

Analysis Metaphors Lyric Song In Petal For Armor By Hayley Williams

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Abstract

This thesis aims to analysis the use of conceptual metaphors in the songs on the album *Petals for Armor* by Hayley Williams by focusing on discussing the meaning that is in each song. This study uses a qualitative analysis process on the lyrics chosen based on the use and diversity of metaphors contained in the text of the song lyrics. The data were analysis using a descriptive-analytical approach, which involved identifying and classifying the conceptual metaphors that appear in the lyrics of the song. Based on the results of this thesis analysis, there are 21 conceptual metaphors found in the song lyrics in the *Petals for Armor* album. The results of the analysis show that the album *Petals for Armor* contains various types of conceptual metaphors that are used to describe and express the author's experience to be understood by listeners through writing metaphors in each of the song lyrics.

Keywords: music, metaphors, lyrics

1.Introduction

The art of music is art in the form of audio which is created based on a combination of various sound elements arranged in an orderly manner. The music combines the use of several musical instruments and human vocal sounds that are processed and arranged in a certain way to create a beautiful impression to the listener. The elements contained in music include rhythm, melody, harmony, dynamics, and tempo. Rhythm refers to rhythmic patterns and beats in music, while the melody is a series of tones arranged in a certain way to produce a melody or song. Harmony refers to the combination of several notes played together to create a harmonious sound. Tempo refers to the speed and rhythm of the music while dynamics are responsible for changes in the strength of the music.

It's not just sound that makes up music. Music also has a lyric in it which is one of the forming elements of the song. Music uses spoken or verbal communication to convey a lyric so that it is likely that the message conveyed will be easily accepted and understood by the listeners, even though song lyrics sometimes these lyrics do not have a direct meaning but instead use figurative language so that the lyrics in the song sound more aesthetic and creative.

Same like other literary art, the lyrics in the song also need to be reviewed to understand the contents of the song lyrics themselves. In understanding the song, listeners cannot just read a lyric once, a reconstruction is needed to study the things contained in the lyrics. In song lyrics, there are usually things that the writer wants to convey, sometimes it's about the life or emotional experiences experienced by the writer so that listeners can understand what the composer wants to convey through the lyrics.

Every song lyric has a meaning that has been created by the songwriter and is made to attract listeners to understand and feel the experiences and emotions written by the songwriter through the song lyrics. Lyrics are written as a form of interaction between the writer and the listener, most of them carry messages to motivate the listener through their experiences.

The power of song lyrics is one of the important elements for the success of a work of musical art because the message conveyed by the songwriter is based on an event or phenomenon that has been experienced by the songwriter

himself so that the message in the song lyrics originates from the mindset and experience as a result of interaction with the surrounding social environment.

Lyric based on (West, 2019) research, has an important role in music for two reasons. "First, because song lyrics are an integral part of popular music, which itself is a domain of human experience that has enormous significance. Second, because song lyrics have value. It is not for nothing that popular music has such a wide and profound appeal; and song lyrics, as the most salient element, quite clearly have a crucial role to play in how listeners experience popular music." Based on the opinion stated by West, proves that lyrics are the most important element in a song, especially songs in modern times which make songs more attractive to listeners. Moreover, there are values in a lyric like sentences in other written literature such as poetry. Just like poetry, song lyrics contain many figurative languages used by the writer so that the lyrics in a song have aesthetic value and impression.

The language style and word choice can reveal the characteristics possessed by individuals. The choice of words and style of language in literary works certainly has its own character. Because the choice of words and style of language that is owned by each writer that has been poured into literary works can include compatibility with the author's character with the results of his literary works.

One of the most common figures of speech found in a literary work is a metaphor. A metaphor is a type of figurative language that is used to equate or compare something. Metaphor can be interpreted as a figurative language which states something by using other sentences that have similarities in the same meaning. Metaphor is a style of language that uses words in sentence form to refer to a certain object, but not with the actual or true meaning. In its function, metaphor enhances creativity in writing literary works. By using creative words, readers or listeners can inspire imagination and describe what the author wants to convey in their literary works, thereby enhancing the reading or listening experience. In addition, metaphors can help explain complex concepts that the author have been experienced or emotions that the author wants to convey simply. Metaphors use similes of objects or concepts that are more general, metaphors can help listeners or readers to understand complex concepts with something easier to understand. Metaphors can also have an emotional effect on listeners and readers.

