

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Language refers to the system of communication used by humans to convey meaning through the use of spoken or written symbols, such as words, grammar, and syntax. It is a complex cognitive and social phenomenon that allows individuals to express and interpret ideas, feelings, and information, and to interact with others in a meaningful way. Language is also closely linked to culture, as it reflects and shapes the beliefs, values, and practices of a particular group or society. Rita said that language is "The means by which we transmit and preserve culture, and it is a vehicle for self-expression and creativity." (Borodtsky, 2011)

Language is a fundamental aspect of human communication and culture. It enables individuals to share and express their thoughts, ideas, and emotions with others, and to understand and respond to the messages conveyed by others. Language is a complex cognitive and social phenomenon that involves a range of skills and processes, including perception, memory, attention, inference, and reasoning.

Language is typically conveyed through spoken or written symbols, such as words, phrases, sentences, and paragraphs. These symbols are arranged according to a set of rules and conventions known as grammar and syntax, which enable individuals to form meaningful and coherent

messages. In addition, language also involves non-verbal cues such as tone of voice, facial expressions, and body language, which can enhance or modify the meaning of spoken or written words.

One of the key features of language is its ability to reflect and shape the culture and identity of a particular group or society. Language is closely tied to social norms, beliefs, values, and practices, and can reflect the history, traditions, and worldview of a particular community. For example, different languages may have different vocabularies, idioms, and metaphors that reflect cultural concepts and perspectives.

Overall, language is a rich and complex phenomenon that plays a central role in human communication, culture, and identity. Its study involves a range of disciplines, including linguistics, psychology, anthropology, and sociology, and continues to be a subject of ongoing research and exploration.

Literature is one part of language, literature refers to written or spoken works of art that use language as a medium of expression to create imaginative, aesthetic, and emotional experiences for readers or listeners. It includes a wide variety of genres, such as poetry, fiction, drama, and non-fiction, and encompasses works that are both imaginative and factual. As Brennan said "Literature is a medium for exploring the complexities of the human condition, using language to convey ideas, emotions, and stories that resonate with readers on a profound level." (Brennan, 2021)

The primary aim of literature is to entertain, inform, and provoke thought and emotion in its audience. It achieves this through the use of language that is carefully crafted for its sound, rhythm, imagery, and symbolism. Moreover, literature is often used to explore and reflect on the human experience, including the complexities of relationships, the struggles of identity and belonging, and the challenges of morality and ethics.

Literature also plays an important role in shaping cultural and historical narratives. It can reflect the social, political, and cultural context of a particular time and place, as well as offer insight into the values and beliefs of a particular society. Moreover, literature can be used to challenge dominant narratives, question authority, and promote social justice and change.

Overall, literature is a rich and diverse field that offers readers and listeners the opportunity to engage with complex ideas, explore new perspectives, and connect with the world around them. It has the power to entertain, inform, and inspire, and continues to be a vital part of human culture and expression.

Language and literature are closely related as literature is a written or spoken expression of language. Literature is essentially a form of art that uses language to convey meaning, ideas, emotions, and experiences through storytelling, poetry, drama, and other genres.

Language, on the other hand, is the medium or tool that is used to create literature. It is the system of communication that allows us to express ourselves, share ideas, and connect with others. Literature, in turn, enriches language by expanding its vocabulary, grammar, and syntax.

Furthermore, literature also serves as a reflection of the culture and society in which it is created, and language is an integral part of that cultural identity. Literature is often used to explore and comment on the complexities of language, such as how language shapes our thoughts and perceptions, how language is used to manipulate and control people, and how language can be used to express power and resistance.

In short, language is the foundation of literature, and literature is one of the most powerful ways in which we use language to express our ideas, emotions, and experiences.

Allah says in the al-Quran sura az-Zumar verse 27 :

وَلَقَدْ ضَرَبْنَا لِلنَّاسِ فِي هَذَا الْقُرْآنِ مِنْ كُلِّ مَثَلٍ لَعَلَّهُمْ

يَتَذَكَّرُونَ

Allah in the Koran has said that there are many parables in it and advises his people to study these parables so that his people can understand and benefit from these parables.

