana Barus?
2. How Figurative Language used in Averiana Barus' song interpreted in the lyrics?

C. The Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this study are as follows:

1. To describe the types of Figurative Language found in the lyrics of Averiana Barus' songs.
2. To analyze and explain how Figurative Language used in Averiana Barus' song interpreted in lyrics, to show the comparison between the literal meaning and the meaning that Averiana Barus wants to express.

D. The Scope of the Study

In this study, focuses on analyze the types of figurative language such as Metaphor, Personification, Idiom, Simile, Hyperbole, Symbol Synecdoche, and repetition. However, the researcher focus on analyze the meaning of every figurative language in three songs by Averiana Barus. The researcher limits to investigate the sentence, phrase and word used in the lyrics.

E. The Significance of the Study

Theoretically, through this study, readers could enrich the knowledge about figurative language by search more resource on the similar study. Practically, for another study, this could be a reference in the future learning of Figurative Language. The researcher also hopes this research can give significance the reader especially who will understand, appreciate and enjoy Averiana Barus' songs.