The focus of this writing is *Petals for Armor* album which was created and popularized by Hayley Williams, a leader and vocalist of the band Paramore from Tennessee, USA. The *Petals for Armor* album released in 2020 has two parts, *Petals for Armor I* and *Petals for Armor II*. There are a total of 15 songs in this album, but the focus of this research will be some songs that have metaphors written in them because the main focus of this song is on the analysis of metaphors in the songs.

Definition of Music

Music as an art is one of the universal human inner needs and becomes an integral part of human life. Music is one of the needs because music has a role and function for humans. Danesi in (Abdullah & Yusuf, 2021) stated music is a form of art that consistently utilizes sound throughout the continuity of its usage in all cultures. It comes in a variety of genres based on the historical and geographical situation.

Music is an expression of art. Music as part of art has a relationship between knowledge, creativity, skills, and technology. Music as an ontology departs from a thought and becomes a work and various methodologies are created to study the music Safrina in (Marijo & Mari'i, 2022) stated a song or musical composition that uses musical components like rhythm, melody, harmony, and expression to portray the creator's ideas and emotions.

The theory of music explains how sound waves move are played and are heard by listeners. Music cognition studies the cognitive components of how sounds transform into musical structures. Sound waves in music are typically measured by frequency instead of by length of time (Iktia, 2018) Music theory is the study of how sound in music is interpreted by human ears and how listeners enjoy the sound. Music theory also can help musicians to improve their music.

"Music is composed of pitch and rhythm. Music can be made just by knowing which note to use and how long to hold it, however, other elements like dynamics and expression come into play later. Without rhythm, people couldn't fully read music" (Boone & Schonbrun, 2017) Music uses rhythm to determine a note's length. This is what music achieves by altering the way the notes appear. Different rhythms correspond to various note lengths.

Music is composed of elements such as rhythm, melody, pitch, harmony, and dynamics. These elements form a harmony that makes music beautiful and enjoyable. Every time music is extant, it always brings joy to the listeners. Harmonization is the foundation that forms music into something aesthetic (Hidayatullah, 2020). Based on Hidayatullah's statement about music, music has many elements that create the harmonization in music so every element in music is needed.

According to Jamalus in (Marijo & Mari'i, 2022), Rhythm is a sequence of regular movements and the basic element of music. Rhythm is formed from a group of sounds and pauses for short lengths at various times, creating a rhythmic pattern. Rhythm means playing a regular tempo, both fast and slow which can determine the perfection of a piece of music.

Melody refers to a series of notes played in sequence. Melody is an important element in a musical composition because it is the main supporting tool for musical instruments that are played in music. The melody is the part that is easy to remember and identified by the listener. This theory is supported by (Boone & Schonbrun, 2017) that stated melody is the tune of a song and chords are like bridges that support melody in the interaction between melody and harmony. A single melodic tone can be harmonized with a specific chord as long as the chord contains the melodic tone. The melody is the most memorable aspect of music.

Lyrics in a song refer to the text or words sung by the vocalist or singer in a song. Landry in (Mulyati, 2020) stated a song lyric is a poem composed of words organized in rhyming lines, implying thoughts, implying connections between them, and accompanied by instrumental harmony. Song lyrics are a unity between compositions in music so that lyrics cannot stand alone. According to (Mulyati, 2020) the song lyric is an arrangement of words combined with musical tones that give meaning to the music teaser. Language has the extraordinary power of meaning through music. Song lyrics without music, it's will be dismissed the beauty of the lyric and cannot be enjoyed perfectly.

