

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This thesis is a study of stylistics especially figures of speech. This research analyzes the text of Demi Lovato's song lyrics. This chapter is divided into six parts which consist of description of the background of the study, statements of the problem, objectives of the study, significances of the study, scope and limitation and definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of The Study

People express their feeling; share their ideas and many more by using language. Language is an integral part of human behaviour (Bonvillain, 2011:1). It means language is the instrument of thought communicated, not only to express our ideas, but also to specify our need. In other words, it is the attribute that most clearly distinguished our species from others.

In expressing something dealing with language, every person uses different styles since every human being is unique. Verdonk says that different style in language is a "distinctive linguistic expression" (2000:2). It means that the humans use the style of language to express their ideas. In their effort to make distinguished expression, people have their own preference of using certain forms to other forms to express the same idea. Different linguists, Cristal and Davy (1969:9) think that style refers to one's language habit. Style is the way a person to selects a language to interpretation their characters and ideas of human being. It means that analyzing language style can also be useful to learn their characteristic and ways of thinking as well as the reason why they choose the particular form.

According to Keraf (1984:112), language style is the particular way to express an idea or concept through language use. This particular way differs from one person to another, therefore, language style can represent someone's character or personality. Language can be used in many forms, primarily through oral and written communication. Poem, song lyric and novel are the examples of written communication. In creating those written communication or we can call it the literary work, the authors always use their own style while composing their work. It means that there is no rule to limit their idea or express their thought in their work.

Stylistics is the theory which considers about this phenomenon. According to Tunnel (1973:7), stylistics is the part of linguistics which concentrate on the variation of language usage. It means through stylistics, we can understand why the user of language uses that language and when language is used. As Tunnel states (1973:9) in his book that the study of meaning and style will have to bring back what grammar leaves out.

One of the devices that can be used to study about stylistics is the figures of speech. This device can help us understand the deeper meaning behind the word or the text. We know that a word, phrase or statement is figurative when it can't be interpreted literally. For example when we hear the phrase "puppy love", then the literal meaning of this phrase refers to a puppy which falls in love. However, it will be totally mistaken if we take the phrase, thus it is categorized into figures of speech. According to Perrine (1992: 60), there are 11 kinds of figures of speech. Those figures of speech are simile, metaphore, personification, apostrophe,

synecdoche, symbol, allegory, paradox, hyperbole (overstatement), litotes, and verbal irony. The reason to use those figures of speech is to beautify the language.

The use of figures of speech itself is most noticeable in literary work because literary work needs some tools to convey messages as well as for beauty and clarity reason, which can only be achieved by using figurative language (Cristal and Davy, 1969:17). The message itself can be represented in the form of oral or written. In oral language, the message is given and received through conversation. While in written language, the message can be given in the form of letter, poem, essay, and even bible that are also called literary works.

In this research, the literary work that will be analyzed are the song lyrics from Demi Lovato. Demi Lovato is an American singer and actress. She started her debut as a child actress. Then, she continued her career as a singer and produced some hit singles. Most of her songs are inspired by her own experience in life. The songs contain her feeling and thought about life, love, and many more. She describes the world and the surrounding using her own style in the songs.

In conducting this research, the writer chooses Demi Lovato's songs "Skyscraper" and "Warrior". There are three reasons to choose the songs for this research. First, the songs were released after her struggle in rehab dealing with her depression, eating disorder and bipolar disorder (<http://hollywoodlife.com/2012/07/17/>). In 2011, the songs and the album were become the most ground breaking album to date. It is proven that the song "Skyscraper" has sold over 1.300.000 digital copies and was certified platinum in the US (<http://demilovato.com/bio/>). Second, her personal struggle has inspired many teenagers especially her fans to join the antibullying campaign. Third, the

songs contain figurative languages and inspiring message, it is proven that in 2012, her video “Skyscraper” won MTV Video Music Award for Best Video with Message Category (<http://www.mtv.com/news/1690825/2012-video-music-awards-nominees/>).

From her experience in the past life, Demi Lovato wrote two albums entitled “Unbroken” and “Demi”. From the albums, Demi Lovato wanted to show about her life experience when she was depressed. Demi Lovato wrote some of the song lyrics in her albums with Joe Jonas (Vocalist of Jonas Brothers). They wrote the lyrics based on Demi’s experience (*mtv.news* article).

Based on these reasons, the researcher intends to analyze the figures of speech found in the songs “Skyscraper” and “Warrior” in order to get the message of the songs. This research attempts to analyze the type of figures of speech used in Demi Lovato’s song lyrics. It also analyzes the dominant types of figures of speech and how she applied these figures of speech in her songs.

1.2 Statement of the problems

Based on the background above the problems are described as follow :

1.2.1 What are the figures of speech mostly used in Demi Lovato’s song lyrics?

1.2.2 How are those figures of speech applied in Demi Lovato’s song lyrics?

1.2.3 Why does Demi Lovato use those figures of speech in her song lyrics?

1.3 Purpose of the Research

The objectives of this research as follow :

1.3.1 To identify the most dominant types of figures of speech used in Demi Lovato's song lyrics.

1.3.2 To describe how those figures of speech applied in Demi lovato's song lyrics

1.3.3 To explain the reason for Demi Lovato using those types of figures of speech in her song lyrics

1.4 Significance of The Research

This research aims to find the dominant types of figures of speech and the reason of being dominant. It also aims to find out how the figures of speech applied in Demi Lovato's song lyrics. From that point, researcher expects that the study is able to help readers to recognize that in literary text (in this case the songs), writers often show their own style of using figures of speech to convey the message or idea in the songs.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope and limitation of this research is stylistics and this research limits the investigation mainly on figures of speech. The research limits the object of investigation on Demi Lovato's song lyrics.

1.6 Key Terms

1.6.1 Pragmatics

Study of meaning as communicated by a speaker (or writer) and interpreted by a listener (or reader) (Yule, 1996:3)

1.6.2 Stylistics

The analysis of distinctive expression in language and description of its purpose and effect (Verdonk, 2002:4)

1.6.3 Figures of Speech

Figures of speech are a word or phrase which cannot be, or is not meant to be, taken literally (Tom Furniss,,1996:106)

1.7 Organization of the study

This study consists of five chapters. Chapter one presents about the introduction which explain about background of the study, Statement of the problem, Purpose of the study, Significance of the study, Scope and Limitation, key term and organization of the study. The next chapter includes the review of the related literature that helps the reader to understand this study well. Chapter three explains the research method. This chapter explains the way to handle this study. Chapter four is an analysis which becomes the result of this study. The last is chapter five which explains the conclusion of this study.