

ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN MACHINE

GUN KELLY'S *SWING LIFE AWAY* SONG LYRIC

A FINAL PROJECT



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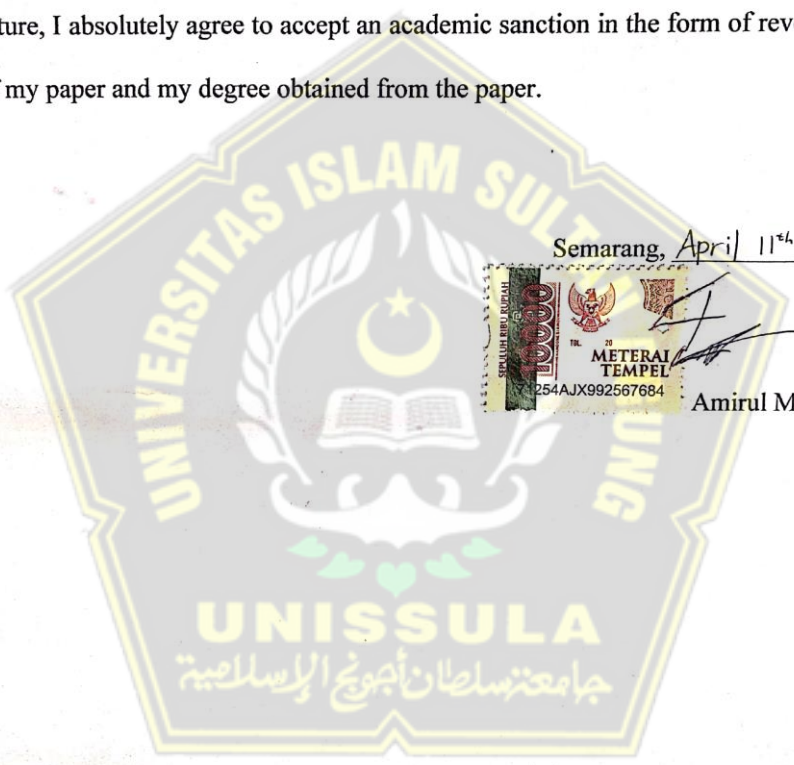
STATEMENT OF WORK ORIGINALY

Hereby, I honestly declare that the undergraduate thesis I wrote does not contain the works of other people, except those which were cited in the quotation and the references, as a scientific paper should. If my statement is not valid in the future, I absolutely agree to accept an academic sanction in the form of revocation of my paper and my degree obtained from the paper.

Semarang, April 11th, 2022



Amirul Mu'afa



MOTTO

“Just Do It.”

[Nike]

“Enjoy the journey, not the destination.”

[Amirul Mu’afa]

DEDICATION

I dedicated this final project to parents and every single person in my life who always gives me encouragement, care, love and trust. Thank you again from the bottom of my heart.



ABSTRACT

Mu'afa, Amirul. 30801600247. “ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN MACHINE GUN KELLY’S “SWING LIFE AWAY” SONG LYRIC”. Final Project of Language and Communication Science. English Literature Study Program. Faculty of Language and Communication Sciences. Sultan Agung Islamic University. Advisor: Mrs. Idha Nurhamidah, S.S., M.Hum.

The researcher accomplishes that the song entitled Swing Life Away by Machine Gun Kelly has several types of figurative language. The analysis is aiming at two purposes; the first is to find out the types of figurative language in the song’s lyrics, and then the next is to describe what does the song contextually means. There are seven figure of languages, which Personification, Metaphor, Hyperbole, Litotes, Simile, Metonymy, and Irony.

In this study, qualitative research technique is employed to analyze the Figurative Language and contextual meaning depicted In Machine Gun Kelly’s Song “Swing Life Away”. The main step is listening and reading the lyrics as the primary source. After listening and reading the lyrics, the second thing that needs to be done is identifying data. Then proceed with classifying the data needed in the study.

From the analysis, it can be concluded that the figurative language has important part in this song lyrics. The figurative languages mostly use to analizing poetry, but song lyrics and poetry has some similarity because it has a rhyme in it. Even though the writer of this lyrics tell his childhood life trough the song, the listener of this song also can conclude the contextual meaning of this lyrics by themself by using figurative languages such as; the personification, hyperbole, irony, etc.

Keywords: Figurative Language, Swing Life Away, Machine Gun Kelly.

INTISARI

Mu'afa, Amirul. 30801600247. Analisa Bahasa Figuratif Pada Lirik Lagu Berjudul “SWING LIFE AWAY” Oleh Machine Gun Kelly. English Skripsi Program Studi Sastra Inggris. Fakultas Bahasa dan Ilmu Komunikasi. Universitas Islam Sultan Agung Semarang.. Pembimbing: Idha Nurhamidah, S.S., M.Hum.

Peneliti menyimpulkan bahwa lagu yang berjudul *Swing Life Away* karya Machine Gun Kelly memiliki beberapa jenis bahasa kiasan. Analisis ini dibuat untuk dua tujuan; yang pertama adalah untuk mengetahui jenis-jenis bahasa kiasan dalam lirik lagu tersebut, dan kemudian yang berikutnya adalah untuk mendeskripsikan apa yang dimaksud dengan lagu tersebut secara kontekstual. tujuh majas bahasa, yaitu Personifikasi, Metafora, Hiperbola, Litotes, Simile, Metonymy, dan Irony.

Dalam penelitian ini, teknik penelitian kualitatif digunakan untuk menganalisis bahasa kiasan dan makna kontekstual yang digambarkan dalam lagu Machine Gun Kelly “*Swing Life Away*”. Langkah utama adalah mendengarkan dan membaca lirik sebagai sumber utama. Setelah mendengarkan dan membaca lirik, hal kedua yang perlu dilakukan adalah mengidentifikasi data. Kemudian dilanjutkan dengan mengklasifikasikan data-data yang dibutuhkan dalam penelitian.

Dari analisis tersebut, dapat disimpulkan bahwa bahasa kiasan memiliki bagian penting dalam lirik lagu ini. Bahasa kiasan banyak digunakan untuk menganalisis puisi, tetapi lirik lagu dan puisi memiliki beberapa kesamaan karena memiliki rima di dalamnya. Meskipun penulis lirik ini menceritakan kehidupan masa kecilnya melalui lagu, pendengar lagu ini juga dapat menyimpulkan makna kontekstual dari lirik ini sendiri dengan menggunakan bahasa kiasan seperti; personifikasi, hiperbola, ironi, dll.

Kata kunci: Bahasa Kiasan, *Swing Life Away*, Machine Gun Kelly.

