

AN ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN “BORN FOR THIS”, “THAT’S WHAT YOU GET” AND “THE ONLY EXCEPTION” SONGS BY PARAMORE

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Abstract

The analysis provides the study about figurative language, possible meaning and the total meaning in three songs of Paramore, “Born for This”, “That’s What You Get” and “The Only Exception”. This study tries to analyze figurative language, possible meaning and the total meaning in statement of the problem. This analysis aims to analyze the types of figurative language and possible meaning and to tell the total meaning of the Paramore songs. This analysis follows the design of qualitative method because it is related to the object of research. Qualitative description is defines as research designed to produce a low inference description of a phenomenon that draws from discourse. The result of the research of the first song is “Born for This”. This song has figurative language are ambiguity, personification, and etc. “That’s What You Get” song has ambiguity, personification, and etc. “The Only Exception” has personification, metaphor and etc. From this research the researcher concludes, in this songs have many figurative languages to make meaningful.

Keywords: Lyric, Figurative Language.

Wilfred et al (2005: 18) states literature is primarily art, it must also be affirmed that art does not exist in a vacuum. It is a creation by someone at some time in history, and it is intended to speak to other human beings about some idea or issue that has human relevance. According to Jonathan Culler (1997: 3) literary studies is not an account of the nature of literature or methods for its study (though such matters are part of theory and will be treated here), it is a body of thinking and writing whose limits are exceedingly hard to define. To understand about the society of what human being experiences in life, and features of literature follow from the willingness of readers to pay attention, to explore uncertainties, and literature is a creation by someone at some time in history, and it is intended to speak to other human beings about some idea or issue that has human relevance.

One of literature is poetry, according to Klarer (1999: 40) poetry is one of the oldest genres in literary history. Its earliest examples go back to ancient Greek literature. In spite of this long tradition, it is harder to define than any other genre. Abrams states if poetry is distinguished by a kind of parody that mimics, in a sustained way, both the elaborate form and the ceremonious style of the epic genre, but applies it to narrate at length a commonplace or trivial subject matter (1999: 47).

Mario Klarer states poetry is related to the term “lyric,” which derives etymologically from the Greek musical instrument “lyra” (“lyre” or “harp”) and points to an origin in the sphere of music (1999: 27). From that theory of Klarer, the researcher assumes if lyric is related to poetry, which derives etymologically from the Greek musical instrument “lyra” (“lyre” or “harp”) and points to an origin in the sphere of music (1999: 27). Poem or poetry with music or tone (instrument) called song. Song has many genres; there are jazz, rock, pop, *dangdut*, traditional, blues and etc. Many songs has interesting lyric that make human feel comfortable while listening. Such as song, song has lyric that read using music. There are singers or band famous in this world that has interesting lyric such as: Rihanna, Justin Bieber, Scorpions, Avenged sevenfold and etc, and one of them is Paramore.

The researcher chooses three songs of Paramore *because first* there is no the researchers who research this songs, second *that three songs* “Born for This”, “That’s What You Get” and “The Only Exception” become nomination best video clip, for “That’s What You Get” on 2008, while “Born for This” on 2009 and “The Only Exception” on 2010. The third, the researcher also chooses those songs because those songs describes about sadness, *the researcher chooses the first song is* “Born for This” because of the song tells about power to riving. The person feels there are big problem in world that attack human and makes sad all of people.

The song wants, we are ready to face a big problem and ready to born for this. The second song, the researcher chooses “That’s What You Get” because the song tells about a story a person

was always blamed by her friend. That person feels bored and wants end those problems, so makes that person feels sad every day. The last the researcher chooses “The Only Exception” because this song describes about there is a person feels if love brings sadness.

Formulation of the Problem

The background of the study above portrays the accumulated views that lead into formulation of statement of the problem below. As the result of those, statements of the problem for this study are formed as the questions in matter of:

- 1.2.1 What kinds of figurative language and possible meaning are used in “Born for This”, “That’s What You Get” and “The Only Exception” songs by Paramore?
- 1.2.2 What are the total meanings of “Born for This”, “That’s What You Get” and “The Only Exception” songs by Paramore?