(Muhammad, Nuruddin Hidayat, & Hidayatullah, 2021) stated in the lyrics of the song, there is a secret message. Song lyrics use phrases that are less common in everyday language. To construct their meaning, the lyrics use figurative language; if the listener can understand it, the meaning can sound deeper. Based on the statement, song lyrics usually do not use words that express it explicitly so further studies are needed so that listeners understand the meaning of a song lyric. Support by (Yastanti, Suhendar, Mirani, & Pratama, 2018) explains that song lyric is a particular form of informative literature that uses figurative language to express information with literal meaning. If there are any words in the lyrics that are difficult to understand, individuals must clarify them or pay more attention to their meaning. Understanding the figurative language utilized in the song's lyrics is essential for comprehension.

Definition of Metaphors

According to Keraf in (Hadiyanti, Lestari, Ulumuddin, & Prayogi, 2019) metaphor is a figure of speech that makes a comparison between two different things. Metaphor creates implicit comparisons without the express use of like or as. Same as stated by (Yastanti et al., 2018) metaphor is a comparison that is not directly communicated but is instead made when figurative phrases are used in place of or are associated with literal terms.

Metaphors are most found in literary works, especially literary works in the form of texts including songs where the lyrics in songs often use metaphors. According to Konvesces (Rahmawati & Zakiyah, 2021) metaphors are used by musicians to find a connection between two things implicitly because the way metaphor works is to connect two signs indirectly. The metaphor contained in a song lyric is a form of expression and emotion by the creator.

According to Arimi in (Hadiyanti et al., 2019) a conceptual metaphor that has the meaning of each unit of linguistic expression has a concept that is mapped with another unit of expression of language that has a different concept. Therefore, in this context, the conceptual metaphor places oneself in a source domain on the one hand, and in a target domain on the other.

The concept of conceptual metaphors began to develop since the publication of the book *Metaphor We Live By* in 2003, written by (Lakoff & Johnson, 2003) argue that there are two conceptual domains in a conceptual metaphor: the source domain and the target domain. The domain that illustrates the metaphorical statement intended to be comprehended by another domain is the source domain. The domain that is intended to be understood as a result of the use of the source domain is known as the target domain.

(Lakoff & Johnson, 2003) classify the concept of conceptual metaphor into three major types: structural, orientational, and ontological metaphor:

- A. Orientational metaphors are a type of metaphor that use spatial orientation to help in understanding more abstract concepts. Happy is up and sad is down is one example of an orientational metaphor. Based on the example, persons who are happy would feel energized and upbeat all day long. When individuals feel sad, the situation is the opposite, they are helpless and powerless.
- B. Structural metaphors are metaphors that use structural comparisons or relationships between two different domains or things. In this metaphor, one domain is described or explained through a structure or something that exists in another domain. An example of a structural metaphor is an organization is a body, an organization is described as a human body in which all parts of the body are related to one another.

- C. Ontological Metaphors that comprehend abstract concepts in terms of concrete, physical objects or substances are referred to as ontological metaphors. By relating abstract ideas to more concrete things, these metaphors assist in our understanding of abstract concepts. An example of an ontological metaphor is problems are burdens, problems represent a heavy physical object really hard to carry.

2. Method

This study uses a qualitative descriptive research form that aims to describe the object of research in the form of words and does not use numbers as a result. According to Denzin and Lincoln in ((Royadi, Susiana, & Andhara Khumaida, 2019) that qualitative research can develop a thorough insight into a particular organization or event rather than to describe the surface part of a large sample of a population. In this study, the phenomenon under study is examining the meaning in a song lyric and the content of meaning in it using data that have been identified and then analysed based on Lakoff and Johnson's concept of conceptual metaphors (Lakoff & Johnson, 2003) stated in the conceptual metaphor is have two conceptual domains: source domain and target domain. The source domain is the one that depicts the metaphorical expression form to be understood for the other domain. Meanwhile, the target domain is the domain that is attempted to be understood from the use of the source domain. It can be concluded that the source domain is concrete form, while the target domain is abstract form.

The primary data for this research comes from the album *Petals for Armor*, a music album released in 2020 and popularized by Hayley Williams. The songs that will be analysed are only songs that use metaphorical figures of speech so not all songs on the album are analysed in this research.