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1. Mr. Kurniawan Yudhi Nugroho, S.Pd., M.Pd., as dean of English Literature Department the Collage of Languages and Communication Science Sultan Agung Islamic University.
2. Idha Nurhamidah, S.S., M.Hum., as the head of English Literature Department of Collage of Languages and Communication Science Sultan Agung Islamic University. Also as my respectable advisor of this final project who has given guidance and support to finish this study
3. Dyah Fitri Wulandari, S.S., M.Hum, as my respectable academic advisor who have guided me from the first semester until the last semester and also always support me to finish this study.
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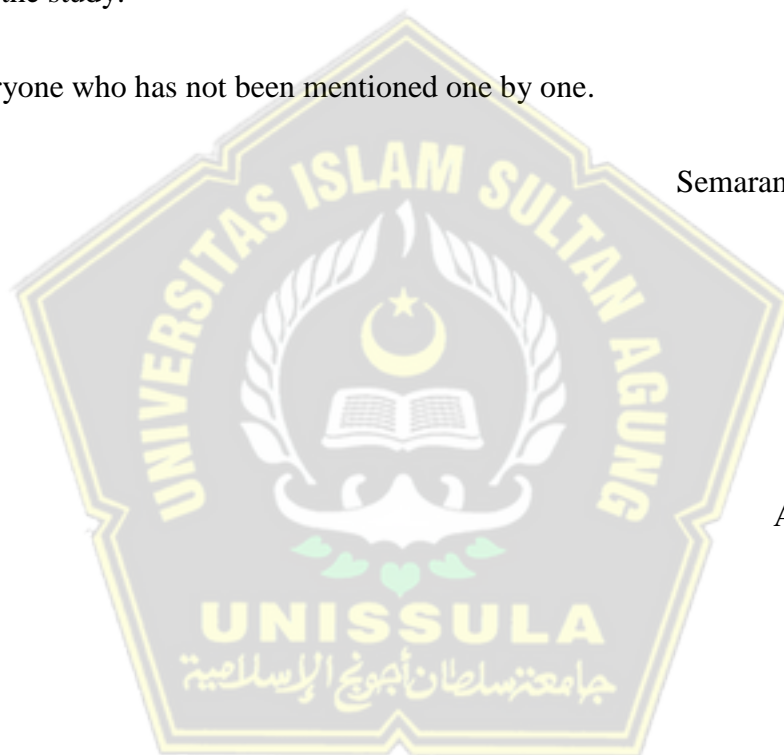
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8. All my classmates of English Literature 2016 always give support and help during the study.

9. Everyone who has not been mentioned one by one.

Semarang, 11 April 20



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Amirul Mu'afa', written over a horizontal line.

Amirul Mu'afa

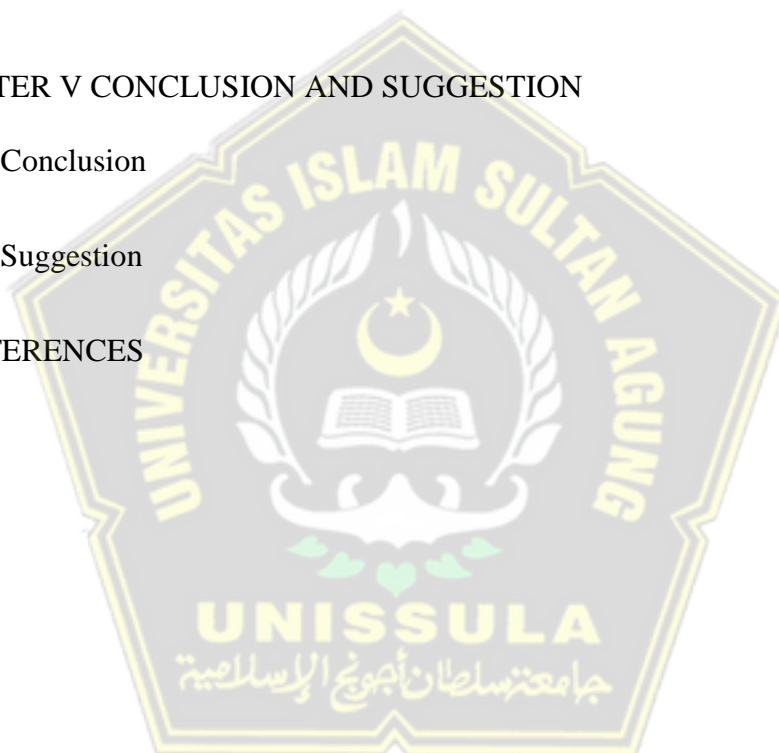
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background Of The Study

Language can be described as a means of communication in human life. Most people use language as a means of communicating, interacting, and informing others. Language can be used to express a person's emotions and feelings, and to express ideas, thoughts, and concepts that can be spoken or written. The writing language can be found in novels, newspapers, poetry and magazines. Spoken language can be found in songs, speeches and conversations. As human beings, we cannot separate ourselves from social communication and interaction, which certainly makes ourselves live must have language.

Semantics is the study of meaning in linguistics. Semantics is one of the branches of linguistics that explains language meaning, or it can be said that meaning is the most important thing in studying semantics terms. Meanings are studies about ideas or concepts that can be transferred from the mind of the speaker to the mind of the hearer by embodying them, as it were, in the form of one language or another, according to what has long been the most widely accepted theory of semantics.. (Lyons.136)

Part of the semantic study is literal and non-literal meaning. The literal meaning is the opposite of the non-literal meaning. When a speaker says that it has a natural meaning or no other meaning, it can be defined as a literal meaning.

When a speaker emits something that has a different or hidden meaning than his or her own words, it can be said to have a literal or non-literal meaning.

A figurative language is one in which the meanings of words or phrases differ from their literal translations. Images can be used in all types of communication, including everyday conversations, newspaper articles, advertisements, novels, and poetry. Figurative words use words that go beyond their literal meaning. To decipher the author's meaning, the reader must use his imagination. As with other vocabularies commonly used in everyday conversation, understanding the metaphorical meaning is difficult because the meaning of the metaphorical word cannot be found in the dictionary. We must use our imaginations to imagine what the words are saying in order to understand the meaning of an image.

According to Perrine, There are four primary reasons for employing figurative language. (Perrine 1). First, figurative language provides the reader with an imaginative enjoyment of literary works. Second, it is a way to introduce additional images into poetry, create abstract objects, and make literary works more sensual. The third figurative method is to give emotional strength only to statements that are otherwise useful and to convey attitudes and information. And finally, it's a way to say a lot with a short compass. In this work, researchers are interested in analyzing the figurative expressions found in literary works.

One of the most imaginative languages is known as the figurative language. Figurative words are usually found in several literary works such as poetry and

short stories. When writing poetry, writers mainly use metaphorical language. (Merriam-Webster .415) Define metaphorical words as a form of (remote) used to convey meaning or enhanced effects. Often, it compares or identifies with another that has a meaning or meaning that the reader or listener is familiar with.

As we all know, when listening to songs or reading lyrics, you may find terms that are difficult to understand because there are many metaphorical expressions and idioms that you do not encounter in everyday life. It is important to know the meaning of the images used in the lyrics. By doing so, you can imagine the story of the song and feel the emotions of the story behind the lyrics. In this paper, this study would analyze the figurative language from Machine Gun Kelly's song "*Swing Life Away*". I chose this song because it has a lot of metaphorical expressions that are difficult to understand. The author was also interested in knowing what the metaphorical expression of this text meant.

