

# Chapter I

## Introduction

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Figurative language refers to the use of words or expressions whose meaning different from the literal interpretation. Employing figurative language enables the articulation of diverse thoughts and emotions. It involves crafting sentences effectively and aesthetically, providing the reader with a vivid and concrete mental representation.

According to Damono (2009) figurative language is language that deliberately deviates from its usual or common meaning. This deviation of meaning is done by authors to achieve certain effects, such as expanding meaning, giving certain connotations, or for aesthetic purposes in literary works.

As far as we know that song is literary. Because what is usually utilized is not always the same of what the composer seeks to express, people can have difficulty determining what the composer attempts to say in a song. Usually, a composer will compose the expressing things. To understand what the composer intended to convey means that for the song, more information needs to be provided then, it means that can help in understanding to know about the meaning and message in song lyric. Hatch as cited in Hariyanto stated that simile, metaphor, allusion, personification, and various other categories were previously employed for defining figurative language (Hariyanto 47) usually, the song uses figurative language. Figurative

language is defined as a type of language in which the speaker states rather than what the referred to.

Lyrics are a form of poetry that expresses the poet's feelings and emotions poetically by using figurative language and connotations. Lyrics often utilize figures of speech such as metaphor, personification, hyperbole to convey meaning and message indirectly. However, lyrics are defined as poetry that is an outpouring of feelings and expressions of the poet's soul written in a concise and brief form. Lyrics contain feelings, thoughts, and inner experiences of the poet that are expressed poetically and emotionally through imagery. Structurally, lyrics generally consist of short stanzas that contain rhyme and rhythm.

In this era, many musicians have sprung up from various genres with various genres and lyrics. The songs that musicians create are interesting and fun to listen to, but sometimes many listeners do not understand what the meaning or content of the lyrics is contained. In song lyrics there are also many hidden meanings in it. Therefore musicians use figurative language to be able to further deepen the meaning of a lyric.

Who Cares contain a song from Rex Orange County's personal experience in overcoming his mental problems and also his desire to continue exploring musically. In each songs of the album, there is a lot of figurative language used and the message that the songwriter wants to deliver through

the topics shown by the songwriters. For example, in one of their song titled Keep it Up;

*Every time i open my mouth*

*I have regrets in my mind every time*

This section of the lyrics appears to possess a hidden meaning that requires further explanation. This is evident in the uncommon choice of vocabulary. According to the author's observation, numerous figurative language elements, similar to the previously example, persist and will be thoroughly examined by the writer.

Rex Orange County's is an indie-pop artist hailing from Grayshott, England, who gained prominence in the music scene. Born as Alexander O'Connor, he stands out with his soulful voice and versatile musical style. Rex Orange County's debut album, "Apricot Princess," released in 2017, showcased his talent as a singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist. The album comprises tracks that delve into personal experiences, relationships, and introspective reflections. Known for his introspective and emotive songwriting, Rex Orange County's has become recognized for his ability to convey complex emotions through his music. His lyrics often explore themes of love, self-discovery, and the challenges of navigating life's uncertainties.

The writer is focused in the figurative language of Rex Orange County's contained in the lyrics of the song where Rex explains that the album Who Cares was born from his anxiety about the lack of freedom of

expression in the present. Through this album, Rex wants to encourage his listeners to be more confident in expressing themselves as they are without shame or fear of judgment. This can make other people interested by listening and reading the meaning of the song lyrics. Here the writer raises it into a research entitled: **“An Analysis of Figurative Language on Rex Orange County’s Who Cares Album”**

## **1.2 Identification of the Problems**

Based on the background, the purpose of this research is to analyze and also find the meaning of the lyrics of Rex Orange County’s on Who Cares Album based on the use of figurative language. This research uses qualitative research. The data source in this research is the song lyrics Rex Orange County in Who Cares album.

## **1.3 Limitation of the Study**

The writer in this paper, limits this research to analyzing only seven figurative languages, namely: 1) Personification, 2) Metaphor, 3) Simile, 4) Hyperbole, 5) Metonymia, 6) Litotes, 7) Irony. Based on the album Who Cares by Rex Orange County that to find out the meaning of figurative language is represented from the lyrics of the song.

## **1.4 Research Questions**

In this research, the writer wants to identify the use of figurative language in Who Cares Album by Rex Orange County’s. The problems can determined are follow:

1. What are the types of figurative Language form the song lyrics in Who Cares Album by Rex Orange County?
2. What is the meaning of figurative language found in lyrics in Who Cares Album by Rex Orange County?

### **1.5 Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of the research are:

1. To identify the type of Figurative Language analysis of Rex Orange County's song lyrics in the Who Cares Album.
2. To analyze the meaning of Figurative Language Rex Orange County's song lyrics in the Who Cares Album.

By explaining the figurative language and the meaning, the research is also aim to educate the readers about figurative language used in the literary works.

### **1.6 Significance of the Study**

This study there are three significances:

1. This research is expected to be one of the references and add insight into figurative language in songs for students of the English Literature study program, Faculty of Arts and Letters, Pasundan University.
2. The results of this study are also intended for general readers who want to deepen their understanding of the variety and meaning of figurative language.

3. Through the analysis of the types and meanings of figurative language contained in song lyrics, this research can provide more in-depth information related to the intent and message to be conveyed in the song. Therefore, readers are expected to be able to capture the interpretation and aesthetic value of song lyrics more comprehensively.