

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer presents some points related to this research. Those include are background of the research, formulation of the research problem, and objectives of the research.

#### A. BACKGROUND OF THE RESEARCH

Nowdays, in the real condition of human life, some people think that literature is just only for fun and enjoyment. This opinion is exactly not completely right because literature is more than just for fun and enjoyment. Hudson in an *Introduction to the Study of Literature* states, "Literature is the expression of the life through the medium of language. It can be regarded as something essential since it contains real life". (1960: 10)

It means that literature can be imagination or image of a human life because the content of literature can be a description of experience of the human expression of our feeling that is reflected in the language. By literature, we enrich our knowledge and experience since literature is a reflection of human life. So, reading literature does not simply to get fun or enjoy the pleasure and excitement, but we can dig the meaning inside because literature is the medium for learning about life.

Among several genres of literature is poetry. Poetry is a form of literature that uses aesthetic and rhythmic qualities of language, such as phonaesthetics, sound symbolism, and metre to evoke meanings in addition to, or in place of, the prosaic ostensible meaning. (Iftanti 2014:2). Poetry is maybe the most difficult one to understand. Many of authors did not showing the meaning by clearly stated. Poetry in general does not use ordinary language to express the feeling of the writer, but it uses beautiful and

unique words what is called figurative expression. These beautiful words have hidden meaning. And that is the main reason why poetry is not easy to understand compared to other literary works. Besides that, it makes people less interested in poetry; people will be interested in other literary works that are easier to read immediately such as novel because novels are usually imagination of human life that involves various characters and conversation that make the story more live. People are also interested in reading drama because besides involving various characters and dialogs like novel, drama also involves movement and action in expressing its meaning.

Meanwhile, In the modern lives people convey their feelings to others by. In fact, not all of people convey their feelings directly, some of them have literal meaning behind their utterances. The hearer must understand what speaker says in order to build good conversation.

The meaning by the utterance not only appear in conversation but also every utterance, including lyrics in a song. Listening a song is very familiar to many people. Most people enjoy listening song in their lives. In listening song, sometimes we try to memorizing the lyrics and knowing the meaning through the composed words of the song.

When we talk about songs, people will get easily interested in songs can easily attract us because they do not just consist of lyrics but also have rhythm and melody. However, when we listen to a song, we cannot just listen to the music and its rhythm. We also have to find out the meaning of the lyrics of the songs that the writer and the singer want to express to us. Nevertheless, just like poetry, not all the lyrics of the songs are easily understandable, especially when the lyrics are full of figures of speech or figurative language, phrases, or sentences which have hidden meaning inside them.

Song is a short musical work set to a poetic text with equal importance given to music and to the words. It may be written for one or several voices and is generally performed with musical instrument accompaniment (Encyclopedia Americana 1977:220).

Song can be divided into three types: Art Songs, Folk Songs, and Popular Songs. Art songs are songs created for performance, although its can also have other types of accompaniment such as an orchestra or string quartet, and are always notated. Generally, they have an identified author(s) and require voice training for acceptable performances. The lyrics are often written by a lyricist and the music composed by a composer. The pieces were most often written to be performed at a home setting although today the works enjoy popularity as concert pieces.

Folk songs are songs of often-anonymous origin that are transmitted orally. They are frequently a major aspect of national or cultural identity. Folk songs are also frequently transmitted non-orally (as sheet music), especially in the modern era. Moreover, modern popular songs are typically distributed as recordings, and are played on the radio, though all other mass media that have audio capabilities are involved. The recording artists infer their relative popularity from commercially significant sales of recordings, ratings of stations and networks that play them, and ticket sales for concerts.

A popular song can become a modern folk song when members of the public who learn to sing it from the recorded version teach their version to others. Popular songs may be called pop songs for short, although pop songs or pop music may instead be considered as more commercially popular genre of popular music as a whole. Pop song is very familiar in our lives. Many people almost every day listening this song.

Songs can be used by listener for their own purposes, largely because many types of songs do not have precise people, place or time references. For those who find them

relevant, songs happen whenever and wherever one hears them and there are, consciously or subconsciously, about the people in one's own life. Most importantly, perhaps, songs are relaxing. They provide variety, fun and encourage harmony within oneself and within a group. Little wonder they are important tools in sustaining cultures, religions, patriotism and even revolutions.

Figurative language is extremely fun and it is of a huge component of most reading genres, especially in a song, and is a major player when focusing on descriptive writing (Edward 2012:2). The artists have aesthetic and special sentences, which are different from one another. It cannot be separated from the writer's ways or technique to express, to reflect, and describe his or their songs lyrics. Therefore, it is sometimes very difficult to analyze figurative language completely and perfectly.

It is important for the readers or listeners to understand the meaning of figurative language to comprehend the song lyrics. If the readers or listeners have difficulty in doing so, they may not understand what the singer is really singing. It is also important for the readers and the listeners to be able to recognize figurative language. These two factors, recognizing and understanding figurative language are important if the readers or listeners want to fully comprehend the material in which figurative language appears.