The writer wants to examine the used of figurative language in this research, figurative language refers to the use of words or phrases in a way

that goes beyond their literal meaning, in order to create a more vivid or imaginative expression. It involves the use of various literary devices such as metaphors, similes, personification, hyperbole, and symbolism to convey meaning and create an impact on the reader or listener. According to Francis "Figurative language involves the use of words and expressions in a non-literal way, often to create comparisons, associations, or images that enhance our understanding of a concept or situation. It can be used for a variety of purposes, including to persuade, to entertain, and to create art." Francis (2019)

For example, a metaphor is a figure of speech that compares two things that are not alike in order to highlight their similarities. For instance, "Her voice was music to my ears." In this sentence, the speaker is using the metaphor of "music" to describe the sound of the person's voice, which is not actually music but has qualities that are similar to it.

Simile is another type of figurative language that involves comparing two things using the words "like" or "as". For instance, "She was as happy as a clam." This sentence uses a simile to describe how happy the person was, by comparing her to a clam, which is known for being contented when the tide is in.

Personification is a type of figurative language that involves giving human qualities or characteristics to non-human entities. For instance, "The

wind whispered through the trees." In this sentence, the wind is given the human quality of being able to whisper.

Hyperbole is a type of exaggeration that is often used in figurative language to create emphasis or to make a point. For instance, "I'm so hungry, I could eat a horse!" In this sentence, the speaker is exaggerating their hunger to make a point.

Overall, figurative language is an important aspect of literature and can add depth and complexity to writing by creating vivid and imaginative expressions. It allows writers to communicate ideas and emotions in a more engaging and impactful way, and can help readers or listeners to better understand and connect with the text.

The form of literature that the writer want to examine in this research is song, a song is a type of musical composition that is typically structured around a melody and lyrics. It is designed to be performed vocally, either solo or with a group, and is often accompanied by musical instruments such as guitars, pianos, drums, or other instruments. Songs can be created in a wide variety of musical styles and genres, including pop, rock, country, hip-hop, classical, and more.

The lyrics of a song can be written in a variety of languages and can convey a range of emotions and messages. Some songs are written as a means of storytelling, while others express personal experiences or

emotions. The lyrics of a song can be literal or metaphorical, and can be used to convey a wide range of ideas and themes.

The melody of a song is typically created around a central musical idea, which is then developed into a full song structure. The melody can be simple or complex, and can be created using a variety of musical techniques such as repetition, variation, or modulation. The melody is often accompanied by harmonies, which are created by layering different musical parts on top of the main melody.

The production of a song involves recording and mixing the various musical elements to create a final, polished product. This can involve using a variety of recording techniques and software to manipulate and enhance the sound of the recorded instruments and vocals.

Songs can be an important form of artistic expression, allowing artists to share their thoughts and emotions with others through music. They can also serve as a means of communication, conveying messages and ideas to a wider audience. Songs can be deeply personal or reflect broader cultural and societal issues, and can play an important role in shaping our cultural identity and history. According to Meyer and Shinn "Songs are a significant part of our culture and history, providing a means for individuals and communities to express their ideas, beliefs, and experiences. They can be seen as a form of poetry set to music, conveying meaning and emotion through the use of language and sound." Meyer and Shinn (2017)

The use of figurative language in songs has been a common practice since the beginning of music. Figurative language refers to language that uses words and phrases in a non-literal way, to create a deeper or more complex meaning.

One of the most common types of figurative language in songs is metaphor. Metaphors are used to make comparisons between two things that are not usually associated with each other, in order to create a deeper understanding of an idea or concept. For example, in the song "I Will Always Love You" by Whitney Houston, the lyrics "I will always love you / Like a river flows surely to the sea" use the metaphor of a river to express the depth and constancy of the singer's love.

Another type of figurative language often found in songs is simile. Similes are similar to metaphors, but use the words "like" or "as" to compare two things. For example, in the song "Like a Rolling Stone" by Bob Dylan, the lyrics "How does it feel / To be on your own / With no direction home / Like a complete unknown" use simile to create an image of someone lost and directionless.

