

## **THE ANALYZE OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE OF THE DOEL SUMBANG'S SONG LYRIC "BULAN BATU HIU"**

**\*Muhammad Wildan Hakim<sup>1</sup>, Nenden Rikma Dewi<sup>2</sup>**

Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Ilmu Budaya, Universitas Komputer Indonesia,  
Jl. Dipati Ukur 112-116, Bandung, Indonesia

[uchihawildan@rocketmail.com](mailto:uchihawildan@rocketmail.com)

### **ABSTRACT**

Figurative language is used to express feelings by using particular style and dictions. It exist in various way, but it can be identified clearly in literary works and songs. Doel Sumbang's "Bulan Batu Hiu", for example, contains various type of figurative language. Thus, this research is aimed to find out the types of figurative language and meanings of figurative language in the Doel Sumbang's song Lyric "Bulan Batu Hiu". The methodology of this research is qualitative research. Data are taken from the lyric song. To analyze the issue, this research is using Knickerbocker and Williard Reninger (1963) ideas on classification of figurative language. As the result, Doel Sumbang's song Lyric "Bulan Batu Hiu" has two types of figurative language, personofocations and hyperboles. There are three personifications and three hyperboles types which describe connotative meaning.

**Keywords: Figurative Language, lyric, meaning**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Words are abundant, and they may have meanings or even meaningless. The words in a poem or a song, however, cannot be comprehended literally. They may contain particular meanings or reference. Those particular meanings are often hidden or presented in various style and dictions based on a person's creativity. Words in songs, though, are called as lyrics. Based on Douglas in Dinata's Journal (2012) stated that the words may consist of an intro, verses, choruses, bridges and a coda. Lyric derives from the Greek word for a song sung by the lyre, "lyrikos" and came to be used for the "words of a song".

Words of a song are not always difficult to understand because they are using vernacular languages, or daily words. However, most of lyrics use figurative language to convey ideas as well as to beautify so that they are able to capture listeners' attention. Not also to deliver the ideas or to make the song lyric more beautiful, figurative language in a song also giving deep meaning to a song. This research chooses a Sundanese song entitled "Bulan Batu Hiu" as the data because some of figurative language can be seen.

Bulan Batu Hiu is a song which singing and written by Doel Sumbang. He is a Sundanese musician and also well known in Indonesia, especially in west Java Province as Sundanese majority occupation. He used to make lots of Sundanese's song in any varieties theme such as love, social critical and other. Therefore, this study is focusing

on the figurative language and meaning which used in the song lyrics in the song Bulan batu Hiu.

This paper has objectives to find out types of figurative language which is used in the Doel Sumbang's song lyric "*Bulan Batu Hiu*" and their meanings. Related to the issues, this research use theory of figurative language based on Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963). They mention that there are 10 types of figurative languages; simile, personification, hyperbole, metaphor, irony, dead metaphor, metonymy, synecdoche, paradox and allusion (1963: 367). Each of them is not only leading to various meaning but also creating particular emotions and nuance.

Kennedy (1979:189) said 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. Meanwhile, according to Knickerbocker and Reninger (1963: 367) metaphorical language or simply metaphor is also used to describe figurative language because it has brought the meaning beyond lateral meanings. Based on Knickerbocker and Reninger, figurative language is classified into 10 types. However, this paper is focused on personification and hyperbole. Personification is giving human being characteristics onto particular object, animal or even abstract ideas or simply comparing a non-human thing and human being; hyperbole is exaggerating ideas to give particular effects on listeners.

## **METHODS**

The method that is used in this research is analytic qualitative method. It is conducted by collecting the data such as documentation method. There are lots of steps in collecting the data, such as: *First*, finding data sources in internet. *Then*, the lyric was downloaded from the internet, and be printed out in order to understand the meaning. *Finally*, the presentation of data was carried out. The song lyric that was considered containing figurative language was classified and analyzed in order to know how many types of figurative languages are used.

The collected data was analyzed using descriptive qualitative method. The next step is presenting the qualitative method of the data based on the theory of classification of Figurative Language as stated by Knickerbocker and Williard Reninger (1963).