B. PROBLEM FORMULATION

1. What types of figurative languages found in Machine Gun Kelly's song *Swing Life Away*?
2. What does the song *Swing Life Away* contextually means?

C. LIMITATION OF STUDY

In this paper, The study's limitation centered on analyzing the seven figure of languages, which: (1) Personification, (2) Metaphor, (3) Hyperbole, (4) Idiomatic Expression, (5) Simile, (6) Metonymy, and (7) Irony. based on *Swing Life Away* lyric and the result in the reality. In addition, this study is to find the meaning of Figurative Language represented from the lyric.

D. OBJECTIVE OF STUDY

The purpose of this study are:

1. To find out the types of figurative language in Machine Gun Kelly's song *Swing Life Away*.
2. To describe what Machine Gune Kelly's song contextually means.

E. SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDY

The author hopes that this discussion is useful for readers, especially to anyone who study the a figurative language found in the song lyrics. The author also hopes that this discussion can help the reader to learn how to analyze it and relate it to a literary work.

F. ORGANIZATION OF STUDY

In order to clarify this discussion to the reader, this study consist of 5 chapters as:

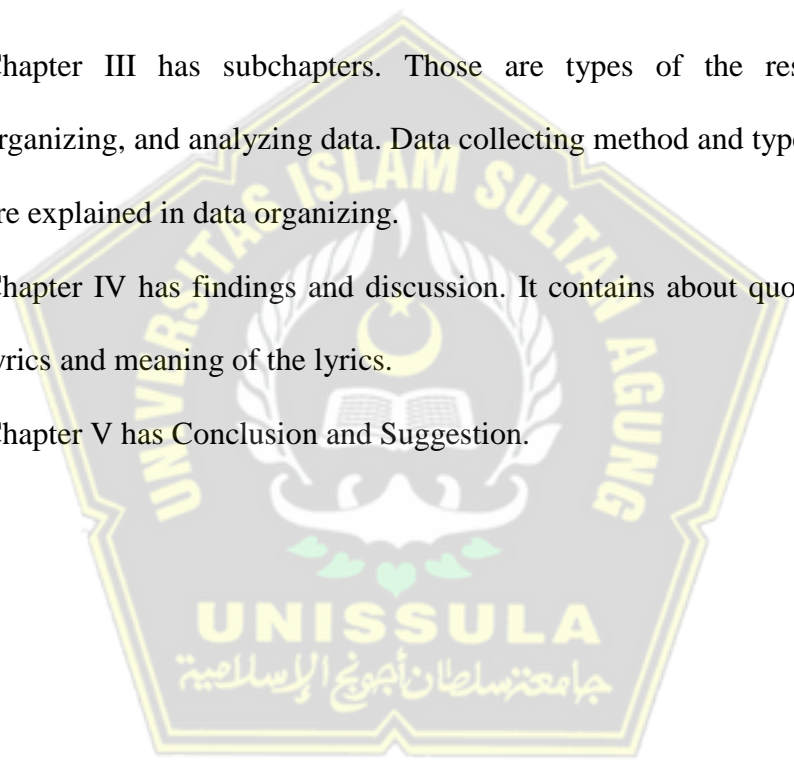
Chapter I is an introduction that contains five sub-chapters. There are background of the study, problem formulation, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, organization of the study

Chapter II is about the summary and the lyrics meaning of *Swing Life Away* song by Machine Gun Kelly and explain the types of figurative languages that found in this song.

Chapter III has subchapters. Those are types of the research, data, organizing, and analyzing data. Data collecting method and types of the data are explained in data organizing.

Chapter IV has findings and discussion. It contains about quotes, from the lyrics and meaning of the lyrics.

Chapter V has Conclusion and Suggestion.



CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

A. Summary

A.1. About The Song

The song is a mixtape in Machine Gun Kelly's album "Black Flag" that featuring Kellin Quinn as known as Sleeping With Sirens vocalist in the music. This song was released in United States on November 13, 2013. The lyric of this song is basically cover and rework of the Rise Against band song that Machine Gun Kelly made. Colson Baker or Machine Gun Kelly told Kellin Quinn that they must make this cover different than any other cover. They changed the genre from acoustic to melodic rock.

Like his previous music videos and songs, Machine Gun Kelly tries to deliver a music video with a powerful message and that is meaningful to his life values. In his music video, "Swing Life Away ft Kellin Quinn", Machine Gun Kelly shows us into his life story through his journey to fame and his love for his girlfriend staying strong through the crazy times. Throughout the music video, we get to see multiple periods in time of Machine Gun Kelly's life and see how his life progressed through the years. The music video includes many flashbacks into Machine Kelly's past and short clips of episodes in his life. Directed by Charlie Zwick, the music video switches between Machine Gun Kelly rapping and performing with a child actor who represents Machine Gun Kelly rapping and

performing. Put together extremely well, the music video features multiple unique directing strategies such as short clips, flashbacks and character changes, but the main focus is the message expressed through the video and song. Machine Gun Kelly is not one who is afraid to express himself and share his life stories and ideas with his fans and the public. In his music video, “Swing Life Away”, we get to see some past experiences that Machine Gun Kelly had to face with support from his girlfriend.

It first starts with his childhood, when Machine Gun Kelly is portrayed as a kid hanging out with his group of friends which includes the girl that will end up being his girlfriend. We then start seeing some of the troubles he had to face as he grows up. Machine Gun Kelly and his girlfriend are out hanging out when they see his close friend being arrested by the police. He tries to join rap circles to spit his lyrics and have fun but are denied and rejected from the circles because of his white skin color. He comes one night to find his father drunk and passed out, and decides to try some of the alcohol left on the table by his father. His father wakes up and sees him trying to drink the alcohol, which results in a heated altercation between Machine Gun Kelly and his father. Throughout the hard times, we see that his girlfriend is always supportive and by his side. Towards the end of the music video, Machine Gun Kelly finally makes it and becomes the famous rapper he was aspiring to be. However, being famous, Machine Gun Kelly receives a lot of attention from other females and is seen flirting with them. His girlfriend witnesses him flirting with other females and walks away from him at his concert.

At the end of the video, Machine Gun Kelly has to choose between performing at his concert or going after the girlfriend who has always been by his side. As you can all guess, Machine Gun Kelly ditches his concert and chases after his girlfriend for her forgiveness.

A.2. lyrics

“(Kellin Quinn)

Am I loud and clear?

(Machine Gun Kelly)

Or do I gotta scream like I did every day when I was a troubled teen, huh?

Do you want to know my past and see every single scar and know what they mean, huh?

17 running up in Mickey D's begging for a double cheese, huh,

Singing, "I don't want to grow up, don't nobody like you when you're 23."

I came from nothing but a unsupportive father I don't ever see,

I had to watch a crooked jury put my brother in the penitentiary,

I never fit in.