Theoretical Overview

Literature has long recognized by human, literature since long ago because life contain literature. In communication, human has used communication since the Stone Age. Poem and song are literature, because has a meaning or purpose from author to reader. Human in stone ages has been knows communication is means of conversation to other. From of body language, gestures, and language as it is today. Culler states literary studies is not an account of the nature of literature or methods for its study, but it is a body of thinking and writing whose limits are exceedingly hard to define (1997: 3). According to Eagleton, literature is a kind of writing which represents an ‘organized violence committed on ordinary speech’ (1996: 2). To support that theory, Arnold (1995: 3) states if literature is commonly misunderstood as a subject only for refined sensibilities. The researcher assumes literature is commonly misunderstood as a subject only for refined sensibilities and to writing organized violence in ordinary speech is not an account of the nature of literature or methods for its study, and applied to a number of works in drama and prose fiction which have in common the sense that the human condition is essentially absurd, and that this condition can be adequately represented only in works of literature that are themselves absurd. Theory in literary studies is not an account of the nature of literature or methods for its study, but it is a part of body of the writer that has limit is very hard to define. Literature has many part, one of them of literature is lyric.

A poem or poetry has a lyric. According to Abrams lyric is any fairly short poem, consisting of the utterance by a single speaker, who expresses a state of mind or a process of perception, thought, and feeling (1999: 146). Then, Klarer states poetry is related to the term “lyric,” which derives etymologically from the Greek musical instrument “lyra” (“lyre” or “harp”) and points to an origin in the sphere of music (1999: 27). In Abrams states, lyric can used to express our feels, or to show feels to the other. Jonathan views if lyric is a fragment that needs a larger context to explain it, but assume that it has a structure of its own. Klarer also states if lyric is associated with poetry that from etymologically of Greek, which refers to a musical instrument. From that states, the researcher assumes lyric is associated with poetry that from etymologically of Greek, which refers to a musical instrument a part of the human that represent the soul of feeling, memory, and appreciation in writing, and needs a larger context to explain it, but assume that it has a structure of its own. From the lyric there is a part that name is figurative language. A lyric of poetry or song has figurative language to convey intended meaning. According to Abrams the uses of language to capture the standard meaning of the word, or standard sequences in words, in order to achieve some special meaning or effect (1999: 96). To support that theory, Little (1966:212) states that figurative language is the main force of expression in poetry and religion, use a symbols, parables and so on, convey so much more than can be conveyed by the corresponding abstract statement.

Figurative language has several form sand types, and the figure of speech that has a hidden meaning that is usually interpreted in writing. There many form use figurative language like in song or poetry. The researcher assumes from that definition figurative language is main force of expression in poetry and religion where concrete images, symbols, parables and so on convey in order to achieve some special meaning or effect. There are some part kinds of figurative language. Kinds of figurative language are ambiguity, personification, repetition, metaphor, simile and etc.

Odle in Charitrotul Asyri thesis (2013: 19) states meaning is generally conveyed though use of figurative language. Odle also give example in Robert Burn’s poem “O my love’s like a red, red rose”, Odle does not mean only that his love physically resembles a rose, but that his love has same of the same intangible characteristic that a rose has. To support that theory, Cuddon in Charitrotul thesis states if meaning is normal to distinguish between two things or relations (2013: 19). From that definition, the researcher assumes if meaning is figurative meaning is generally conveyed though, the use of figurative language that normal to distinguish between two things or relations.

Method

In this thesis, the researcher uses strategy in analyzing data to answer the problem in the statement of problem. This research uses qualitative method, because it is related in object of research. Sandelowski in Kahlke (2014: 40) states qualitative description as research designed to produce a low inference description of a phenomenon. To support that theory, Bogdan and Biklen in Resty thesis (2013: 16) states a qualitative research is descriptive, the data collected are in

the form of words or picture rather than number, they often contain quotations and try describing what particular or view of the word is like the narrative form. The data collected are in the form of words or picture rather than number, they often contain quotations and try describing what particular or view of the word is like the narrative form. In this research the researcher presents the description of figurative language, possible meaning and total meanings in Paramore's songs.