The data source of this study is taken from a song lyric of Doel Sumbang. Analyzing figurative language in song lyrics is important for particular reasons. *First*, singing a song and knowing the meaning of the lyrics is better than singing without an adequate understanding concerning the lyrics. Both singer and listener are able to gain useful lessons and information, or even enjoying the song better. *Second*, analyzing figurative language provides listeners on varied meanings. *Third*, it is chosen because the song was sung by the Sundanese singer who is using figurative language in his songs on love.

## RESULTS

From the study, it is found that there are two types of figurative language in the song lyric, namely: personification and hyperbole; those are shown in table 1.

**Tabel 1. Figurative Language in "Bulan Batu Hiu" Song Lyric**

Personification	Hyperbole
<i>Bulan nu ngagantung</i>	<i>Sagala rasa di Bedah</i>
<i>Bulan sapeupeuting nyaksi</i>	<i>Sahidup samati</i>
<i>nya pangrusian moal betus pasti</i>	<i>Dina ruang hate</i>

## DISCUSSION

In the study, the song chosen is entitled "Bulan Batu Hiu". The song lyric is:

### **Bulan Batu Hiu**

*Bulan nu ngagantung  
di langit Batu Hiu  
tinggal sapasi  
sesa purnama kamari*

*Urang duaan  
anteng sosonoan  
suka bungah  
sagala rasa dibedah*

*Bulan nu ngagantung  
di langit Batu Hiu  
tinggal sapasi  
sesa purnama kamari*

*Ikrar janji  
sahidup samati  
moal hianat  
insya Allah moal pegat*

*Dina ruang hate  
nu aya ukur salira  
dina ruang hate  
pasti ngan ukur salira*

*Bulan di langit Batu Hiu  
Sesa purnama kamari  
bulan sapeupeuting nyaksi  
nya pangrusiah moal betus pasti*

The song has six stanzas and each of them is built by four lines of lyrics. Those stanzas are recognized to have figurative language.

#### **a) Personification**

Based on the theory, the meaning of Personification is giving human characteristics to an object, animal, or an abstract idea, personification is a metaphor, of course, in the sense that there is an implied comparison between a non-human thing and human being.

##### ***“Bulan nu ngagantung”***

In that lyric word “Bulan” mean “The Moon” in English. Phrase “*nu ngagantung*” translated into English has meaning “which hangs”. Therefore “*Bulan nu ngagantung*” can be translated as “The moon which hangs”. the sentence tells that the moon hangs every night. The word “hangs” is associated with high place, in this case the moon is in high place so the lyric tell it is hanging on the sky.

This sentence is called a personification because the word “*ngagantung*” shows a human or animal’s action whereas the word “*Bulan nu ngagantung*” is an abstract idea. The sentence above is not able to be understood literally and is able to be interpreted differently because of many factors that are considered having connotative meaning.

##### ***“Bulan sapeupeuting nyaksi”***

In that lyric, there are three words: *Bulan*, *Sapeupeuting*, and *nyaksi*. As described in the previous part, word “bulan” is “The Moon” then there are word “sapeupeuting” which in English will translated into “all night” and word “nyaksi” in English is similar with “watch” or “look”. Therefore when the full lyric is translated into English it will become “The moon watches all night”

This sentence is called a personification because the word “*Bulan sapeupeuting nyaksi*” shows a human or animals action whereas the word “*Bulan sapeupeuting nyaksi*” is an abstract idea. The meaning is that the singer wants to say that he really love his close friend. So, to make his close friend believed in his true love, he said that moon agreed what he did.

This sentence also has a connotative meaning since it cannot be understood literally and can be interpreted differently by different characteristic of a person.

##### ***“nya pangrusian moal betus pasti”***

The subject in this lyric is refer to the moon in the previous lyric, that is “*Bulan sapeupeuting nyaksi*”. In this lyric Phrase “nya pangrusian” has similar meaning with word “commitment” or “promise”. Then the phrase “moal betus pasti” has a meaning in English will not broken. Therefore if the full lyric translated into English it will be “the promise that will not broke“

This sentence is called a personification because the word “*Bulan sapeupeuting nyaksi*” shows a human or animal’s action whereas the word “*Bulan sapeupeuting nyaksi*” is an abstract idea. The singer wants to express that he will keep his true love to her close friend. As the proof, he will not lie what he and her close have been made a commitment.