Criticism made me the man I couldn't be,

I'm reminiscing on when life was different spending every day at Chuckee

Cheese, uh

(Kellin Quinn)

We live on front porches and swing life away,

We get by just fine here on minimum wage,

If love is a labor I'll slave 'til the end,

And I'll run these streets if you give me a chance,

I've been here so long,

(Machine Gun Kelly)

Maybe I should runaway,

Try to find a summer day,

What is love?

Love is pain,

Love is butterflies and stomach aches,

Love is looking out a windowpane, tears dripping looking like you're in the rain,

For someone you don't even know but for somebody you may never see again,

I am only alive once,

And I'mma die when God wants,

So fill the sky with diamonds,

'Cause that's how it's gonna look when I'm gone,

Had a vision as a kid that one day I would change the world with my song,

Several years have passed and now that vision came to life that boy's an icon,

(Kellin Quinn)

We live on front porches and swing life away,
We get by just fine here on minimum wage,
If love is a labor I'll slave 'til the end,
And I'll run these streets if you give me a chance,

(Machine Gun Kelly)

Sometimes I don't want to wake up,
When all they want to do is bring me down,
And all the things I've went through as I came up,
Are the reasons why I run this town,

(Kellin Quinn & Machine Gun Kelly)

We live on front porches and swing life away,
(It's all about fans)
We get by just fine here on minimum wage,
(I told you)
If love is a labor I'll slave 'til the end, 'til the end,
And I'll run these streets if you give me a chance,

We live on front porches and swing life away,

(All my dreamers)

We get by just fine here on minimum wage,
(Stay real)

If love is a labor I'll slave 'til the end,

(And to my love)

And I'll run these streets if you give me a chance,

(Stay here)

Swing life away,

(And what we do)

Swing life away,

(What we do)

Swing life away,

(Yeah)

Swing life away,

(And we just)

Swing life away,

(Let's swing life away)

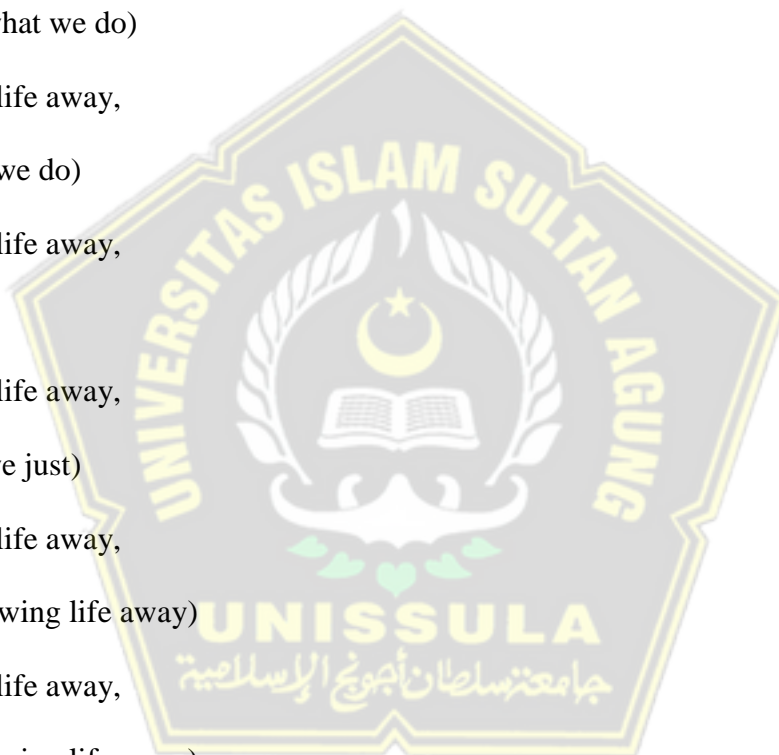
Swing life away,

(Let's swing life away)

Swing life away,

(Let's swing life away)

Swing life away.” (Kelly, 2013)



B. Related Literature

B.1 Figurative Language

A figurative language is a language that uses words or expressions that mean something other than a literal interpretation. Figurative language expresses a variety of thoughts and feelings. It's about how to structure sentences effectively and aesthetically, which can give specific explanations in the mind of the reader.

Pradopo stated that, “figure of speech causes literary works to attract attention, create freshness, be more lively, and create clarity of wishful thinking” (Pradopo 62). Images are very common in poetry, but they are also used in short stories. Images play a major role in compelling literary works. Its main purpose is to help the reader imagine or understand what the author means by means of expressions and statements. Some literary appliances and elements are often used in the image category. The important thing about images is that you can make the language more colorful. This means that people can express abstract ideas. Create sounds and transfer emotional content (Tarigan 113)

B.2 Types of Figurative Language

Leech stated, “figurative language classifies into seven types. The figurative language related to this study and described as being used to analyze the results” (Leech 11). The seven types of figurative language are below:

B.2.1 Personification

Personification is one of figurative languages which consider inanimate objects to have human-like characteristics; it is also equating objects with human behavior. In other words those inanimate objects can think and do anything as human-like.

B.2.2 Metaphor

A metaphor is a metaphorical language used to describe something as if it were something else, comparing directly to another irrelevant thing that is not really the same, and the audience sees this literally. Understand that it is a comparison, not an equation.

B.2.3 Simile

Simile is a literary term for comparing two different things and showing a common quality between them. Usually, we use the words "like" and "more" to compare two things.

B.2.4 Hyperbole

Hyperbole is figurative language used by the poet to show and express an event or something excessively.

B.2.5 Metonymy

Metonymy is the metaphorical meaning of replacing the name of an object or idea with another name that is closely related to it. Metonymy is derived from the Greek word "meta", meaning "change" and simply meaning "name". Metonymy is renaming, using one word for another, and using associative ideas.

According to Frost, "metonymy is a figure of speech that uses a concept closely related to the thing actually meant" (Frost 1). Metonymy is figure of speech consists of using the name one thing for something else with which associated.

B.2.6 Litotes

Litotes is an idiom that more effectively expresses or emphasizes the opposite by denying the opposite, rather than the speaker making a specific statement directly.

Litotes is an understatement, always conscious and aimed at adding subtle accents. However, the interpretation of Litotes can depend on contexts, including cultural ones. Speech can also depend on intonation and stress.

B.2.7 Irony

Irony is a usage of words that say something different from what we really mean. Irony is a kind of image that explains the opposite meaning and

contradiction. Etymologically, the word "irony" comes from the Greek word *erōnia*, which means "deception" or "trick". There is some debate about which qualities are ironic, but all the senses of irony are between what is being said and what is meant, or what is actually understood or expected of reality. Revolves around the perceived notion of discrepancies between what happens.

B.3 Meaning

B.3.1 Definition of Meaning

The message transmitted by words, sentences, and symbols in a context is known as meaning. Pardede elaborates the definition of meaning, which “meaning is the relation between words and objects to which they refer” (Pardede 11).

Semantics is a research topic in literature that focuses on understanding meaning. This shows how important the meaning of a word or phrase is. This sentence supported by Pardede, “it is obvious that meaning plays a very important role in any situation of speech acts” (Pardede 11). Pardede also elaborates the importance of meaning by arguing that “Without meaning, all the utterances of a language are useless or without meaning there will be no language, or if a language is not intended to communicate meaning, there will be no interaction of thought as we do in daily life.” (Pardede 11).