The secondary data will provide some perspective and provide the supposition needed for making the most accurate conclusions from this research. The secondary could be a piece of writing that discusses this music and the artist's ideas from an interview.

This study has selected several songs from the album *Petals for Armor* by Hayley Williams which contain metaphors and then identified verses in each song's lyrics that contain metaphors and analysed them based on the theory of conceptual metaphors by Lakoff and Johnson about target domain and source domain. The data that has been analysed will be marked with an underline to make it easier to analyse the metaphor.

3. Findings and Discussion

This research using the theory of conceptual metaphors by George Lakoff and Mark Johnson that conceptual metaphor has three branches, orientational metaphor, structural metaphor and ontological metaphor. Every song lyric in the album *Petal for Armor* by Hayley Williams will be analysed based on conceptual theory and find the meaning in every song. After finding the metaphor in the song lyrics, the results will be made in the form of a table.

Structural Metaphors

ELEPHANT IS BURDEN

Take the elephant by the hand and hold it
It's cruel to tame a thing that don't know its strength
But better to walk beside it
Then underneath
My kind companions
Softened stone
My gentle giant
Painful reminder

(SUDDEN DESIRE)

The elephant in the lyric means burden. Hayley describes her problem as an elephant, she thinks her problem big as the elephant and doesn't know if she can hold it or not. "But better walk beside it" means she trying to make peace with existing problems instead of having to resist the existing problems because she doesn't know how heavy the problems she is receiving.

GARDEN IS BUSINESS

But I am in a garden
Tending to my own
So, what do I care

And what do you care if I grow?
Ooh, if I grow

(ROSES/LOTUS/VIOLET/IRIS)

Garden in the phrase means her business or her personal life. She only cares about her business and doesn't care about others' business. She only focuses on her life and it doesn't matter if anybody doesn't care about it.

THE FLOWERS ARE OTHER WOMEN

Roses, roses, roses, roses, roses
(Roses, roses, roses, roses, roses)
Show no concern for colors of a violet
Lotus, lotus, lotus, lotus, lotus
(Lotus, lotus, lotus, lotus, lotus)
Hopes it won't spark envy in your irises
(ROSES / LOTUS / VIOLET / IRIS)

The mention of many flowers is describing other Women. Hayley compares herself to other women in the lyric. She thought that she has a characteristic so no need to envy other women's characteristics. Hayley explains that if you have characteristics, you won't care about other's characteristics because you have your own same as the flower.

CIRCLE IS LIMITATION

I spent the weekend at home again
Drawing circles on the floor
Tried to keep myself from hurting
I don't know why anymore
(WHY WE EVER)

"The circle" in the phrase refers to a limitation and "drawing circles" mean Hayley Williams made a limitation for herself trying to do not something harmful and overthinking about the past. "I spent the weekend at home again" refers that she is only alone at home and nobody with her so nobody can help her to hold her but only herself

Oriental Metaphors

SURRENDER IS DOWN

Give in
(Control)
There so many ways to give in
(Eyes closed)
Another way to make it to ten
Oh, how to draw the line between wrath and mercy?
Gotta simmer, simmer, simmer, simmer, simmer down
(SIMMER)

Based on the Britannica dictionary, "simmer" refers to being filled with a strong feeling that is difficult to control or hide. In the lyric, Hayley Williams battles her own inner and fight to control and manage strong emotions. The feeling of wanting to give up because she was unable to deal with the anger that was already inside her.

PROTECTION IS UP

Wrap yourself in petals
Wrap yourself in petals
Wrap yourself in petals for armor
Petals for armor
(SIMMER)

“Wrap yourself in petals for armor” in the phrase means finding strength, power, and protection through weakness. It implies that accepting one's grief and embracing one's vulnerabilities can ultimately result in growth and emotional recovery. “Armor” is a metaphor for protection.