The Source of data in this study is the collection of Paramore's songs. Paramore has created almost fifty songs, but the researcher only chooses three songs because effectiveness. The four sources of data from Paramore's songs are lyrics of "Born for This", "That's What You Get" and "The Only Exception", and the data is all of figurative language that uses in songs of Paramore. The data is taken by radio, mp3, internet, hand phone and data that related to Paramore. Data that will be analyzed are kind's of figurative language by Paramore. The researcher chooses three songs by Paramore are "Born for This", "That's What You Get" and "The Only Exception". In selecting the data to be analyzed, the researcher picks up three songs of Paramore, "Born for This", "That's What You Get" and "The Only Exception". The reason the researcher chose those songs because songs of Paramore "Born for This", "That's What You Get" and "The Only Exception" become nomination best video clip, for "That's What You Get" on 2008, while "Born for This" on 2009 and "The Only Exception" on 2010.

Analysis and Findings

In this part of the study, the researcher presents an analysis of figurative language in some of Paramore's songs. The researcher is interested to select Paramore's songs because the song has lyric that contain figurative language. The great songs that contain figurative language are chosen to be analyzed and to make clear about the meaning of word or phrase or sentences which are made by author of the lyric. The researcher adds possible meaning in that figurative language that contain in lyrics.

Figurative Language and Possible Meaning in Lyric "Born for This"

Ambiguity

The lines which contain ambiguity are:

- *"With your faith you'll trigger a landslide"* (4)
- *You can't down it with your eyes* (8)
- *"You'll trigger a landslide"* (22)
- *to kill off their finite state of mind* (24)

On the line *"With your faith you'll trigger a landslide"*, the possible meaning is to tell about a person who believes that if that person uses the faith a landslide will be triggered. Landslides here do not mean ground that fall hoard to something, but landslides here mean big problem or fighting. *"You can't down it with your eyes"* means that human cannot move down with eyes because if someone moves down, that person must use feet. This line contains figurative language, which is namely ambiguity. The possible meaning of this line is that you (*object*) does not only see but also takes participation in an evocation or problem. In *"to kill off their finite state of mind"*, the possible meaning is to show a continuation of the previous line. As for the possible meaning of this line, it means that if the listener makes a problem or big problem then the listener will disturb others' happiness that is finite.

Figurative Language and Possible Meaning in Lyric "The Only Exception"

Ambiguity

The lines which contain ambiguity are:

- *"and curse of the wind"* (2)
- *"He broke his own heart and I watched"* (3)
- *"As he tried to reassemble it"* (4)
- *"Deep in my soul"* (15)
- *"That I'm content with loneliness"* (22)
- *"I've got a tight grip on reality"* (28)
- *"And I'm on my way to believing"* (35)

On the line *"and curse of the wind"* the possible meaning of this line is on the wind, it means a departure of love. On the line *"He broke his own heart and I watched"*, the possible meaning of this line is does not tell about the real thing but it tells about the heart. It means that he (daddy) does not believe on the love. As for *"As he tried to reassemble it"*, the possible meaning is to say that something that can be collected is usually an object but here the heart is something to be collected. The possible meaning of this line is that the person wants to rearrange his broken heart. In the line *"Deep in my soul"*, deep here usually attributes that it can be seen by eyes but here deep means something far within human's heart. On the line *"That I'm content with loneliness"*, it tells about something which is said to be satisfied or proud is something that we want to be real but in this context the person is satisfied by loneliness. On the line *"I've got a tight grip on reality"*, the possible meaning is that it is usually human which holds on to the real thing but here he is holding

on to reality. It means that the person believes in living the reality. As for “*And I'm on my way to believing*”, the possible meaning of the line tells that a person are learning to believe.