It can be affirmed that this is Pardede's point of view emphasizing meaning or meaning. How people use meaning to make their language easier to understand when communicating.

B.3.2 Contextual Meaning Based on Words

Each phrase spoken in a context has a conveyed meaning, and each phrase can have a different meaning depending on the context in which it is used. A sentence expressed in a particular context is defined by several context elements. Elements of meaning and context are connected.

Lyons in Manik states that, "Contextual meanings are the meanings of words depending on the circumstances in which they are used. Different situations have different meanings, while in certain situations the sentences are equivalent." (Lyons.8).

In addition, Crystal says that, "Contextual meaning is also defined as signal information about how a linguistic unit is used in that social context." (Crystal.8).

Longman in Manik says that, "Context means a part of speech that describes a word or thing. It can be said that the contextual meaning has the meaning of the text. It includes the function of words in sentence formation, as different orders of the same words can result in different contexts" (Longman.8).

So, we can conclude that the contextual meanings are the meanings of the words depending on the circumstances in which they are used. Different situations mean different sentences.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

A. Types of the Research

This research uses a qualitative research method. “Qualitative researchers are interested in understanding the meaning people have constructed, that is, how people make sense of their world and the experiences they have in the world.” (Merriam 13). Qualitative research is a context-sensitive activity that identifies observers around the world. It consists of a series of interpretive and material practices that make the world visible. “These practices change the world. They transform the world into a series of expressions. This includes field notes, interviews, conversations, photos, records, notes and more. At this level, qualitative research involves an interpretive and naturalistic approach to the world. This means that qualitative researchers study things in the natural environment and try to understand or interpret the phenomenon in terms of the meaning that people attach to them” (Denzin & Lincoln 3).

The qualitative method observes and interprets people's perceptions of various incidents and takes snapshots of people's perceptions of the natural environment. It examines the local knowledge and understanding of a given program, its relationships with people's experiences, meanings, social processes and contextual factors that alienate a group of people. This kind of study, which

focuses on words instead of numbers, observes the world in nature, interprets situations, and understands the meanings people make in their daily lives (Mohajan 24).

In this study, qualitative research technique is employed to analyze the Figurative Language and contextual meaning depicted In Machine Gun Kelly's Song "Swing Life Away".

B. Data Organizing

B.1 Data Collecting Method

This study used some steps in collecting the data, such as:

B.1.1 Listening the Lyrics

The object of this study is Lyrics entitled Swing Life Away written by Colson Baker or Machine Gun Kelly. To start accumulating data for the research, the author begins with listening and reading the lyrics as the primary source.

The lyrics are the script of the song. Contains all the words the singer sings. There is a paragraph that listeners use to follow what the singer is saying. Reading the lyrics of a song can improve the learner's ability to understand the message of the song. "By reading the text while singing, the listener can be emotional," said Mr. Suseno. By listening to how the singer pronounces the words, you can infer the message of the lyrics." (Suseno 180).

B.1.2 Identifying Data

After listening and reading the lyrics, the second thing that needs to be done is identifying data. The purpose of identifying data is to collect important data in the lyrics, meaning that those data will be used in the analysis process. Thus, after understanding the contents of the lyrics, the researcher need to identify data that are in accordance with the topic used. In identifying data, it is sufficient to understand and focus only on data related to the topic used. If there is an important data, simply underline or be marked.

B.1.3 Classifying Data

The next step is classifying the data. After marking important data in the lyrics, it is necessary to separate the data according to problem formulation. After the data are collected, the data are classified based on the predetermined problem formulation. The purpose of classifying data is to separate the data that have been collected in accordance with predetermined problem formulations, in other words it helps in analyzing the data.

B.1.4 Reducing Data

The final step is reducing data, reducing data is used to summarize and discard things that have little attachment to the topic of discussion and do not need to be included in this discussion. This is useful to facilitate the process of analyzing. By doing so, the data that will be analyzed are the strong data to answer the problem formulations.

B.2 Types of Data

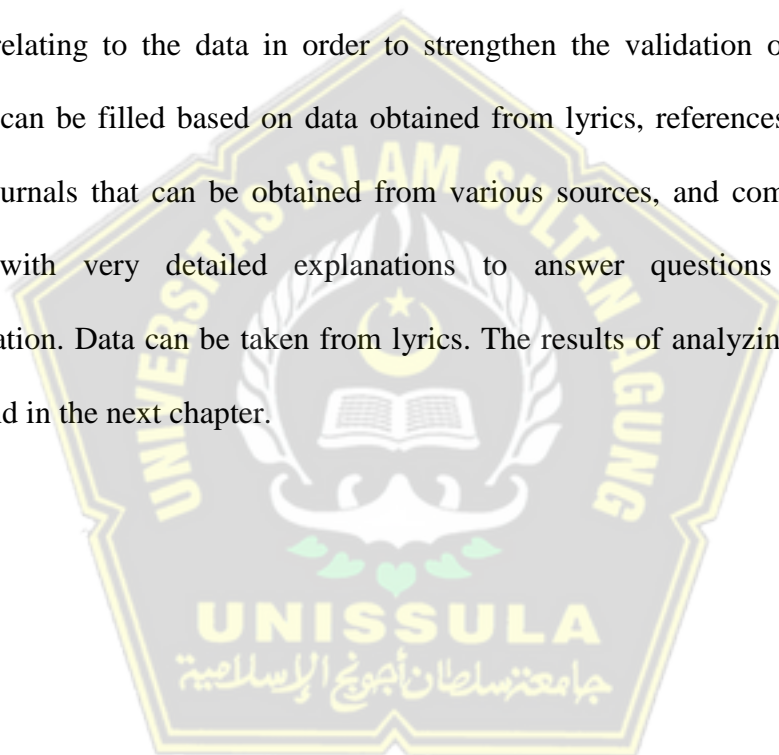
Types of data have two types. Those are primary data and secondary data:

- a) Primary data are the main data used in the analysis process. This primary data are used as an object in analyzing. According to Ajayi, “the term primary data refers to the data originated by the researcher for the first time” (Ajayi 2). Based on the statement above, the primary data is a song entitled *Swing Life Away* which was released in 2013 by Colson Baker as known as Machine Gun Kelly.
- b) Secondary data are the second data used to assist in the process of analyzing. This can be taken from journals or other reliable sources. According to Ajayi, “secondary data collection sources are government publications, websites, books, journal articles, internal records etc.” (Ajayi 3). Based on the statement above, secondary data can be taken from various reliable sources and have a relationship with the topic to be analyzed.

C. Analyzing the Data

The last point in the research method is analyzing the data. This is a technique that consists of analyzing and reporting data. The collected data is formed using a table containing pages, quotes from lyrics, types of data, comments, and references, so the process of analyzing becomes easier.

