

# CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

## A. The Background of the Study

Literature is the arts of written work. Literature is commonly classified as having two majoring forms fiction and non-fiction, and two majoring techniques poetry and prose. Literature written in poetry emphasizes the aesthetic and rhythmic qualities of language such as sound and symbolism, while prose applies ordinary grammatical structure and the natural flow of speech. Literature is something that reflects society, makes us think about ourselves and our society, allows us to enjoy language and beauty, it can be didactic, and it reflects on “the human condition” Warren (1993:8).

Figurative meaning is language that uses words or expression with a meaning that is different from literal interpretation, when a writer uses literal language, he or she is simply stating the fact as they are. Figurative meaning is meaning out of the real meaning or more imaginative that encourages our imagination. The meaning of the words is influenced by the words which exist around it in sentence. There are several types of figurative meaning, they are: simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, irony, symbol, Antithesis, synecdoche, metonymy (www.wikipedia.com).

Every song has meaning in its lyrics or sentences. A composer always tries to deliver the ideas of his or her songs to the listener. Most of the people in this world like songs and enjoy the songs by listening to it by using the tape recorder, MP3, MP4, compact disc, and cassette. In listening to the songs, language is very

important because it means of communication. He or she will chooses the right words that he or she thinks can be the best to convey their thought, feeling, and experience. He or she hopes the listener will understand the meaning of the songs. A song has two meaning: literal meaning and figurative meaning. Literal meaning means corresponding exactly to the original. Figurative meaning means connotative meaning. It is concerned with the meaning of the unfamiliarword in which most word have several meaning. Figurative meaning uses figure of speech too.

Creating song lyrics is not an easy job to do. We needs imagination and figurative sense to create the lyrics of the song to make somebody listen to it, feels interested in it. One song that is recognized to have used very much using figurative is the group *Secondhand Serenade*, almost in all of their songs lyrics figurative language could be found. Since *Secondhand Serenade's* songs are very interesting to listen, it is considered important to know what actually the meaning implied within the songs. It will be useless when we listen to the songs without understanding what actually the song wants to convey to us as the listeners. That is the reason for the study to analyze it more deeply. The writer wants to analyze the figurative meaning in *Secondhand Serenade's* song lyrics. Figurative languages make the songs become interesting and many listeners enjoy the songs because they use so many kind of figurative languages to express their feelings and ideas.

Analyzing figurative language in song lyrics is important for some reasons. First, singing a song and knowing the meaning of the lyrics is better than

singing without understanding the lyrics. We can also gain some lesson learning and fruitful information when we understand the non literal meaning contained in song lyrics. Second, analyzing figurative language provides us more practices be better understand non-literal expression, Simamora(2014: 5). A song is a short piece of music with words that are sung. The words in song are called lyrics. Song is one example of literature. The language of literature usually interests people for its beauty, and song is one of literary works that mostly uses figurative language as a lyric. A song is interesting to listen and it may bring into close and fresh relation to life.

Semantics is branch of linguistics that talks about meaning in language. Considering that language is a tool to convey the meaning, it means that when we study a language and also study about the meaning. In semantics, meaning are divided into two parts, literal and non literal (figurative expression) Saeed (2004:15). Literal meaning refers to words that do not deviate from their defined meaning or words in literal expression denote what they mean according to common or dictionary usage. Non-literal meaning (figurative expression) means that there are different means from the real meaning of words.

As stated in (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/musik>) Music is an art form of which medium is sound. Its common elements are pitch (which governs melody and harmony), rhythm (and its associated concepts tempo, meter, and articulation), dynamics, and the sonic qualities of timbre and texture. Music is composed and performed for many purposes, ranging from aesthetic pleasure, religious or ceremonial purposes, or as an entertainment product for the

marketplace. Amateur musicians compose and perform music for their own pleasure, and they do not derive their income from music. Song is composition for voice performed by singing or alongside musical instruments. The lyrics (word) of song are typically of a poetic, and rhyming nature. These days there were so many good songs with beautiful lyrics sung by new comer singer. One of them is *Secondhand Serenade*. *Secondhand Serenade* is rock band, led by vocalist, pianist and guitarist John Vesely. Vesely has released four studio albums to date under the name *Secondhand Serenade*: *Awake* in 2007, *A Twist in My Story* in 2008, *Hear Me Now* in 2010, and "*Undefeated*" in 2014. The debut album use multitrack recording to create the sound of a band using technology, while the second album took a different path, using a proper band and synthesizers to establish a more accomplished sound.

## **B. The Problems of the Study**

Based on the background, the problems of the study are formulated as the following :

1. What types of figurative meaning are used in the *Secondhand Serenade's* song lyrics?
2. What type of figurative meaning is dominantly used in *Secondhand Serenade's* song lyrics?
3. Why is the dominant type used in the *Secondhand Serenade's* song lyrics?

### **C. The Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of the study are.

1. To describe types of figurative meaning used in *Secondhand Serenade's* song lyrics.
2. To describe the most dominant type of figurative Meaning used in *Secondhand Serenade's* song lyrics.
3. To reason for the use of figurative meaning in *Secondhand Serenade's* song lyrics.

### **D. The Scope of the Study**

This research studies figurative meaning applied in *Secondhand Serenade's* song lyrics. The writer chooses the song, *Secondhand Serenade's* song lyrics. It is taken from the best album of *Secondhand Serenade's*. There are three albums of it since 2007, 2008, 2010, consists of twelve songs. The writer focuses on the analysis of figurative meaning in *Secondhand Serenade's* song lyrics.

### **E. The Significance of the Study**

Finding of the study are expected to be relevant theoretically and practically.

1. Theoretically

The study is expected to provide benefits theoretically, at least can be useful as basic in theories of applied linguistics and be references in further studies.

## 2. Practically

The findings of the study are useful for.

1. The students who are majoring English in studying listening and meaning in sentences.
2. The researchers to develop the knowledge of figurative meaning in song lyrics.
3. The students who are interested in figurative meaning especially in song lyrics.
4. The readers to gain information about the musician and songwriter

*Secondhand Serenade.*