THE ANALYSIS OF MYTHS IN THE DANGEROUS ALBUM BY MICHAEL JACKSON BASED ON ROLAND BARTHES THEORY

TERM PAPER

Submitted in part-fulfillment of the requirements for obtaining Strata One (S-1) Degree



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT FACULTY OF LETTERS
UNIVERSITY OF DARMA PERSADA
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2012

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Preface

Alhamdulillahirrabbil'aalamiin, praise be to Allah SWT, owing to His mercy and blessing so the writer can finish the term paper even by hard effort and long time. This term-paper is submitted to the Strata One Program, English Department, University of Darma Persada as a part fulfillment of the requirements for obtaining the Strata One (S-1) degree. The writer realizes that without the help and guidance from various parties, from the lecture until the preparation of this term paper, it is very difficult for me to finish this term paper. I thank to:

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May Allah SWT reply all their kindness. This term paper is still not perfect. Therefore, constructive criticisms are welcome. I hope this term paper give the benefits to the reader and for the development of knowledge, especially in the field of linguistics.

Jakarta, February 2012 Writer



ABSTRACT

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Title

: The Analysis of Myths in the Dangerous Album By

Michael Jackson Based on Roland Barthes Theory

Semiotik adalah ilmu yang mengkaji tanda dalam kehidupan manusia, baik tanda berupa visual (gambar) atau audio (suara). Tanda juga bisa dilihat dalam sebuah lirik lagu. Penulis menganalisis lagu dalam album Michael Jackson yang berjudul Dangerous menggunakan teori Roland Barthes. Objek dalam penelitian ini adalah lirik lagu yang berjudul "Jam", "In the Closet", "Remember the Time", "Heal the World", "Black or White", "Who Is It", "Will You Be There", "Give In To Me", and "Gone Too Soon" merupakan single dalam album Dangerous. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui makna denotasi dan konotasi dari lirik lagu dan membuktikan bahwa mitos yang terbangun merepresentasi judul album yaitu "Dangerous".

Kata kunci:

Semiotika, teori, lirik la<mark>gu, sistem prime</mark>r, s<mark>istem se</mark>kund<mark>er, dan mitos.</mark>

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CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

The people need communication tools to interact in order to understand each message to be conveyed. The sign is one of them. The signs around of them are actually a form of communication to convey a particular message. In order that the sign can be properly understood and the same, it takes the same concept in order to avoid misunderstanding or misinterpretation.

However, in fact the sign cannot be properly understood and equally among the people, because everyone has their own interpretation of the meaning with the various reasons that these signs can be understood. There are so many signs that describe a form of communication that is around of us, such as traffic alerts and other signs that have meaning. The study of signs is a semiotic. Based on http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Semiotics, semiotics is the science that examines the signs, whether in the form of visual signs (pictures) or audio (voice).

The sign can also be seen in a song. Based on http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Song, a lyric of song is a form of verbal communication that has a message in it. Overall is a musical product that was created to symbolize what the message that be conveyed by its creator.

The songs in the Dangerous album by Michael Jackson are a communication process because there are informations or messages contained in the lyrics of the song. When a song arranges and plays to the public, the lyrics certainly have values and the message itself that is conveyed by songwriter and of course, people can interpret the message or meaning in the lyrics of the song differently. So interpreting the meaning in the lyrics that emerges from the community will lead to the myth.

The 'Dangerous' album produces nine singles from its 14 tracks: "Jam", "In the Closet", "Remember the Time", "Heal the World", "Black or White", "Who Is It", "Will You Be There", "Give In To Me", and "Gone Too Soon". Based on http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Single_(music), a music single is a song that

is released as a standalone item. Singles are linked to or taken from an album, and they are used to promote the album and the artist.

The writer analyzes nine singles from this album because based on http://www.allmichaeljackson.com/dangerous.html, the single in this album received several awards, such as in Billboard Music Award (1992): World Artist Award - #1, World single Black or White, #1 World album Dangerous. In Soul Train Award (1993): Best R&B Album - Dangerous, in American Music Awards (1993): Best Pop/Rock Album - Dangerous, in BMI Award (1993): Most Performed Songs of The Year - Black or White, Remember The Time, etc. When the Dangerous album was released on November 26, 1991, this album became the fastest selling number one album, breaking the records by entering the charts at #1 only 3 days after released. The "Black or White" single made a 32-spot jump on the Pop singles charts, breaking the Beatles' record set by their song "Let It Be" in 1970.

In addition, of course the songs in the album are sung by Michael Jackson, known as the king of pop that set up The Heal the World Foundation in 1992. The foundation focuses on children aiming for there safe and healthy development to be the world's priority. It aims to make the world aware of the rights and needs of all children around the world, also to help improve the world we live in, without violence and free of diseases (http://www.allmichaeljackson.com/lyrics/healtheworld.html).

1.2 Identification of the Problem

Based on the background of the problem above, the writer identifies the main problem is in interpreting the meaning in the lyrics of the single of the songs in the Dangerous album which construct myths. The writer assumes that the myths that are created in the lyrics of the songs in the Dangerous album represent the title of the album.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

The writer limits the problem of myths that is created in the lyrics of the single of the songs in the Dangerous album.

1.4 Statements of the Problem

Based on the above assumption, the formulations of the problem are:

- 1.4.1 What are the denotative and connotative meanings in the lyrics of the songs in the Dangerous album?
- 1.4.2 What are the myths that are created of the songs in the Dangerous album represent the title of the album?

1.5 Objectives of the Research

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the purpose of the analysis are:

- 1.5.1 To analyze the meanings of denotation and connotation in the lyrics of the songs in the Dangerous album.
- 1.5.2 To prove the myths in the lyrics of single of the songs in the Dangerous album represents the title of the album.

1.6 Framework of the Theory

The writer chooses the theory of Roland Barthes as a reference in this research. Barthes's notion is known as two orders of signification, which includes the meaning of denotation, the true meaning according to the dictionary in first order or primary system and connotation, born of cultural and personal experience in second order or secondary system (Sobur, 2009: 127).

1.7 Methods of the Research

In writing this paper, the writer uses qualitative research methods. Based on http://www.mudjiarahardjo.com/materi-kuliah/215-jenis-dan-metode-penelitian kualitatif.html, the writer uses this type of qualitative study or text document, a study that focuses on the analysis or interpretation of written material based on the context. The Research material that is used is a lyric of songs in the form of text.

1.8 Benefits of the Research

The benefit of the research, the readers can get knowledge about the theory of semiotics, Roland Barthes. The readers also get knowledge of how to analyze a song using semiotic methods based on Roland Barthes theory so that the readers can understand the meaning of a sign in the lyrics of the song.

1.9 Systematic Organization of the Research

In writing the paper, the writer has a systematic writing that consists of four chapters, namely:

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

In this chapter the writer explain about background of the research, identification of the problem, limitation of the problem, statement of the research, objectives of the research, framework of the theory, methods of the research, benefits of the research, and systematic organization of the research.

CHAPTER 2: FRAMEWORK OF THE THEORY

In this chapter, the writer used the theory of Roland Barthes to analyze the research and explained this theory clearly.

CHAPTER 3: ANALYZES

In this chapter, the writer analyzes the meaning of denotation and connotation in the lyrics of the single of the song in the Dangerous album and analyzes about the myth that create the images.

CHAPTER 4: CONCLUSION

The results of analysis discussed in this chapter as a conclusion.