The researches can insert the collected data from lyrics and references are given relating to the data in order to strengthen the validation of the data. In quotes can be filled based on data obtained from lyrics, references can be filled with journals that can be obtained from various sources, and comments can be filled with very detailed explanations to answer questions on problem formulation. Data can be taken from lyrics. The results of analyzing the data can be found in the next chapter.



CHAPTER IV

FINDING AND ANALYSIS

A. Types of figurative languages found in Machine Gun Kelly's song

Swing Life Away

A.1 Figurative Language

A figurative language is a language that makes use of phrases or expressions that imply some thing aside from a literal interpretation. Figurative language expresses plenty of mind and feelings. It's approximately the way to shape sentences correctly and aesthetically, which could deliver unique motives withinside the thoughts of the reader. In the lyrics *Swing Life Away* by Machine Gun Kelly featuring Kellin Quinn, there are types of figurative that found in the lyrics, even in each words. However the researcher focuses on seven figure of languages, which Personification, Metaphor, Hyperbole, Litotes, Simile, Metonymy, and Irony based on the *Swing Life Away* lyrics. These are the seven types of figurative language found in *Swing Life Away* by Machine Gun Kelly.

A.1.1 Personification

The following example are belong to the Personification:

Personification is one of figurative languages which consider inanimate objects to have human-like characteristics; it is also equating objects with human behavior. In other words those inanimate objects can think and do anything as human-like.

Personification means using comparative similes and metaphors to give living qualities to non-living objects or ideas. It is a part of figurative language. In his *Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory*, Cuddon states that, “this figure is “inherent in many languages through the use of gender” (Cuddon 661). This can be seen in the following lyrics:

“I had to watch a crooked jury put my brother in the penitentiary”
(Swing Life Away, line 7).

The word *crooked* in the lyric mentioned by the singer described as a bad people. As we all know, the word *crooked* is the synonym of bent. For example, if we look at an iron pipe that is bent we look it as a bad quality of pipe, meanwhile when we see a straight pipe, we look it as a good quality pipe. So as the word *crooked* in the lyric written, the singer use a personification word *crooked*, instead using word *bad people, evil, or cheater*.

“And I'll run these streets if you give me a chance” (Swing Life Away, line 14).

In another word, the word *streets* in the lyrics simply means neighborhood. Run is the activity of a human being. The singer giving the human activity imagery of success and failure through the streets or in his neighborhood if he had a chance to do that. The singer uses the word *run the streets if you give me a*

chance as hope if he can do so changes, implying that in order to be successful, we must first try something in order to obtain what we desire, even if he fail.

“If love is a labor I'll slave 'til the end,” (Swing Life Away, Line 13).

The word labor is part of human activity where people doing something to earn wages for living. The personification based from the word *labor* that the singer mention is he going to do anything to achieve what he wants. Following the word *I'll slave 'til the end*, that the singer want to do anything for his partner even if he'll sacrifice anything until his death. The word slave is part of human condition where people are forced to do something and not hoping to get anything in return.

“Love is butterflies and stomach aches” (Swing Life Away, Line 20).

The word butterflies depicted as human characteristic of happiness cause of human condition, while stomach aches is depicted as sadness and sorrow. The contextual meaning from the lyric is the singer explain that love has a random combination of feeling, which is sometimes love is full of happiness and sometimes sorrow.

“Love is looking out a windowpane, tears dripping looking like you're in the rain” (Swing Life Away, Line 21).

The word looking is a human activity to observe something. Following the word *out a windowpane*, the singer want to explain that love has so many meanings just like we observe the world around us. Tears dripping is synonym word of crying which is a human activity when they feel sad or sorrow. Based on the lyric, the singer want to explain that love has so many mixed up feelings, for example giving a sadness.

“So fill the sky with diamonds” (Swing Life Away, Line 25)

The word fill is human activity when they want to load something in vessel. While the word sky specifies as the world where human lives, and diamonds specifies as happiness. Based from the lyrics, the meaning from the words is people must fill the world with happiness.

A.1.2 Metaphor

A metaphor is a figurative language used to describe something as if was something else, it makes a comparison directly relating one thing to another unrelated things that are not actually the same, and the audience understands that it is a comparison, not a literal equation. For example in Swing Life Away lyrics. “Metaphor is an implicit comparison between two concepts.” (Harmastuty 13). Harmastuty also stated, metaphor is used to compare similarities, to provoke

thought, to clarify, and add interest. Through metaphor, the abstract and confusing can be made more concrete and meaningful. (Harmastuty 14).

By the statement above, can be concluded that a metaphor is a comparison between two concepts that is not explicitly stated. By comparing similarities, to inspire thought, to clarify and to add interest is how the metaphor utilized. Following example can be found in the lyrics *Swing Life Away* by Machine Gun Kelly:

“Or do I gotta scream like I did every day when I was a troubled teen, huh?” (Swing Life Away, Line 2).

The singer giving the metaphor anger and rage using the word scream as potrayal of how to express his feelings. While the word childhood potrayed he using troubled teen as he described his childhood memories. Based on the lyrics, contextual meaning the singer want to show to the listener that he have bad memories in his childhood memories.

“17 running up in Mickey D's begging for a double cheese, huh?”(Swing Life Away, L:ine 4).

Cheese is part of the food ingredient in a hamburger. The singer used metaphor of double cheese to describe a double hamburger. The contextual meaning from the lyrics written, that the singer tell the story when he was a child, he used to go to the fast food restaurant to ask for free double food to live for a day.

“Singing, "I don't want to grow up, don't nobody like you when you're 23.””

The singer giving metaphor saying using the word singin, and young adult using the 23. The age of 23 usually refers to someone who already become a young adult. While the singer also stated I don't want to grow up because he enjoyed his childhood. The contextual meaning from the lyrics is the singer say that he want to become children forever, rather than become an adult.

“Maybe I should runaway, Try to find a summer day” (Swing Life Away, Line 17).

The word runaway that the singer used as metaphor meaning escape to try to find a better place. While the word better place described a summer day. Summer day means warm, comfy, a season that people mostly enjoying it for holiday. The contextual meaning from the lyrics is the singer want to escape to someplace better to find someplace he would be accepted by other people.

“So fill the sky with diamonds” (Swing Life Away, Line 25).

The word sky described as the world, and diamonds specifies as happiness. The singer use diamonds as metaphor of happiness because diamon is a pretty gems. Everyone who got a diamond mostly feeling happy because it is precious. The contextual meaning from the lyrics is the singer want to fill the world with happiness, not sorrow.

“If love is a labor I'll slave 'til the end,” (Swing Life Away, Line 13).

Slavery is a condition in which one human being was owned by another. The word slave used to portray the singer as a loyal figure. Based on the lyrics, the contextual meaning from the lyrics is, if loving someone is responsibility he will be a loyal person.

A.1.3 Simile

According to Gorys Keraf in the book entitled diction and style, “simile is a comparison that is explicit. What is meant by the comparison that is explicit is that it implies the same thing with another thing. To that end, it requires an effort that explicitly indicates that similarity, the words: like, same, as, like, like, and so on.” (Keraf 138). The following example can be found in the lyrics *Swing Life Away* by Machine Gun Kelly:

“Or do I gotta scream like I did every day when I was a troubled teen, huh?” (Swing Life Away, Line 2).

