FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN THE WEEKND'S *MY DEAR MELANCHOLY*

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Abstract
The relationship between language and lyrics is fascinating, since music and language's blend together. "Lyrikos" in Greek means "sung to the lyre," indicates the connection to performance art. Figurative language is a language that are not meant to be taken literally or understood in ways that normally understood. Through the use of Perrine's theory, the paper exploring what is the most used figurative language and how the artist uses figurative language in their writing. Within My Dear Melancholy EP by Canadian singer The Weeknd, there are 33 data of metaphor, conveying feelings of melancholy and heartbreak. Symbolism with 18 data, used to express deep ideas related to emotional struggles and heartache. And irony with 15 data, used to adds depth to the lyrical narrative. The Weeknd clever application of linguistic devices gives the story more depth using metaphor, symbolism, and irony to explore the complexities of heartbreak and emotional struggle.

Keywords: *figurative language, lyrics, Perrine, song.*

INTRODUCTION

Nurcitrawati, Kareviati, & Atmawidjaja, (2019) said that understanding language form and pronunciation alone is not enough. understanding meaning is also necessary. People in the modern times communicate using a number of forms, such as with the use of literary pieces like novels, poetry and song lyrics, where figurative language is can commonly be found and used to implicitly tell a message. Lyrics form stories and feelings into expression. These lyrical imageries are created with vivid pictures by the figurative language. It goes above the literal by adding layers of meaning and through the use of linguistic device they in a way are like a poetry.

Language and lyrics serve as the basis for the creation of songwriting. Within the context of music, lyrics are language that act as a medium for narrative, artistic expression. Lyrics are more than just words, they use languages to tell tales, express a range of emotions, and explaining a concept.

Perrine (1992) defines figurative language as a figure of speech that gives words additional dimensions. Poets employ it because figurative language allows them to express their ideas in words. Perrine's states that a figure of speech is any speech that is not delivered in an extraordinary manner. Perrine's theory explores the complex ways in which authors use figurative language to improve the visual and literary aspects of their writing. Figurative language is important in the process of lyrical writing, because it enables writers to create tales, create specific feelings in their audience, and forge close bonds with them. Figurative language is an approach to language above the conventions of everyday speech. It adds more layers of meaning to lyrics by using personification, metaphors, similes, and symbolism.

My Dear Melancholy is an Extended Play or EP project by The Weeknd, that will take the listeners, to a world of chaotic feelings and reflection. Featuring The Weeknd's trademark combination of alternative and R&B sounds, haunting production and melancholic melodies, where it develops like a cinematic experience, with each song adding to a deeper story that explores the depths of gloom. The EP carefully use language and striking visuals.

The EP were chosen due to the familiarity of author with the works of The Weeknd's discography and the interest that the author had in the field of movie and music. As there is

many interests and mystique of the album themes and the singer himself, the writer would like to take a dip into the many analysis and breaking down of The Weeknd's work, although in the manner of figurative language aspect.

By using Perrine's definition and approach of figurative language, the writer aims to highlighting how the song's intentional use of figurative language improves the lyrical content and provides the listener with an involved and pleasant experience. Examining the EP's tracks to discover is the commonly used figurative language in the project and what they represent on the lyrics.

METHODS

For the process of research, qualitative method are used, and specifically on the figurative language research of Lawrence Perrine 12 figurative language, and explained in descriptive approach. qualitative research is an Investigative study with a focus on understanding and interpreting a subject. It involves gathering and evaluating non-numerical data, such as words, images, or observations. *Perrine's* (1992) theory states that a figure of speech is any speech that is not delivered in an extraordinary manner. Perrine's theory explores the complex ways in which authors use figurative language to improve the visual and literary aspects of their writing.

The qualitative method is used as an analysis method to obtain a description of the words and performances observed by people (*Setiawati*, 2018). Understanding and analyzing literary works language, themes, and details fully is a key component of qualitative research. This method seeks to comprehend the complexity, investigate the meanings behind literary decisions, and reveal the details that distinguish a work of literature rather than concentrating on statistics.

Descriptive qualitative research is different from other forms of qualitative research because it is more descriptive than interpretive. Because it focuses on the analysis data, an in-depth summary is typically the outcome. This method involves a careful analysis of identification the literary devices of the lyrics. The aim is to give a clear and direct breakdown of the EP figurative language.

The first step is to finding, reading and understanding Perrine's 12 figurative language. The understanding of what is figurative language, will help the analysis and category process. Then followed with the next step after that, to make a category or table of it the 12 figurative language.

The result of the data can be categorized to each of their respective category. Understanding each of the 12 Figurative language is an important as it is the base idea of the paper. Next find the data, which is the lyric of the song contained in the EP. Here the website used are AZLyrics.com website. The Lyrics are then separated into each verse and then analyzed to find the 12 figurative language.

The findings then explained in a descriptive form to explain why they are put in their category and explain it in the context of the song. Lastly the data the inputted into the conclusion, in order to answer the paper questions stated before.