OPTIMISM IS UP

Don't nobody tell me
That God don't have a sense of humor
'Cause now that I want to live
Well, everybody around me is dyin'
Now that I finally wanna live
The ones I love are dyin'
(LEAVE IT ALONE)

The writing of this verse sounds blasphemous or shows a lack of respect to God but actually, it's about the depression of Hayley Williams. “Now that I finally want to live” refers to Hayley falling lively from her depression but she realizes nobody around her and blames God for the situation.

SAD IS DOWN

Alright, it took me three days to send you this, but
Uh, sorry, I was in a depression
But I'm trying to come out of it now
Every morning I wake up
From a dream of you holding me
Underwater (Is that a dream or a memory?)
(DEAD HORSE)

Underwater in this verse refers to water as a depression. Depression can cause feelings of sadness and loss of desire to do activities you enjoy. Depression also causes a variety of emotional changes and physical problems and a decrease in the ability to work. Hayley Williams describes her depression situation as a sinking because she wanted to rise from the water but something holding her to stay in the water. “Is that dream or memory” refer to something she can't see clearly, if it is real life or just a dream.

TIRED IS DOWN

I beat it like a dead horse
I beat it like a drum
Oh, I stayed with you too long
Skipping like a record
I sang along to a silly little song
(DEAD HORSE)

“Dead horse” refers to a situation where someone is wasting their time and effort by continuing to argue about a topic that has already been resolved or is no longer relevant. In the phrase “Oh, I stayed with you too long” Hayley Williams describes her personal life that she tired to stay with someone that only wasted her time and effort.

FRIENDSHIP IS UP

Not a secret I can't keep
All of your good and your evil
Well, babe, you can leave it with me
Safe, together
If it's wrong or if it's right
I am beside you, famine or fi-ire (I-ire, I-ire, I-ire, I-ire)
(MY FRIEND)

In this phrase, Hayley Williams talks about her friendship where she will always be with you, good or bad. Hayley explains that she can always keep her friend's secrets even if it's a bad secret, she feels she can be counted on as a true friend.

SPIRIT IS UP

If there's resistance
 If there's resistance
 It makes you stronger
 It's not the end
 If there's resistance
 If there's resistance
 It makes you stronger
 Make it your friend
 (Over Yet)

In the lyrical phrase of this song, Hayley Williams encourages listeners indirectly based on her experiences with depression. Hayley explains that every problem makes people stronger and problems are not the end of the world. If the problem gets worse, try not to fight the problem but try to adapt to the problem.

HOPE IS UP

It's the right time to come alive
 Baby, if you wanna try
 To get out of your head, yes, break a sweat
 Baby, tell yourself it ain't over yet
 (OVER YET)

“It’s right time to come alive” refer to back from depression situation. In these phrases, Hayley either talks about herself or gives hope to her listeners so they don't get lost in depression. “To get out of your head, yes, break a sweat” means to stop thinking about the problem in mind and start to get back to activities.

FEAR IS DOWN

The opposite
 The opposite of love is fear
 I'm still trying to get (Hm)
 Used to how the former feels
 'Cause it feels so new
 You think you know me
 Wait 'till I open up to you
 (PURE LOVE)

Fear is a natural response of human that many people feel when faced with a new or unknown condition. This fear can stem from uncertainty, fear of failure, or a traumatic past experience. In this phrase “wait 'till I open up to you” Hayley refers that she doesn’t want open for anyone because fear feeling. With fear feeling, peoples feel more inclined to try new things, take risks, and explore unfamiliar territories.

SILVER LINING IS POSITIVISM

Do you taste old shame
 When you lick my wounds?
 'Cause I feel redeemed in spite of you
 Had a life in hiding but a storm kept coming in
 Could you be the silver lining?
 Like sugar on the rim
 (SUGAR ON THE RIM)

Based on Cambridge dictionary, silver lining means an advantage or something good that comes from a difficult situation. So “could you be the silver lining” in the lyric means Hayley want somebody to be a positive guy for herself in the difficult situation around her.