In this lyrics, comparison using word “like” to compares the singer feel his current life with his childhood. The contextual meaning is the singer want to show to the listener that he want to compare his current life with his childhood life.

“Had a vision as a kid that one day I would change the world with my song” (Swing Life Away, Line 27)

Using comparison “as” in the lyrics, the singer compares when he was a kid, the singer had a dream that he will become a famous. The contextual meaning on the lyrics above is the kid have a dream to become a famous musician and wanted to make an inspiration to other people that he was struggle in his childhood life.

A.1.4 Hyperbole

The act of expressing something in such a way that it appears redundant. Hyperbole is a figurative language term used when comparing anything to something that doesn't make sense to begin with. As cited in Harmastuty, Jay explains that “hyperbole refers to exaggeration; it aims to make an emotional statement.” (Harmastuty 15). Jay also added that hyperbole is not truthful. “it depends on the words used and how much they depart from truth.” (Harmastuty 15). The following example found in the lyrics Swing Life Away by Machine Gun Kelly:

“Or do I gotta scream like I did every day when I was a troubled teen, huh?” (Swing Life Away, Line 2)

Scream is a human activity when they express their feelings. It is an expression usually human do when they feel so angry or when they feel extremely

happy. The contextual meaning is the singer express his anger by screaming when he was a troubled child in the past, this was followed by the word *when I was a troubled teen*.

“Do you want to know my past and see every single scar and know what they mean, huh?” (Swing Life Away, Line 3)

Scar is a mark on the human body which is left after a wound has healed. Scar on someone is not just in the part on human body. If an unpleasant physical or emotional experience leaves a scar on someone, it has a permanent effect on their mind. The contextual meaning from this line is the singer tell the listener about the suffering he had in the past.

“If love is a labor I'll slave 'til the end,” (Swing Life Away, Line 13)

As it written on the page before, slavery is a condition in which one human being was owned by another. The word slave used to potray the singer as a loyal figure. The contextual meaning from this line is the singer using the word slave that describe him that he will be loyal to his lover untill death.

“What is love?

Love is pain,

Love is butterflies and stomach aches,” (Swing Life Away, Line 18-20)

Love is painful, but the pain is certainly a blessing. Love is painful because love brings growth. Pain in love symbolizes the struggle of love and is meaning that to truly have love you must go through pain so therefore they are one in the same. The contextual meaning is the singer explain that love is a process. A process through pain, but sometime there are happines in it.

“Love is looking out a windowpane, tears dripping looking like you're in the rain,” (Swing Life Away, Line 21)

The word *out a windowpane*, the singer want to explain that love has so many meanings just like we observe the world around us. While the word *like you're in the rain*, rain is dripping from the sky. Just like people when crying that the tears fall from the eyes. The contextual meaning is the singer explain love has so many mixed up feelings, for example giving a sadness.

“Had a vision as a kid that one day I would change the world with my song,” (Swing Life Away, Line 27)

There is a famous speech that I have never heard of. It's about dreams and visions. And by fully expressing that dream, he changed the world and left a better place for all of us. The contextual implication is that the singer dreamed of becoming famous and wanted to be a role model for the rest of the world.

A.1.5 Litotes

“Litotes, derived from a Greek word meaning “simple”, is a figure of speech which employs an understatement by using double negatives or, in other words, positive statement is expressed by negating its opposite expressions. According to Abrams, “understatement represent something as very much less in magnitude or importance than really is, or is ordinarily considered to be (Abrams 1999). “Saying, “She is not a beauty queen”, means “She is ugly”. ” The example shows a negative statement by negating the positive expression. Litotes uses ironical understatement in order to emphasize an idea or situation rather than minimizing its importance. The following example can be found in the lyrics *Swing Life Away* by Machine Gun Kelly:

“I came from nothing but a unsupportive father I don't ever see,”
(Swing Life Away, Line 6)

Positive statement is expressed by negating its positive expression. Instead of saying *i'm a nobody* the singer preferred *I came from nothing*. The contextual meaning is the singer explain that before he became famous, he was a nobody, just a normal person that have unsupportive father that not support him in his life.

“Sometimes I don't want to wake up,

When all they want to do is bring me down,” (Swing Life Away,
Line 33-34)

Positive statement is expressed by negating its positive expression. The word *Sometimes I don't want to wake up* is negative expression which from the positive statement *Sometimes i'm not realize*. The contextual meaning is the singer is not have a confidence to do something, because everyone in his environment is always let him down, rather than support him.

A.1.6 Metonymy

Metonymy is a figurative meaning in which the name of one object or idea is substituted for that of another closely associated with it. Metonymy is derived from Greek word `meta` means `to change` and only means `name`. Metonymy is a change of name, the use of the one word for another, the use of an idea by means of terms involving association.

According to Frost, “metonymy is a figure of speech that uses a concept closely related to the thing actually meant.” (Frost 2006). Metonymy is an idiom consisting of using the name of something for something else to which it is connected. The following example can be found in the lyrics *Swing Life Away* by Machine Gun Kelly:

“17 running up in Mickey D's begging for a double cheese, huh,”
(*Swing Life Away*, Line 4)

The metonymically word Mickey D's refers to McDonald which is representing an American fast food restaurant. The contextual meaning is the

singer tell about when he was a child, he used to go to the fast food restaurant to ask for free double food to live for a day.

“I’m reminiscing on when life was different spending every day at Chuckee Cheese, uh” (Swing Life Away, Line 10)

The metonymically word found in the line of the lyrics is Chuckee Cheese. The Chuckee Cheese is the name of one fast food restaurant in the United States which sale pizza and chicken wings with cheese. The meaning of this line is the singer remembering his childhood he spent almost everyday eating in the fast food restaurant.

A.1.7 Irony

Irony is a usage of words that say something different from what we really mean. Irony is a kind of image that explains the opposite meaning and contradiction. Etymologically, the word "irony" comes from the Greek word *erōnia*, which means "deception" or "trick". Jay in Harmastuty stated that “irony is interpreted as the use of figurative language to produce the opposite meaning of the literal meaning or it is where one thing is stated but something else is intended.” (Harmastuty 18). According to Dews in Jay “irony requires the listeners to substitute a new meaning for the literal meaning.” (Harmastuty 18). The following example can be found in the lyrics *Swing Life Away* by Machine Gun Kelly:

“Singing, "I don't want to grow up, don't nobody like you when you're 23." (Swing Life Away, Line 6)

The irony in this line of lyric found in the word *don't nobody like you when you're 23*. The word in the lyric basically means when people already grow into adult, mostly they will be treated different with when they were child. Contextual meaning from the lyric is the singer just want to become a teenager or child forever.

