ABSTRACT

Yanti Siti Hajaroh 206 500 108: Readers’ Understanding and Interpretation toward the Figurative Language Used on Morrissey’s Lyrics of “You are the Quarry” album

The language used on the lyrics commonly contain some words which is shifted from the literal meaning which called as figurative language. Lyric of the song is sometimes considered to be a good media to express feeling, hope and ideology. Some lyrics might contain such personal things, i.e. love affair, disguise, despair in a relationship, or painful broken heart. Responding to the two phenomenon, the researcher is attracted to conduct a research toward the readers’ understanding and interpretation of figurative language used on the lyrics of Morrissey in his seventh album “You are the Quarry”, which then become the research question.

As the qualitative research, this research requires theoretical base and reasoning logic. In this case, the theory of “Reception Aesthetic” from Wolfgang Iser and theory of figurative language from Rieske are taken. In “Reception Aesthetic” theory, Iser notes the statement from Northrope Frye"like a picnic to which the author brings the words and the reader the meaning”. Therefore such theory is used, for it support to reach the main objective, it is the readers understanding and interpretation. Rieske’s theory elaborates the figurative language thoroughly.

This research used pragmatic approach which sees the readers through the competences such as their understanding and interpretation toward text. To answer the research question, researcher uses some intruments like questionnaire and interview. While the data of this research is form and substance that contains words, phrase, or sentence from the readers’ answer toward questionnaire and interview.

Then the result of this research is that there are two kinds of readers’ understanding, they are: well understanding and inadequate understanding, that is for the first research question. While for the second research question, the result is: Morrissey’s lyrics contain critique of political issues and Morrissey’s lyrics contains description of his life.

The final conclusion of this research is that the readers, or in this case the fans of Morrissey, have the well and inadequate understanding toward the figurative language used on the lyrics. They also have some theme in interpreting the lyrics, such as: political issues and description of Morrissey’s life.