Lyrics in a song can strengthen the existence of music. The song's lyrics have a role to kindle the meaning. Lyrics of a song are written in stanza and usually have a sweet sound and rhyme. Imagination is ability to form ideas in the mind. Music and song is a communal activity in which, for a while, the world becomes one. Some of lyric always give some messages to the listener. And it was continued until the last of the lyric.

Based on the explanation above, lyrics of a song is accordingly one of literary works, because they are relatively similar to lyrics of poetry. It is a kind of short poems

that are not only read but also accompanied by musical instruments. Since lyrics of a song are kind of short poems, they can be learnt and found the sense of meaning, we will deal with figurative language which is the element of poetry to find out the meaning of the lyrics of a song.

In Superman Is Dead's song lyrics. The artists want to show the deepest feeling of happiness, faithfulness, ambitions, sadness, disappointment, frustration, and stress and finally make them feel that in life is full of mystery that can be found in figurative expressions. Spivey in *Types of Figurative Language*, "Figurative language is simply way to add a color and depth to what is otherwise a bland statement". (2011:336) The artists use figurative language in their songs because they want to exaggerate the feeling that they have to give a certain effect to the listeners or to show the quality of their feeling. Moreover, with figurative they hope that the listeners or readers of Superman Is Dead's song lyrics can feel what the artists feel.

In compilation albums of Superman Is Dead, there consist of many figurative languages. The singer wants to convey to the listener that in their song is have many types figure of speech that describe to an object, person, situation or feeling by comparing it to or with something else. In their song, the singer wants to showing many variation of the figurative language

However, the feeling of singer will be clearly stated as comparing or describing somebody with other something. For example in part of lyric Superman Is Dead song at albums All Angels Cry at the title All Angels Cry, the lyrics is "*no pretty pictures everywhere i go*" describe or compares a beautiful place to a beautiful piece of art. Superman Is Dead is a *punkrock* band from Kuta Rock City, Bali, consisting of :

1. Bobby Kool : Guitar and Vocals
2. Eka Rock : Bass and Backing Vocals
3. Jerynx : Drums

Superman Is Dead performs punkrock genre in their music, but in fact sounds are quite different. Some of their famous songs are The Broken Song, Saint of My Life and Running. Their other songs with softer beat include Lady Rose. The first single Kuta Rock City was a global hit for the band and reached Panasonic Gobel Awards 1995.(<http://SupermanIsDead.html>)

The sound of Superman Is Dead is undeniably unique and very strong. Lead singer Bobby Kool has very powerful voices, that resound throughout the entirety every album. And then Eka Rock is a professional bassist player and had a melodious voice as a backing vocal, and then Jerynx is drummer that had a characteristic when he played his drums, the special characteristic is when he played drum, the melody is beat and keep rock on. The music style varies from one song to another throughout the album. The confident of the music itself is clearly stated. The lyrics have deep meaning and the figurative language gives poetic sense to their song. In this study, dealing with figurative language, the writer wants to find out how deep the sense of expressions that the musicians faced the singer through figure of speech in the song lyrics.

The writer reasons for choosing the topic is firstly, the writer want to combine between how is important learn semantic and combining teaching and learning exactly at guessing meaning through the context. It is so important to find out to what extent the Figurative Language is used in Superman Is Dead's song lyrics, compilation album. Secondly, it is important to understand figurative language, because we can learn kinds of figurative language. Furthermore, we can improve our language skill such as composition

of the sentences, style, diction, improving our pronunciation and enrich or increasing our vocabulary. Thirdly is expected to give some benefits for the readers who wish would like to understand and enhance the knowledge of figurative language.

## **B. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS STUDY**

*An analysis on figurative language used in selected poem of Emily Dickinson* by Eny Anawati. 2010/2011. STAIN Tulungagung. This research used descriptive qualitative research design. The writer used objective approach because the writer only studied this research. The analyzes of figurative language use table. Every couplet in poem include in table then the explanation of the poem take in out of the table. This study compared the meaning and messages of figurative laguage in this poems

Then in my study the research design use library research, then the object use Superman Is Dead' compilation albums and to analyze the song use table. Then that analyzed of the songs are the figurative language and aesthetics aspect.

## **C. FORMULATION OF THE RESEARCH PROBLEM**

Based on the background above, the formulation of the research problem is:

1. What are the types of figurative language in Superman Is Dead's song lyrics in compilation album?
2. How do the figurative languages contribute to the aesthetic aspects of song lyrics?

#### **D. OBJECTIVES OF THE RESEARCH**

In general, this study aimed at describing, analyzing, and explaining the figurative language in Superman Is Dead's song, compilation Albums. In particular, this study aimed at:

1. To analyze the type of figurative language in Superman Is Dead's song lyrics in compilation album.
2. To analyze the aesthetic aspect of figurative language in each the song.