Personification is another common type of figurative language in songs, where human qualities are attributed to non-human objects or concepts. For example, in the song "The Wind" by Cat Stevens, the lyrics "I listen to my words but / They fall far below" personify the words as if they have a will of their own.

Other types of figurative language found in songs include hyperbole, which uses exaggeration for emphasis, and symbolism, which uses objects or concepts to represent something else.

Figurative language is used in songs to create a deeper emotional connection with the listener, to convey complex ideas or emotions, and to add layers of meaning to the lyrics. It is a powerful tool that allows songwriters to express themselves in a unique and memorable way. The use of figurative language in songs has been a long-standing tradition in many cultures, and continues to be an important element in contemporary music.

The song that the writer want to examine in this research is the song from Aurora' Album Running with The Wolf. "Running with the Wolves" is an album by the Norwegian singer-songwriter Aurora. Released in 2015, the album features 12 tracks, including the popular singles "Runaway," "Running with the Wolves," and "Murder Song (5, 4, 3, 2, 1)."

The album showcases Aurora's unique style of ethereal pop music, blending dreamy electronic sounds with her haunting, yet powerful vocals. The lyrics of the songs often feature themes of self-discovery, inner strength, and resilience.

The title track, "Running with the Wolves," is a standout song on the album, featuring a pulsating beat and a chorus that encourages listeners to embrace their wild side and run free. The song's lyrics draw upon imagery

of nature and animals, encouraging listeners to connect with their primal instincts and embrace their authentic selves.

"Runaway" is another popular track on the album, featuring a more stripped-down sound and intimate lyrics that explore the feelings of isolation and vulnerability that can come with being true to oneself. "Murder Song (5, 4, 3, 2, 1)" is a haunting ballad that showcases Aurora's impressive vocal range, featuring lyrics that juxtapose the beauty and violence of nature.

Overall, "Running with the Wolves" is a captivating album that showcases Aurora's unique voice and style. Its dreamy sounds and thought-provoking lyrics make for a truly immersive listening experience.

Aurora Aksnes is a Norwegian singer, songwriter, and musician born on June 15, 1996, in Stavanger, Norway. She is known professionally as Aurora and has gained widespread popularity for her unique sound and style, as well as her distinctive voice.

Aurora grew up in a musical family and started playing the piano at a young age. She began writing songs as a teenager and gained attention for her performance of a cover of the Oasis song "Half the World Away" on a Norwegian television show in 2013.

In 2015, Aurora released her debut EP "Running with the Wolves," which received critical acclaim and helped establish her as an up-and-

coming artist to watch. The title track of the EP became a hit, and Aurora soon gained a loyal following for her dreamy pop sound and ethereal vocals.

Aurora's debut album, "All My Demons Greeting Me as a Friend," was released in 2016 and was also well-received by critics and fans alike. The album showcased Aurora's unique style, blending electronic and acoustic sounds with poetic lyrics that often explore themes of self-discovery and the natural world.

Since then, Aurora has released several more albums and has become a popular live performer, known for her captivating stage presence and mesmerizing voice. She has been recognized for her artistry and has won numerous awards, including the European Border Breakers Award and the Spellemannprisen (Norwegian Grammy) for Best Pop Artist in 2018.

In conclusion, language is a fundamental aspect of human communication and culture, enabling individuals to express and interpret ideas, feelings, and information, and to interact with others in a meaningful way. Language is closely tied to social norms, beliefs, values, and practices, and can reflect the history, traditions, and worldview of a particular community. Literature, on the other hand, refers to written or spoken works of art that use language as a medium of expression to create imaginative, aesthetic, and emotional experiences for readers or listeners. Literature offers readers and listeners the opportunity to engage with complex ideas, explore new perspectives, and connect with the world around them, and

plays an important role in shaping cultural and historical narratives. Language and literature are closely related as literature is a written or spoken expression of language, and literature enriches language by expanding its vocabulary, grammar, and syntax. Finally, figurative language refers to the use of words or phrases in a way that goes beyond their literal meaning to create a more vivid or imaginative expression, and includes literary devices such as metaphors, similes, personification, hyperbole, and symbolism.