The paper is also assisted by personal research. Both through personal reading of other related research paper and internet outsourcing of related subject to find supporting materials for the theory, finding data, reference gathering and making research strategy to help complete the paper.

The process of data collecting is started with colleting the data, which is the lyrics. The lyrics then put in order of their respective placement on the EP. Next the lyrics are put in a document and each separated into a verse and the proses of analysis started.

Each verse put into a table that contain the Perrine's 12 figurative language. After the process is done then the collected data are compiled into one and counted into one main table

to form the conclusion of the paper. The conclusion then used to answer the paper questions and complete the objective of what is the commonly used figurative language in the EP.

After the Lyric have been found, the next process is to analyze the songs verse one by one and try to find the figurative language that contained in the verse. They are broken in order to streamline the analysis process and analysis.

Then, the meanings are explained via the figurative language that they are identified as, within context of the song. Each and every data found on each track, are compiled and counted, to answer the questions of what is the common figurative language that can be found in the EP and what are their meaning in the story of the song and the overall meaning of the album, using a descriptive form.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Analyzing all 6 song lyrics of the My Dear Melancholy EP conducted through lyric website AZLyric.com. in accordance of the EP Starting from Call Out My Name, Try Me, Wasted Time, I Was Never There, Hurt You, And Privilege, verse by verse to find each their figurative language in them.

Call Out My Name talks about the pain and sadness of relationship break up. The title refers to a longing feeling and to be remembering of a good times together. This song contains 6 metaphor, 1 synecdoche, 1 Metonomy, 6 irony, 1 hyperbole, 4 symbolism, and 2 paradox.

Try Me tells the tale of longing feeling for a lover who moved on. He doesn't want to ruin his ex's new relationship, but if there are feelings for him, he still offers his love to rekindle their romance. The song contains 2 metaphor, 1 personification, 1 synecdoche, 1 metonymy, 5 irony, 1 apostrophe, 1 hyperbole, 7 symbolism, 1 paradox.

Wasted Times reflects on heartbreak and the aftermath of ended relationships. regret and longing for former partner, remembering the times spent together. This song contains 2 simile, 9 metaphor, 1 personification, 3 irony, 4 apostrophe, 2 hyperbole, 1 symbolism, 1 allusion.

I Was Never There is an exploration of an inner struggles. the hopelessness, sadness, and worthlessness. Figurative language on this song are 5 metaphor, 1 personification, 1 metonymy, 1 apostrophe, 2 hyperbole, 2 symbolism, 1 paradox.

Hurt You explores the nature of toxic relationships and the emotional upset resulting from it. The song explores the desire for past lover, while recognizing the need to protect themselves from further harm. The song contains 6 metaphor, 1 personification, 1 irony, 3 apostrophe, 1 hyperbole, 2 symbolism.

Privilege explores the idea of finding solace in personal liberation. The lyrics tells a journey through the aftermath of the breakup, dealing with the themes of emotional suffering, escapism and the search for healing. The song contains 5 metaphor, 1 synecdoche, 2 symbolism.

CONCLUSION

Perrine (1992) identified twelve categories of figurative language, consisting of similes, metaphors, personifications, synecdoche metonyms, irony, apostrophes, hyperboles, symbols, allusion, allegory, paradox.

Figurative Language	Track 1	Track 2	Track 3	Track 4	Track 5	Track 6	Total
Simile	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Metaphor	6	2	9	5	6	5	33
Personification	0	1	1	1	1	0	4
Synecdoche	1	1	0	0	0	1	3
Metonymy	1	1	0	1	0	0	3

Irony	6	5	3	0	1	0	15
Apostrophe	0	1	4	1	3	0	9
Hyperbole	1	1	2	2	1	0	7
Symbolism	4	7	1	2	2	2	18
Allusion	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Allegory	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paradox	2	1	0	1	0	0	4
Total Counts	21	20	23	13	14	8	99

Table of Data
The commonly used figurative language in *My Dear Melancholy* EP

The most commonly used figurative language is metaphor, followed with symbolism and irony. My Dear Melancholy use metaphor to convey strong feelings of melancholy and heartbreak. Usage of metaphors as linguistic devices help to effectively express emotions. for instance, employing metaphors to show the emotional burden that comes with being in a post break up of a relationship or to depict the experience of one's journey through the depths of sorrows and melancholy.

Symbolism used in the EP, to express deep ideas related to emotional struggles and heartache. This EP uses symbolism as a linguistic device to give certain parts a deeper meaning. To give listeners a symbolic language to understand emotions, some symbols, for example, may symbolize the hurt and heaviness felt in strained relationships.

My Dear Melancholy use irony as a literary device to highlight contrasts between the expressed word and the underlying meaning. A touch of irony adds depth to the lyrical narrative by drawing attention to the differences between the relationships' actual and expected outcomes. This EP's use of irony improves its exploration of themes by providing a portrayal of emotional experiences without the descriptive imagery or settings.

These linguistic devices enhance the song's lyrics and provide listeners with a clearer idea of the singer's emotional journey. The EP properly conveys human experience through symbolic representations, ironic twists, and metaphorical expressions through the art of language.

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