The Total Meaning in lyric “Born for This”

This song tells about a power to live. The person feels that there is a big problem in this world that attacks human. This song wants us to be ready to face the big problem and to be ready to be born for this problem. The line “*And where's hope when misery comes crawling*” contains a figurative language that is namely personification. It is possible to say that “comes” is usually used to attribute the action of living thing like human or animal but in this context it attributes misery or hope. The possible meaning of this line is to tell about where the place for hope and to ask for help when an anxiety or problems arises. The line “*With your faith you'll trigger a landslide*” has the possible meaning to make the person believes if you think in a wrong way, you will make landslides. “Landslides” here means a new problem or adding previous problem. As for the line “*to kill off their finite state of mind*”, the possible meaning is to show a continuation of the previous lines. It is possible to say that if you (listener) think in a wrong way, you will make a problem or big problem and you will disturb the happiness that is finite. In this sub chapter, the researcher describes total meaning of the songs. The first song is “Born for This”. This song tells that there is a person who was always down because there is a problem. In that song, there is a description that the person has a misery which is coming. After that the person would like to hope, but the author of song does not know where place to place the hope is and that person is confused. If the anxiety shows up, the anxiety will make a landslide. “Landslide” here means a new problem or adding problem to be big and you (listener) will disturb their chance to be free and enjoy the beauty of life. They cannot feel happiness again if the listener makes a problem or adds previous problem. There are many methods to enjoy life; one of the methods is that we (author and listener) have a lot of experience to be able to cope if there is a problem. As for having a little experience, human will not understand about the sweetness of life. On the other hand, if human have many experiences they will enjoy the beauty of life. It can be stated that there is a problem that you don't only see but you must take an action to solve the problem. From the statements above, it can be stated that we can add many experiences to solve the problem. If there are problems that we have known and are similar to those songs, we can enjoy the beauty of life.

This song does not put a main idea but an action that is needed to solve the problem. This song points that the listener must take an action, not only have an idea within his mind. In this song, there are several lines that are repeated. It is arranged so that the listener can understand and remember those lines easily. This song wants everyone to sing. It is possible to say that this song is the last song that the author has ever sung. This song wants everyone to gain spirit of the life. It is possible to say that the life is the last life to you. This song points out that everyone only sings and gain spirit of life.

In this song, the person has a reason to survive. The reason is that the person has a friend who helps him to survive. Friend means everything to him. It can be stated that without a friend, that person is no thing. This song also wants every time to be stopped. It means that every people can feel happy. This song wants that every second, minute, and even hour to be stopped. Many people can feel happiness in their life and this song points it out in one sentence. If you make a problem or big problem, you will reduce their actions to express and you will disturb their happiness and to be finite, (you here is listener). This song wants human to not thinking in a wrong way or to do wrong action. It is happened so that human will not reduce their actions to express and disturb their happiness and to be finite.

The Total Meaning in Lyric “That's What You Get”

This song tells that there is a person who was blamed by her friend. The author of this song feels bored. The song tells that the author is upset because the author continues to be blamed. The author was tired of the blame that is continued. This song tells that the author wants to end a problem with that trouble maker. Based of the total meaning above, it can be stated that this song describes about a quarrel in this community. There is a person (author) who was blamed by friend. That friend always uses emotion in solving any problem between them. This song describes that the person gets bored and tired because a quarrel between them. The reason why you always use emotion is to show that you can solve the problem between us. This song tells that if you use emotion to solve the problem, you will make the problem clear. On the other hand, you (trouble maker) will make a new problem or will make the problem worse. In this part of song, this line is repeated again. This repetition makes the trouble maker to be conscious or makes the listener of song to understand and remember the song easily. This song describes that person gets bored and tired. The reason the person is getting bored and tired is because the trouble maker makes accusation to her.

The repetition in this song makes the listener easy to remember the lines. This song also tells that the person has never learned from the experiences of finishing trivial problems. That person always makes wrong decision in concluding or solving the problem. The line is always repeated again to show the problem. This song wants us to make a way to be friend. “way” here means a friendship. This song wants us to be a friend and makes a new life together. The song also tells about a person that is trying to start to think. By using his thoughts that person will start against his rejection, rejection in life. The person is trying to start the problem. The person who does not know the problem becomes confused. The lyric of the song is repeated because that person wants the reader or the listener of the song to be conscious and understand the problems. The problems can be solved peacefully. In the next line, the person believes that if you (trouble maker) use emotion to solve the problem between us (author and trouble maker), surely the problem will be greater and maybe a friendship will be broken.