Related to the description above, the writer decided to studies figurative language used in Aurora's album Running With The Wolf. The writer intends to find some kinds of figurative language used.

B. Definition of Key Terms

In order to make the readers get easier in understanding this study, here the researcher will give the definition of some key terms that important to be understood.

1. Analysis is the process of breaking down complex information into smaller components in order to understand its structure, function, and meaning. "Analysis is the process of breaking down complex information into manageable parts, in order to make sense of it and communicate it effectively" - M. Smith (2019)

2. Figurative language refers to the use of words or phrases that go beyond their literal or dictionary definitions to convey a more imaginative or metaphorical meaning. This type of language is often used to add depth, richness, and creativity to written or spoken communication. Examples of figurative language include metaphors, similes, personification, hyperbole, and symbolism. Metaphors compare two unlike things, while similes use "like" or "as" to draw a comparison. Personification gives human qualities to non-human entities, while hyperbole exaggerates for effect. Symbolism uses objects or ideas to represent something else. By using figurative language, writers and speakers can engage their audience and create a more vivid and memorable experience. According to Gibbs (2008) "Figurative language is language that departs from literal meaning, in order to convey a different or deeper meaning".

3. Song

A song is a musical composition that typically features lyrics and a melody that is intended to be sung. It is a form of musical expression that has been used for storytelling, expressing emotions, and conveying messages for centuries. Songs are typically composed of verses and a chorus, and can be accompanied by instruments such as guitars, drums, and keyboards. They can range in genre from pop,

rock, and hip-hop to classical, country, and folk. Songs have become an important part of popular culture and a means of entertainment for millions of people worldwide. According to *The Oxford Handbook of Music Education* (2012).

"A song is a musical composition that typically features lyrics and a melody that is intended to be sung by a human voice"

4. Lyric

Lyrics are the words of a song, typically written to be sung along with a melody. They are often poetic and expressive, conveying a range of emotions and ideas to the listener. Lyrics can be deeply personal or reflective of broader social or political issues, and have the power to resonate with people in a profound way. As the musicologist Carolyn Abbate (2016) once said, "The words of a song can draw us into the music and make us feel the beauty of the melody in a way that nothing else can". Through their use of language and storytelling, lyrics have become an integral part of the music listening experience and have the ability to connect with listeners on a deeply emotional level.

5. Aurora Aknesh

Aurora Aksnes (born 15 June 1996), known mononymously as Aurora (stylized in all caps), is a Norwegian singer, songwriter, dancer and record producer. Born in Stavanger and raised in the towns of Høle and

Os, she began writing her first songs and learning dance at the age of six. After some of her songs were uploaded online and became popular in Norway, she signed a recording contract with Petroleum Records, Decca and Glassnote Records in 2014. Aurora gained recognition with her debut extended play (EP), *Running with the Wolves* (2015), which contained the sleeper hit "Runaway". Later that year, she provided the backing track for the John Lewis Christmas advert, singing a cover of the Oasis song "Half the World Away".

C. Research Questions

Based on the topic, the problem of the study can be formulated as follows:

1. What are the figurative languages used in Aurora's album *Running with the Wolves*?
2. What are the meanings of figurative languages used in Aurora's album *Running with the Wolves*?

D. Objective of Study

Based on the research problem above, this is objective of study :

1. To identify the figurative language used in Aurora's album *Running with the Wolves*.
2. To find out the meaning of figurative language in Aurora's album *Running with the Wolves*.

E. Significance of Study

The result of this study is expected to have advantage, such as :

1. For English teacher, the result of the research hopefully able to be used as references in teaching and learning English.
2. For English learner, the research finding are expected to enrich their knowledge about figurative language used in songs.
3. For future researcher, the research findings are expected can be used as references in conducting further studies about figurative language used in different songs by different singer