B. Generalized Theme in the Lyrics *Swing Life Away* by Machine Gun Kelly

B.1 Contextual Meaning

The lyrics is an auto-bio lyrics, means he tells about himself. He explain his journey about his childhood who is nothing then become famous rapper. Colson Baker was born in the 1990's. In that year, gangster was dominating that make homicidal juvenile was very common in the late 20th century. A young Baker as known as Machine Gun Kelly lived a difficult life because his childhood was living among gangster territory.

Each word spoken in a context has a conveyed which means, and every word could have a distinct which means relying at the context wherein it's far used. A sentence expressed in a selected context is described through numerous context factors. Elements of which means and context are connected. Context can confer with a number of things. Context refers to how phrases and their meanings

are associated in a written work. Context may be linguistic, regarding a language item's linguistic environment, or situational, regarding greater linguistic factors that make a contribution to the development of which means. Most phrases have a couple of meanings. The contextual use of a phrase determines its which means; the phrases withinside the sentence that surround the phrase the researcher is making an attempt to outline will offer contextual clues to assist the readers outline the phrase's which means. Within the context of a sentence, a phrase is described. We additionally want to keep in mind whether or not the phrase is used as a noun, adjective, or adverb. Contextual which means additionally tips on the denotative (literal or specific) and connotative (interpreted or emotional) meanings of phrases.

As we know, meaning has two components: linguistic meaning and speaker meaning. There are two types of speaker meanings: literal and non-literal. Metaphor has a non-literal meaning. The author concludes that the meaning of the metaphor is hidden or implied. That means that what is being said or written is not the same as what is being said or written. In summary, when a speaker expresses his thoughts, thoughts, and feelings, the meaning has different interpretations. Interpretation has to do with the study of semantics.

Gangster is a member of a gang of criminals, especially a racketeer in an organized crime syndicate. The lyrics in the first verse tell about the teenage violence in that era, where the trend of gangster community emerge in the United States in the early 1990's. America has become a society that is mostly obsessed with gangsters, especially those associated with drugs and violence. While it is

true that violence among gang members has escalated and drug involvement has been a hallmark of long-standing gang life, gangs are now increasingly and almost exclusively on the issue of drug and violence over the last decade. Has been accused of. This is partly due to the increasing number and diversity of gangs nationwide, affecting both large cities and small communities.

Walter Miller who was an American anthropologist stated:

“A youth gang is a self-formed association of peers, bound together by mutual interests, with identifiable leadership, well-developed lines of authority, and other organizational features, who act in concert to achieve a specific purpose or purposes which generally include the conduct of illegal activity and control over a particular territory, facility, or type of enterprise.” (Miller, 1980).

The gangster early emerge in the United States in the late 20th century causing so much homicidal juvenile. The case of the teenage problem also have a connection with the lyrics written by Colson Baker as known as Machine Gun Kelly who tell his story about his childhood life.

“Am I loud and clear?

Or do I gotta scream like I did every day when I was a troubled teen, huh?

Do you want to know my past and see every single scar and know what they mean, huh?

17 running up in Mickey D's begging for a double cheese, huh,
Singing, "I don't want to grow up, don't nobody like you when
you're 23." (Swing Life Away, Line 1-5)

In the first verse line 1 to 5, the singer tells about his childhood memory which is dark and miserable which can be seen from the word "*Or do I gotta scream like I did every day when I was a troubled teen, huh? Do you want to know my past and see every single scar and know what they mean, huh*" in line 3. The singer wrote the lyrics tell about his difficult life because in that era, the gang violence and homicidal juvenile was massive that made his life was so difficult because he must survive in his life. In the line 4 to 5 the singer continuing that his he usually goes to fast food restaurant to ask for food. The singer also said that he don't want to be useless when he already grow up.

"I came from nothing but an unsupportive father I don't ever see,
I had to watch a crooked jury put my brother in the penitentiary,
I never fit in.

Criticism made me the man I couldn't be,
I'm reminiscing on when life was different spending every day at
Chuckee Cheese, uh" (Swing Life Away, Line 6-10)

The singer continue his story about his past, that he once was a poor and have came from a troubled family and also had to watch his brother get into the jail because of corrupted jury. The singer here in the lyrics feels that the world is unfair to him.

“We live on front porches and swing life away,

We get by just fine here on minimum wage,

If love is a labor I'll slave 'til the end,

And I'll run these streets if you give me a chance,

I've been here so long”

In the chorus part, the singer tells that he just lived in the front of porches. He tells that he was just fine by having a minimum money to live in. He also tells that he just need love and attention from his closest relatives that can be seen in the line 13.

“Maybe I should runaway,

Try to find a summer day,

What is love?

Love is pain,

Love is butterflies and stomach aches,

Love is looking out a windowpane, tears dripping looking like
you're in the rain,

For someone you don't even know but for somebody you may
never see again,”

The second verse the singer explained that he wanted to go somewhere
pleasant where he and his girlfriend can go somewhere pleasant. He asked himself
what is the meaning of love. Through the hard times, his girlfriend is always
supportive and by his side.

“I am only alive once,

And I'mma die when God wants,

So fill the sky with diamonds,

'Cause that's how it's gonna look when I'm gone,

Had a vision as a kid that one day I would change the world with
my song,

Several years have passed and now that vision came to life that
boy's become icon,” (Swing Life Away, Line 23)

In the second verse line 23 to 28, the singer explained that he realized that life is short. So he hope that someday he can change the world through his voice. After several years, he finally acquire his dream as a famous rapper.

“Sometimes I don't want to wake up,

When all they want to do is bring me down,

And all the things I've went through as I came up,

Are the reasons why I run this town,” (Swing Life Away, Line 30-33)

In the bridge section on the lyrics, the singer imagine about his life in the past. He almost gave up with his life because he think that nobody ever support him. But after years has passed, he realized that there was someone who always support him, which is his girlfriend.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

After the analysis of the finding and discussion has been completed, the researcher accomplishes that the song entitled *Swing Life Away* by Machine Gun Kelly has seven types of figurative languages. The analysis is aiming at two purposes; the first is to find out the types of figurative language in the song's lyrics, and then the next is to describe what does the song contextually means. seven figure of languages, which Personification, Metaphor, Hyperbole, Litotes, Simile, Metonymy, and Irony based on the *Swing Life Away* lyrics. The lyrics is an auto-bio lyrics, means he tells about himself. He explain hs journey about his childhood who is nothing then become famous rapper.

From the analysis, we can conclude that figurative words play an important role in the text of this song. The figurative languages mostly use to analizing poetry, but song lyrics and poetry has some similarity because it has a rhyme in it. Even though the writer of this lyrics tell his childhood life trough the song, the listener of this song also can conclude the contextual meaning of this lyrics by themself by using figurative languages such as; the personification, hyperbole, irony, etc.

B. Suggestion

Based on this study, there are several suggestions for readers. That is, the reader must analyze other objects using a figurative language point of view. Furthermore, readers must also analyze the lyrics *Swing Life Away* by Machine Gun Kelly with another theory. Finally, readers must continue to analyze the kind of figurative languages in *Swing Life Away* lyric by Machine Gun Kelly so that their analytical skills can improve



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