This sentence also has a connotative meaning since it cannot be understood literally and can be interpreted differently by different characteristic of a person.

## b) Hyperbole

Hyperbole Based on the theory, Hyperbole is a figure of speech which employs an exaggeration that used for special effect.

### **“Sagala rasa di Bedah”**

If each word in the lyric translated into English there are: “sagala” is similar to “every” or “each”, then word “rasa” is similar to “sense” or “taste”, then there is phrase “di bedah” it is has a meaning similar to “examine” or “tempt”. Then the meaning from that lyric will translates as “every sense that tempted”

This sentence is called a Hyperbole because the word “*sagala rasa dibedah*” shows a human or animal’s action whereas the word “*sagala rasa dibedah*” is an abstract idea. The meaning is that the singer wants to express his happy because he has a close friend.

### **“Sahidup samati”**

This lyric “sahidup samati” is a idiom in Sundanese, it means a couple that will live together till they are died. It can be said it is has similarity with “forever after”.

This sentence is called a Hyperbole because the word “*Sahidup samati*” shows a human or animal’s action whereas the word “*Sahidup samati*” is an abstract idea. The meaning is that the singer wants to express his deep love to his close friend. By saying “*sahidup samati*”, it means that he is really love to make her a wife. The fact, nothing people in the world want to dead gather.

### **“Dina ruang hate”**

In that lyric, it has three words: “dina”, “ruang” and “hate”. Each word will be translate into “in”, “room” and “heart”. But if these words are combined the translation will be “in heart room”. In English this phrase do not has a meaning because there are no similar expressions to this Sundanese expression. Therefore the closest meaning to this expression is “in my heart”.

The sentence above is Hyperbole, because the word “*Dina ruang hate*” shows a human or animal’s action whereas the word “*dina ruang hate*” is an abstract idea. By saying “*dina ruang hate*”, the singer wants to express that nothing special girl in his life except her close friend now. Those word “*ruang*”, in fact, not a really home. But, it is described as a place or home where contained a special for thing.

The writer of the song wants to express her imagination and convey the true meaning in a dramatic way.

## **CONCLUSION**

Based on the discussion of this paper about figurative language, it can be concluded that there are two types of figurative language in the song lyrics of “*Bulan Batu Hiu*”, they are personification and hyperbole. There are three personifications and three hyperboles types. The singer used figurative language to create the story of life in order to make song more interesting, powerful, and attractive. Moreover, There are two types of meanings found in the song lyrics of “*Bulan Batu Hiu*” such as conceptual

meaning and connotative meaning. The meanings of the figurative languages of the song lyrics of “*Bulan Batu Hiu*” can be classified into connotative meaning.

#### **REFERENCES**

- Dinata, I. G. K. 2012. *Figurative Language in Song Lyrics by Saosin Band, Nelly Furtado and Bruno Mars*. Denpasar: Udayana University  
<http://www.rajaterkini.com/2013/11/lirik-lagu-bulan-batu-hiu.html>
- Kennedy, X. J. 1979. *Literature: an Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, and Drama Second Edition*. Boston: Little Brown and Company.
- Knickerbocker, K. L. & Reninger, H. 1963. *Interpreting Literature Revised Edition*. New York. San Francisco. Toronto: Holt, Rinehart and Winson.
- Kreidler, C. W. 1998. *Introducing English Semantics*. USA: The Taylor & Francis group.
- Risdianto, F. 2011. *Introduction to Literature*. Yogyakarta: Trust Media Publishing
- Simanjuntak, Rahayu and Fauzizi. 2016. *Figurative Language in Westlife Second Album Coast To Coast*, University of Pasir Pengaraian
- Wathi, Ni Made P. 2015. *Figurative language found in Adele’s Song Lyric*. Denpasar : Udayana University