The Total Meaning in “The Only Exception”

The line “*and curse of the wind*” has the possible meaning in wind. It means a departure of love. On the line “*He broke his own heart and I watched*”, the possible meaning is something which can be broken is usually a real thing but here is the liver. It means that he does not believe the love. On the line “*As he tried to reassemble it*”, the possible meaning is to say smoothing that can be collected is usually an object. Heart here means prepared. The possible meaning is that daddy wants to rearrange his broken love. Based of the total meaning above, it can be stated that this song tells that his father felt broken heart with his wife and make her father did not believe in love. He (daddy) believes that love makes him sad. Then, daddy feels broken heart and he does not want to accept love when it comes back. Here, she (his daughter) also does not believe in love since his parents have divorced. Later, there is a person who comes that makes her believe to love. So, she tells if you are the only exception. Those songs are repeated again because it means that it makes that person sure and gain spirit if love comes to her. It is happened to make the listener easy to remember the line.

She realized that his heart was too far away from love. She and his loved ones were trying to make a change (she here is her daughter). Because of all this, she feels comfortable in her zone without a love and feels satisfied with his loneliness. This line was repeated again to make sure that you are the only exception for her and also to make the listener remember the line easily. This is created as the result of experience and perception of herself that love is just the beginning of the pain. As the time goes, she and his loved ones want to say that they were getting married. Every morning when her husband went to work, she always thought that this is just a dream but the loved ones always have a reason to prove that this was not a dream. Those songs are repeated again in order to make that person sure and gain spirit that love comes to her. It is created to make the listener remember the line easily.

The researcher chooses three songs of Paramore because those songs have same content, namely sadness. The first song, “Born for This”, describes that there is a person who is trying to wake up from a big problem. There are some problems that are described in those songs that make him down because a friend makes the person can wake up from problem. The second song, “That’s What You Get”, describes that there is a person who has a problem with her friend in community. The trouble is always blamed to that person so it makes that person sad. This song tells that if you (trouble maker) use emotion to solve the problem, you will make new problem or add previous problem. The last song of this research, that is “The Only Exception”, also tells about sadness because this song describes that there is a girl who has a parent that is divorced. That girl does not believe in love. That girl believes that love makes sadness. After that, the girl found someone who makes her fall in love. Finally she believes to love someone again.

Conclusion

In this sub chapter, the researcher found several of figurative language which contain in songs. The first song is “Born for This”. The types of figurative language that researcher found in the song are: Ambiguity, Personification, Repetition, Metaphor and Simile. The second song is “That’s What You Get”. The types of figurative language found in the song are: personification, ambiguity, repetition, antithesis and understatement. The last song is “The Only Exception”. Figurative language was found in this song are Ambiguity, Metaphor, Personification and Repetition.

Conclusion of Total Meaning of Songs

In this sub chapter, the researcher describes total meaning of the songs. The first song is “Born for This”. This song tells that there is a person who was always down because there is a problem. In that song, there is a description that the person has a misery which is coming. After that the person would like to hope, but the author of song does not know where place to place the hope is and that person is confused, and this song wants human to not thinking in a wrong way or to do wrong action. It is happened so that human will not reduce their actions to express and disturb their happiness and to be finite.

The second song is “That’s What You Get”, the total meaning of this song describe about a quarrel in this community. This song describes that the person gets bored and tired because a quarrel between them. The reason why you always use emotion is to show that you can solve the problem between us. This song tells that if you use emotion to solve the problem, you will make the problem clear. This song wants us to be a friend and makes a new life together. The song also tells about a person that is trying to start to think. By using his thoughts that person will start against his rejection, rejection in life. The person believes that if you (trouble maker) use emotion to solve the problem between us (author and trouble maker), surely the problem will be greater and maybe a friendship will be broken.

In this song The “Only Exception”, this song tells that his father felt broken heart with his wife and make her father did not believe in love and daddy feels broken heart and he does not want to accept love when it comes back. That girl does not believe in love. That girl believes that love makes sadness. After that, the girl found someone who makes her fall in love. Finally she believes to love someone again.

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