

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter introduces background of the study, focus of the study, purpose of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study and definition of key terms related to this study.

A. Background of the Study

Figurative language is defined as language that use words or idioms that have a meaning that differs from the literal meaning. Figurative language uses a few words that go beyond their ordinary meaning. Figurative language is the opposite of literal language. Literal language always conveys the denotative or explicit meanings intended, but figurative language makes use of a variety of figures of speech to express meaning in creative and imaginative ways. It makes figurative meaning difficult to recognize because figurative language has connotative or implicit meanings that we could not find as denotative meanings in the dictionary. To understand what figurative language means, the readers must use his/her imagination to guess what the words say or what the phrases signify.

Figurative language can be used in any shape of communication, one of them is music. Music is an art of sound in time that expresses thoughts and emotions in significant forms through the elements of rhythm, melody, harmony, and color. It can be a medium in which people can express what they need to say by using their own style, as an example to specific feeling and thought. Whether it was a human voice that called the song, or the sound of various musical instruments. Music has

a strong influence on individuals. It can boost memory, build work endurance, lighten your mood, reduce anxiety and depression, prevent fatigue and help you exercise more effectively.

Music has been around for centuries, and its popularity is growing in today's society. People began to play musical instruments with one another as new instruments were invented over time. As a result, even more complex and sophisticated sounds have been developed. The rhythms, speed, beat, and other elements evolved in tandem with the culture. As a consequence, music has become a well-known cultural phenomenon. Traditional to international music exists in a variety of forms. Thus, music can be classified into a multitude of genres, including pop music, hip hop, jazz, R&B, rock and roll, and many others.

Movies can also include musical elements. The soundtrack is a collection of music that is used in movies or television shows. The soundtrack is a recording of the sound effects and music from a movie. Some soundtracks are specifically composed and recorded for a movie, while others are composed of many songs by different musicians. The soundtrack has several purposes. Among other things, supporting shape emotional responses, creating rhythm in scenes and segments, and commenting on actions. Music is often an important part of the experience of a scene and, in some cases, can be as iconic as the film itself. There are several movies using figurative language in their soundtracks. "The Greatest Showman" soundtrack is one of them.

The Greatest Showman is an American musical drama released in the United States on December 20, 2017 by 20th Century Fox. This movie was directed by Michael Gracey in his directorial debut, written by Jenny Bicks and Bill Condon and starring Hugh Jackman, Zac Efron, Michelle Williams, Rebecca Ferguson, Zendaya, and Keala Settle.

This movie is inspired by the story of how Phineas Taylor Barnum created Barnum's American Museum and the lives of its famous exhibits. The film follows a man named Barnum, a 19th-century entertainer from a modest family who is determined to achieve his goals. Barnum is motivated to be a successful man who is not afraid of society. This film tells the story of how the main character, Barnum, strove to create circus performances that started from scratch and eventually became the world's most celebrated sensation. The movie was a huge success at the box office. The film's success is resulting in a sequel.

All of the characters in 'The Greatest Showman' sing because it is a musical drama film. Benj Pasek and Justin Paul, who worked together on "La La Land," have written nine original songs for this film, all of which are masterpieces. 'This is Me,' a song from The Greatest Showman album, was released as a promotional tune for the film in December 2017 and has since been a massive hit for singer Keala Settle, with over 30 million views on YouTube. It was nominated for an Academy Award and won a Golden Globe for Best Original Song.

The study about figurative language was performed by reviewing a few applicable thesis, particularly written by some students. The writer found the thesis by Ayun

Lestari (2021) from Raden Intan State Islamic University Lampung through her research with title “An Analysis of Ambiguity in Aladdin Movie Soundtrack”, Unpris Yastanti and Anggun Dwi Setiawati (2018) from STIBA Nusa Mandiri through their research with title “Ambiguity in Soundtrack Songs Lyric of Moana Movie”, Mirotin Eka Wahyuningsih (2021) from UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya through her research with title “Perfectionism in “Perfect Slumber Party,” A Soundtrack of Sofia the First: The Big Sleepover”, Fanny Aryanti Santoso (2021) from University of Sanata Dharma Yogyakarta through her research with title “The Indonesian Translation of ‘Let It Go’ Song: A Study of Methods and Musical Devices”, Wati Purnama Sari (2021) from Gunadarma University through her research with title “Kinds of Figurative Language in Three Songs of Disney Movies Original Soundtrack” and Intan Paradita Kharisma Dewi (2017) from University of Muhammadiyah Malang through her research with title “An Analysis of Figurative Language Found in ‘Inside Out’ Movie”.

Based on previous research, several previous studies on soundtracks investigated ambiguity, perfectionism, and translation in soundtracks, but researchers aimed to investigate figurative language in movie soundtracks in this study. Furthermore, there have been numerous studies on figurative language, but the researcher employs Perrine's figurative language theory in this study. The researcher analyzes the figurative language found in the lyrics of ‘The Greatest Showman’ movie soundtrack. The researcher also interested in understanding what the meaning of the figurative expressions contained in the lyrics of this movie's soundtrack.

B. Focus of the Study

Based on the context of study above, the researcher formulated the focus of the study as follows:

1. What kinds of figurative language are found in the lyrics of 'The Greatest Showman' movie soundtrack?
2. What are the connotative meanings of the figurative language used in the lyrics of 'The Greatest Showman' movie soundtrack?

C. Purpose of the Study

Based on the focus of the study above, the purpose of the research will be focused on:

1. To analyze the types of figurative language that are found in the lyrics of 'The Greatest Showman' movie soundtrack.
2. To understand the connotative meaning of figurative language that are found in the lyrics of 'The Greatest Showman' movie soundtrack.

D. Significance of the Study

The result of this study is expected can give benefit to students and the other researchers who want to build up the understanding on figurative languages.

1. Students

This study is expected to help students in English departments who are doing literary analysis. The study's results will help the students to better understand figurative language.

2. Other researchers

This study is expected to help the researcher interpret the meaning of each figurative language that is used in song lyrics. The researcher hopes that this research will provide new beneficial information and that it can be used as a reference for further studies.

E. Scope and Limitation of the Study

This research focuses on the figurative language used in the lyrics of 'The Greatest Showman' movie soundtrack. There are nine main soundtrack in this movie. Those are The Greatest Showman, A Million Dreams, Come Alive, The Other Side, Never Enough, This Is Me, Rewrite the Stars, Tightrope and From Now On. To make the discussion more specific, the researcher wishes to limit the problem to the figurative language used in the lyrics of nine soundtrack of 'The Greatest Showman' movie.

F. Definition of Key Terms

To help readers comprehend the concepts used in the title, the writer has included the following definitions and explanations:

1. Figurative Language

Figurative language is a way of describing things that goes beyond the literal meaning of words. It can help communicate a message or make a point.

2. Lyrics

Lyrics are words that make up a song, made up of verses and choruses.

3. Movie Soundtrack

Movie soundtrack is a recording of the music that accompanies a movie.

4. The Greatest Showman Movie

The Greatest Showman is an American musical drama released in the United States on December 20, 2017. This movie was directed by Michael Gracey, written by Jenny Bicks and Bill Condon and starring Hugh Jackman, Zac Efron, Michelle Williams, Rebecca Ferguson, Zendaya, and Keala Settle.