

**ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE USED IN THE SONG LYRICS OF
LADY GAGA’S ALBUM**

“THE FAME”

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Abstrak

Makalah ini berjudul “Analysis of Figurative Language Used In The Song Lyrics of Lady Gaga’s Album “The Fame”. Ada dua tujuan dari penulisan yaitu, pertama adalah untuk mengidentifikasi jenis-jenis bahasa figurative yang terdapat dalam lirik lagu. Yang kedua adalah bertujuan untuk menganalisis makna dari bahasa figurative yang disampaikan dalam lirik lagu Lady Gaga. Data diambil dari album lagu Lady Gaga yang berjudul “The Fame”. Album ini dirilis pada tahun 2008. Teori-teori yang digunakan dalam menganalisis tulisan ini yaitu, pertama adalah teori yang diusulkan oleh K.L Knickerbocker & H.Williard Reninger (1963) yang mengusulkan jenis-jenis bahasa figuratif seperti simile, metaphor, personification, synecdoche, metonymy, hyperbole, irony, paradox, dead metaphor, dan allusion. Teori kedua diusulkan oleh Leech (1974) yang mengusulkan makna-makna bahasa figurative yaitu stylistic meaning, affective meaning, reflective meaning, locative meaning, dan thematic meaning. Hasil penulisan ini menunjukkan bahwa jenis bahasa figuratif yang diusulkan oleh K.L Knickerbocker & H.Williard Reninger (1963) yang digunakan pada lirik-lirik lagu dalam album ini adalah hyperbole dan metaphor. Selain itu hasil juga menunjukkan makna-makna bahasa figuratif yang diusulkan oleh Leech (1974) yang terdapat pada album lagu ini adalah connotative meaning. Mereka adalah jenis-jenis dan makna bahasa figuratif yang ditemukan dalam beberapa lirik lagu pada album ini.

Kata kunci: Bahasa Figuratif, Hiperbola, Makna Konotasi

1. Background

A song is a composition of voice or voices, performed by a singer or by musical instruments. The song writer in the fame album is Lady Gaga herself. There are many messages delivered in her songs and the language that is used to convey the messages in the song is figurative language, so the listener will be interested in listening to the song to obtain the purpose and the messages delivered in the song. Most of the song lyrics in her song use figurative language to convey the ideas as well as to make the effect of beauty so that the language or the words in the song are more interesting. Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963:366) stated that figurative languages are images used in particular way to explore the less known through the known. It can be a special repetition, arrangement or omission of words with literal meaning or a phrase with a specialized meaning not based on the literal meaning of the words in it. Figurative language will give more meaning to the words, beautify them, and emphasize their meaning.

Due to the interest in the study of figurative language, this study focuses on figurative languages which are used mainly in the song lyrics of Lady Gaga. Those beautiful lyrics or those figurative languages would be useless if the listeners could not fully understand what the true meaning behind those song lyrics. In order to understand the meaning, it is important to learn how to interpret figurative language. Therefore, it is very interesting to analyze the figurative language that is found within the song lyrics more deeply.

2. Problems of The Study

In this research, there are two major problems. The problems can be formulated as follows:

1. What kinds of figurative language are used in the song lyrics of Lady Gaga's album "The Fame"?

2. What meanings of figurative languages are found in the song lyrics of Lady Gaga's album "The Fame"?

3. Research Method

This section shows the method to solve the problems. There are three points of discussion, they are: Data source, Method and Technique of Collecting Data, Method and Technique of Analyzing Data.

4. The Analysis of Figurative Language

Song lyric : Love Game intuition (4)

Play the cards with Spades to start (5)

Analysis : The sentence in line 5 contains dead metaphor. Dead metaphor is a metaphor which has lost its figurative meaning through endless use. (Knickerbocker and Reninger; 1963 : 368). The sentence is called dead metaphor because it give more stress to the thing which is talked about. The sentence "*Play the cards with Spades to start*" shows the specific part of the card, which becomes the central part of the topic. The author seems to be playing on the original meaning of a spade, a shovel with which she could dig into susceptible man's heart. Thus, she says "*love game intuition*" she wants to get inside his heart so she could get with him.

Song lyric : I'll play the one that's on his heart (7)

Analysis : The sentence in line 7 contains hyperbole expression. Hyperbole is a figure of an exaggeration used for special effect. (Knickerbocker and Reninger; 1963 : 367) This is showed by "*play the one on his heart*".

Imagine there are no people in the world who can play spades card in someone's heart in their real world. The word "play" is usually used for daily activities or for joking. Like playing football, playing video game, playing card, and etc. the author uses the word "play" to strengthen the lyric. On other hand, the sentence "*play the one that's on his heart*" could mean make someone fall in love.

The hyperbolic expression of this lyric contained of connotative meaning. As stated by Leech (1974: 14), connotative meaning cannot be translated literally, everyone will translate it differently depends on their culture, background, education, etc. we can see that no human in real world can play the cards in someone's heart. It is impossible to do, and the meaning was also seems hard to described logically.

Song lyric : He can't read my poker face (11)

Analysis : This sentence contains dead metaphor because it gives more stress to the thing which is talked about (Knickerbocker and Reninger, 1963; 368). In the sentence "*He can't read my poker face*" shows the specific part of the poker face, which becomes the central part of the topic. Poker face may mean that a face without expression, so how we can read the face without expression? It is unacceptable in our mind. The author here wants to show the expression of this sentence which may mean that we cannot understand the purpose that they have in their empty mind.

It seems that the sentence contains beautiful words which can be seen from *He can't read my poker face*, in the first paragraph, we can conclude that clearly it is a connotative meaning because it is unacceptable in our mind or simply illogical.

Song Lyric : I'm not lying; I'm just stunnin' with my love-glue-gunning (20)

Analysis : In line 20, hyperbole is used in this sentence. Hyperbole is a figure of

an exaggeration used for special effect. (Knickerbocker and Reninger; 1963 : 367). The sentence that shows hyperbole is “*with my love-glue-gunning*”, as we know that love does not have a glue, but it has the characteristic as glue. The sentence in the song is greatly exaggerated. The author here wants to show the expression of this sentence which can mean that she does not lie with her feelings; she is amazing with its love. She wants to stick with her love

This hyperbolic expression contains connotative meaning. The hyperbole can be translated into many forms, as stated by Leech that connotative meaning is indeterminate and open in the same way as our knowledge and belief about the universe are open ended.

5. Conclusion

From the types of figurative language found in the lyric of the Fame Album, we can conclude that there are ten types found in Lady Gaga songs. Hyperbole and metaphor are the most frequent figurative language which appear and are used in that album.

Most of the meanings of the figurative languages found in the songs are classified into connotative meaning because they cannot be translated literally and everyone will often interpret them differently depending on many factors. Only allusion which is stated to have stylistic meaning since this type can be translated literally but not everyone understands the meaning.

6. Table

No	Type of Figurative Language	Lyrics in the Fame Album
1.	Simile	2
2.	Metaphor	11
3.	Personification	1
4.	Synecdoche	1
5.	Metonymy	2
6.	Hyperbole	15
7.	Irony	1
8.	Dead Metaphor	6
9.	Allusion	1
10.	Paradox	0
11.	Euphemism	0

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