CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Problem

Language and our way to communicate with each other by using it is the major factor that distinguishes human beings from any other living beings. We have words for specfic things, emotion, and expression. Language could be written, spoken, or even a gesture. Whatever the form is, it always contains messages inside the language. Through language, someone can also express his or her feeling or idea.

Language plays an important role when you want to express your thoughts and feelings. One of the languages is English. English is the most commonly spoken language in the world. People always call it an international language. There are many aspects of language that can be studied, and one of the ways to look at it is in its use of figurative expressions. There are two kinds of language; Literal language and Figurative language. In this research, the writer only explains about figurative language.

We can not live without language because it plays an important role in every aspect of human life, such as education, sciences, politics, technology, economics, art, etc. For example in art: namely song. Song is a part of literature and literature is influential to human's life. Human expresses feelings, thoughts, emotions, and experiences through it. Meyer in Arifah (2016:13) has stated that "*Literature is a term used to describe written texts marked by careful use of language, including features such as creative metaphors, well-turned phrases, elegant syntax, rhyme, alliteration, which are aesthetically read intended by the author to be aesthetically read and are deliberately somewhat open in interpretation*".

Song is one of the ways to express someone's feeling that could be heard and experienced. Songwriters express their feelings by using a play of words and languages to create an attractiveness to the song lyrics. Song becomes a part of humans' life and the lyrics can be an interesting way to express the feeling. Some

songwriters use figurative language to attract the listener to imagine and reveal the message of the songs. There are many aspects of language that can be studied, and one way to look at it is by the use of figurative language. There are two kinds of language: literal language and figurative language. The writer only explains figurative language in this research.

There are 11 types of figurative language proposed by Kennedy (1983) which are metaphor, simile, personification, apostrophe, overstatement (hyperbole), understatement (litotes), metonymy, synecdoche, transferred epithet, paradox, and pun.. Each of them has different characteristcs of language and brings different meaning as well.

Figurative language is related with meaning, and the study of meaning is semantics. X.J. Kennedy (1983:479) states that "*Figurative language is language that uses figures of speech. A figure of speech is a way of saying something other than the literal meaning of the word. Figure of speech maybe said to occur whenever a speaker or writer, for the sake of freshness or emphasis, departs from the usual denotations of words*". According to Wren and Martin as cited in Isa, Ali, Isa et.al. (2017:23), Figurative expression is different from the ordinary form of expression because it gives a greater effect. This is what makes figurative language hard to understand because we cannot find the meaning in the dictionary.

Figurative language is related with meaning, and the study of meaning is semantics. Kearns (2000:1) in her book says "*Semantics deals with the literal meaning of words and the meaning of the way they are combined, which taken together from the core of meaning, or the starting point from which the whole meaning of a particular utterance is constructed*".

There are many famous songwriters in the world, one of them is Ella Marija Lani Yelich-O'Connor, also famously known as Lorde. She is a New Zealand singer and a songwriter. She has sold millions of records worldwide and she has won several awards, such as Song of The Year and Best Pop Solo Performance for her debut single, Royals, at the 56th Annual Grammy Awards in 2014. Her recent work, which is her second studio album   is called Melodrama, received a nomination for Album of the Year at the 60th Annual Grammy Awards

in 2018. It was named the best album of the year by NME, Rolling Stones, Cosmopolitan and many other magazines. The album won a New Zealand Music Award for Album of the Year in 2017.

Lorde writes the lyrics of her songs and often uses imagery and figurative languages instead of making straight-to-the-point songs. Thus, makes the listeners curious about the story or the meaning behind them. Therefore, the writer of the research is interested in analysing the figurative language used in the album.

The writer is interested in conducting this research because usually the readers, including the writer himself, find some difficulties in understanding the meaning of the lyrics. Every song has messages and in order to know the message, the lyrics of the song need to be analyzed to know the meaning. The writer selects Lorde's Melodrama album because she writes songs based on her experiences or true stories, she's really good at choosing the words, so the listeners don't expect those songs to tell true stories about her.

The writer uses descriptive qualitative method for the research which employs technique of seeking, collecting and analyzing data. This study is expected to make a positive contribution to the literature of figurative language, especially for songs and help the readers to have a better understanding about the meaning of song lyrics. The writer also hopes that this study could enrich and improve the next researchers' ability in understanding figures of speech.

1.2 Identification of The Problem

Based on the background of the research, the writer identifies the problem in this research is the figurative language used in the lyrics, because figurative language is way of saying something which different than the literal meaning. The writer assumes that by classifying and analyzing the figurative language used in the song lyrics, the messages in the song will be easily understandable.

1.3 Limitation of The Problem

To make the research more focused, directional, and not too broad, the writer limits the problem to the figurative language used in Lorde's Melodrama album. There are 11 tracks in the album which are Green Light, Sober,

Homemade Dynamite, The Louvre, Liability, Hard Feelings/Loveless, Sober II (Melodrama), Writer In the Dark, Supercut, Liability (Reprise), and Perfect Places. In this research, the writer uses X.J Kennedy's theory.

1.4 Formulation of The Problem

Based on the assumption above, the writer formulated the problem by making the research questions below:

1. What types of figurative language are found in Lorde's Melorama album based on X.J Kennedy?

2. What are the meaning of the figurative language used in Lorde's Melorama album?

1.5 Objective of The Research

In order to be able to reach the purpose of the research, the analysis steps are conducted in the following ways:

1. To identify the types of figurative language found in Lorde's Melorama album.

2. To analyze and describe the meanings of figurative language used in Lorde's Melorama album.

1.6 Method of The Research

The method applied in this research is the qualitative method. The data is descriptively analyzed. After finding the occurrences of figurative language in the data source and jotting them down, the first step in the analysis is identifying the types of figurative languages found by using the theory of figurative language types by X.J Kennedy (1983). Each song is separately analyzed and the background information related to the songs are obtained from some reliable sources and presented to support the analyses of the meaning of the figurative languages found.

1.7 Benefit of the Research

       This research is dedicated to the music listeners, in order to get a deeper knowledge about the figurative language because it is often used in literature and to give better understanding of the lyrics' meaning that are conveyed by the songwriter. This research is also useful for further references for those who are interested in conducting a research on figurative language.

1.8 Systematic Organization of the Research

       The writing of term paper uses paper organization. The writer organizes it into four sections that consists of four chapters, as follows:

CHAPTER I: **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter is an introduction that contains Background of the Problem, Identification of the Problem, Limitation of the Problem, Formulation of the Problem, Objective of the Research, Method of the Research, Benefits of the Research and Systematic Organization of the Research.

CHAPTER II: **FRAMEWORK OF THEORIES**

This chapter consists of theories to support this research such as the definition and the type of figurative language.

CHAPTER III: **THE USE OF FIGURTIVE LANGUAGE IN LORDE'S MELODRAMA ALBUM**

In this chapter, the writer examines and analyses the data in order to answer the research questions. The writer finds the figurative language used in the lyrics of Lorde's Melodrama album and find the meaning of those lyrics. The writer uses the 11 of figurative language proposed by X.J Kennedy as discussed in Chapter 2.

CHAPTER IV: **CONCLUSION**

This is the last chapter that contains the writer's conclusion from the analysis of the complete study.

The chapters above are followed by references, scheme of the research, poster, curriculum vitae, and other required attachments.

Scheme of the research

Attachments

Abstract