Ontological Metaphors

LONELINESS IS CINNAMON

On the walls of my home
 There are signs that I'm alone
 I keep on every light
 Talk to my dog, he don't mind (Ooh-ooh-ooh)
 Eat my breakfast in the nude
 Lemon water, living room
 Home is where I'm feminine
 Smells like citrus and cinnamon
 (CINNAMON)

Hayley Williams describes her loneliness is have aromatic smell like a citrus and cinnamon. "Nude" in the lyric have mean that she can be herself without anybody see the truly of herself and don't have to pretend anymore. In these lyrics, Hayley expresses feeling comfortable in her home even though she is lonely.

EMOTION IS LIQUID

Rage is a quiet thing
 You think that you've tamed it
 But it's just lying in wait
 Oh, rage
 Is it in my veins?
 Feel it in my face when
 When I least expect it
 (SIMMER)

Hayley Williams refers to his emotions in this phrase like a liquid flowing through her body. There is a strong feeling of wanting to release all the anger that is inside but still trying to hold back the anger. The feeling of anger seemed to have flowed in the body and could not be released.

NOOSE IS RESCUE

Becoming friends with a noose that I made
 And I keep trying to untie it
 Make it into something useful and maybe
 Hang it through a window pane
 Turn it into a fire escape
 (LEAVE IT ALONE)

"Noose" in this phrase means depression. Hayley Williams refers to bondage as a depression that she made himself and tied himself up and after that tried to get rid of the problem of depression itself. Many of the causes of depression come from themselves where the victim of depression makes things that he really cannot achieve and makes depression present due to failure to achieve something.

"Make it into something useful and maybe, hang it through a window pane, turn it into a fire escape" In this phrase, Hayley Williams hopes that her depression can be a savior in her life in the future. The depression experienced by Hayley Williams can be a support for her career in the present which is proven by her having made two music albums "After Laughter" and "Petals for Armor" where the albums have a theme about depression.

BLUE LIPS IS DYING

Held my breath for a decade
 Dyed my hair blue to match my lips
 Cool of me to try (Pretty cool I'm still alive) ahh
 (DEAD HORSE)

In this verse, Hayley Williams describes herself as drowning in water. In the phrase "held my breath for decade" Hayley holding his breath underwater long enough like he endured pain long enough in his depression. "Dyed my hair blue to match my lips" I mean the blue lips in this phrase are the effect of resisting the pain for long to make the body look tenuous.

LOVE IS JOURNEY

If I want pure love
 Must stop acting so tough
 (I give a little, you give a little, we get a little, sentimental)
 If I want your love
 Ooh, got to open up
 (I give a little, you give a little, we get a little, sentimental)
 (PURE LOVE)

Love is described as a journey because it is a dynamic and growing experience that develops over time. Like a journey, love has its ups and downs and challenge to conquer. Hayley Williams states in this verse that if you wanted a pure love, you should open yourself to something new and don't resist about it.

BLOOM IS PLANT

You wanna look inside of me?
 And just watch me bloom
 You only got one side of me
 Here's something new, I
 I'm alive in spite of me
 And I'm on my move
 (WATCH ME WHILE I BLOOM)

In this verse, Hayley Williams describes herself as a plant, he is evolving and different from his former self. Like flowers that have just bloomed, Hayley has new things in her life after growing and has a new enthusiasm for the challenges ahead. After going through difficult times in their lives, many people have been growing and become better because of the experiences they have been through.

After analysis of all conceptual metaphors in the song of Petals for Armor album, the frequency of conceptual metaphors used in Petals for Armor album by Hayley Williams album is shown in the table below. The table shows the usage of structural, orientational, and ontological conceptual metaphors.

4. Conclusion

In this study explained that the lyrics written by Hayley Williams had a theme about her experiences during her depression through writing the metaphors contained in the lyrics. Based on the results of this study, Hayley Williams used 21 metaphors found in 11 of the 15 songs on the Petals for Armor album. The results of this study found different meanings in the songs. The lyrics of the songs on the Petal for Armor album, there contain her anger feeling, a feeling of loneliness during a period of depression and support listeners who might be struggling with depression by sharing Hayley Williams' own experience as a writer.

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