#### **E. LIMITATION OF THE STUDY**

This study has a very largely scope so, it is impossible for the writer to handle all problem. Therefore, the problems that the learner is going to deal with in the study are:

1. The subject of the study is Superman Is Dead's song lyrics found in the compilation albums at least it contains 4 songs that are: (1)*Saint of My Life*, (2)*Memories of Rose*, (3)*All Angels Cry*, (4)*Bad Bad Bad*, (5)*The Broken Song*, (6)*Lady Rose*, (7)*Running*, (8)*Fast Cure*, (9)*Bullet Poof Heart*, (10)*Water Not War*. The study focuses on the use of figurative language in the lyrics of each *compilation* at best album.
2. The writer uses a descriptive analysis to analyze the use of figurative language in *Superman Is Dead's* compilation albums.



## F. DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

In this study, the researcher will present about the definition of key terms, which is Figurative language, the role of figurative language, the aesthetic aspect of figurative language.

- a. **Figurative** language is figure of speech that the writer present to amuse the readers or presenting some moral values in some words. quoted from Alexander (1977-1990) says figurative language or figures of speech are uses of language that build and extend sensory images. They do so by attaching one thing or action or idea to another with which it is normally associated.
- b. **The role of figurative language.** In figurative language there are contains kinds of figurative language, that is :

**Simile:** A simile (**sim-uh-lee**) uses the words “**like**” or “**as**” to compare two explicitly unlike things as being similar.

**Metaphor:** A metaphor (**met-uh-fawr, -fer**) suggests something or someone actually *becomes* or *is* something else.

**Personification:** Personification (**per-son-uh-fi-kay-shuh-n**) gives animals or inanimate objects human-like characteristics.

**Onomatopoeia:** Onomatopoeia (**on-uh-mat-uh-pee-uh**) is a word that describes a *natural sound* or *the sound made by an object or a certain action*.

**Hyperbole:** A hyperbole (**hy-pur-buh-lee**) is a statement so exaggerated that no one believes it to be true.

**Idiom:** An idiom (**id-ee-uh-m**) is an expression whose meaning is not predictable from the usual meanings of the words that make it up, as in “*He’s a couch potato,*” or “*Hold your horses.*”

**Clichés:** Clichés are statements that have been heard so often that their once colorful play on words has become expected and stale.

**Analogy:** Compares two different things by explaining points they have in common used to help clarify a concept or make a topic easier to understand.

**Imagery:** Use of words that describe the five senses to create to a mental picture of something.

**Symbolism:** Something concrete that stands for something else such as an idea or emotion.

- c. *Lyrics of a song* is accordingly one of literary works, because they are relatively similar to lyrics of poetry. It is a kind of short poems that are not only read but also accompanied by musical instruments.
- d. *The aesthetic aspects* of figurative language is the branch of general linguistics which focuses on style (i.e. the specific way a particular writer or speaker expresses himself), particularly in works of literature. According to Cluett and Kampeas (1979), it is the judgment of the tangible manifestation of style. aesthetic function, on the other hand, is an aspect of language function. Quoted to Alo (1998), language function can be explained in two ways. Firstly, it refers to the specific use to which a writer or speaker puts the language (i.e. description, explanation, argument, persuasion, humour, etc). Secondly, in stylistic description it refers to the communicative value or role of specific language categories (i.e. sentence, clause, word group, collocations, word and morpheme), in given social situations. Language function, therefore, implies varieties of language. Halliday (1978) labeled language as a “social semiotic” in the sense that it evolves in a context and the

environment in which people deploy language to serve communicative needs can shape its form and meaning. The analysis of the texts would demonstrate that poetry under study is dense with figurations which not only preserve and project the expressive beauty of the works, but also help to capture intentions more vividly and produce desired meanings and effect on the audience or readers.

## G. SUPERMAN IS DEAD'S BIOGRAPHY

**Superman Is Dead Formed** : 1995 – Kuta, Bali, Indonesia.

**Superman Is Dead Member** : Bobby Kool, Eka Rock, Jerynx.

**Quoted From Superman is Dead** : There's no such thing as a perfect person out there.

### **The history of Superman Is Dead :**

Superman Is Dead, punk rock pioneers of Bali, were born and bred in Kuta Rock City. The band is three chord attitude heavy young men, by name : **Bobby Kool** (lead vocal, guitar and a graphic designer) , **Eka Rock** (low ridin' family man, laid back bass and backing vocal and a warm smilin' Rock 'N Roll bandman, IT warior) , **Jerynx** (low ridin', Rock 'N Roll prince charming, drummer and a hairwax junkie, Bar owner)

The name 'Superman is Dead' started its' evolution from Stone Temple Pilot's "Superman Silvergun". The name moved on to "Superman is Dead" cause they like the idea that there's no such thing as a perfect person out there. Superman Is Dead actually stumbled together in 1995, drawn by their common love of Green Day and NOFX. Their influences soon extended to the punk 'n roll genre a la Supersuckers, Living End and Social Distortion, and here they stay. They say what they wanna say, how they wanna say it. In your face, to say it precisely. (<http://SupermanIsDead.html>)