

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The first chapter of the report provides an overview of the research. This chapter contains Background, Statement of Problem, Research Objective, Research Significance, Conceptual Framework, and Definition of Key Terms.

1.1 Background

Song is one of the popular literary works. Songs are imaginative writing that needs to be connected to real objects. A song is a work consisting of lyrics and music, which means that the lyrics can be accompanied by music to be sung. The purpose of creating songs is to produce emotions or feelings in a certain way (Rusdiyanto & Astutik, 2018). Through songs, authors can express their fantasies in writing so that each song can be represented. According to Bowles (2021), song is a communication tool and is a universal language that is also used to express desires, thoughts, ideas, and feelings. Song from a psychological point of view shows an asynchronous method of building self-actualization and has a broad meaning (Maoula, Simanjuntak, & Sihombing, 2022). Songs possess power and depth as a medium of communication. Songs not only connect us with others but also enable us to understand ourselves more deeply. This demonstrates that songs play an important role in personal and social development.

Literary works are the result of the author's creative thinking by using creative and innovative language to convey the author's ideas so that literary works can be well received by society (Nadiyah & Riyadi, 2023). All of the literary works are fantasy mediums created by the author using the art of language. Even though literature is considered fiction, literary works are not completely fictional because anything fictional also has a source of truth that aims to be represented in various ways, whether expressed explicitly or implicitly through the actions of characters, or symbols as associative meanings in words (Sahibzada, Stanikzal, & Niaz, 2019). Through literary works, authors can freely express all their feelings and thoughts.

As stated before, a song is a medium for expressing the author's thoughts and feelings. As time goes by, the development of songs and music genres in the world has become increasingly diverse. There were perhaps only hymns, national songs, and heroism songs, which were only accompanied by one or two classical music, then now there are many types, there are jazz, pop, rock, EDM (Electronic Dance Music), and many more. The meaning of songs is not only about heroism, nationality, or just accompaniment to songs in church. The development of the times has brought the meaning of songs written by songwriters to be very close, and very relatable to listeners. For example, songs about love, now, contain many songs that discuss love from various points of view. Currently, song listeners can listen to any song whose meaning matches the conditions experienced by the song listener itself. That is one of the reasons why this type of popular literature is in demand so well on the market. Even people who are not very interested in literary works such as novels, poetry, or drama, are mostly song listeners. It can be said, songs are people's daily consumption today.

In line with the previous discussion above there is one of the Indonesian music groups with the rock genre, that is Reality Club. Reality Club is a music group consisting of four members. They have currently released three albums with different themes on each album. The first album was *Never Get Better*, the second album was *What Do You Really Know?*, and the third album was *Reality Club Present*. Based on the things above, the researcher will try to analyze the meaning of the second album *What Do You Really Know?* To find out what the author's life was that influenced the author in creating a work. This research was conducted by examining the language used in the album *What Do You Really Know?*. Different from the other two albums, *Never Get Better* has a theme about ambition, and *Reality Club Present* has a theme about the journey of human romance, this album has a theme of maturation; loss, anger, sincerity, the dark and light sides of life as a journey to become wise. Therefore it creates a more complex meaning and is very close to the listener's feelings. That is the reason why researchers chose this album.

In our lives, not everything we want in this world can just come true. This also applies when we desire stuff or want an event that we have dreamed of for a long time. We have hoped for a long time, not everything can go according to plan, according to what we want. We may be able to express some things that do not come true when we tell stories, but there are other things that we cannot express because we are too embarrassed to say that. Then the desire is hidden from other people in such a way. This is certain, everyone experiences it. The things that we cannot express can be unconsciously expressed in writing. In writing, the unconscious also comes from intuition or from the whispers of the heart which are represented through language. Kahneman (2011) has given a complete understanding of the main characteristics of the unconscious. The unconscious is intuitive and produces work that is both impressive and emotional (Leonardi, Gazzillo, & Dazzi, 2021). Sahara (2019) says that in a work there is a manifestation of the author's desire which is formed as the satisfaction of the author's desires as the cause of unfulfilled desires. Meanwhile, according to Manik (2016) the feelings suffered without realizing it give rise to dissatisfaction within oneself hence that one never feels enough (Afifah, 2021). Therefore, the importance of self-awareness and emotional management cannot be overstated. When a person fails to recognize or ignores the feelings they are experiencing, these feelings can develop into a continuous sense of dissatisfaction. This also emphasizes the need for deep self-reflection and emotional understanding to avoid the feeling of never being enough, which can hinder personal happiness and well-being. Awareness of these feelings is a crucial first step toward achieving satisfaction and emotional balance in life.

According to Freud, humans have the ability to create their desires because humans are psychological creatures. This desire can be realized through various forms of art and literary works through fantasy (Setyanto, Soewarlan, & Tinarbuko, 2021). A figure of speech is defined as an expression that uses words that are not based on their actual meaning; the meaning is something other than what is read in the writing. Fantasy in writing can be dressed in figurative language because the figure of speech

is a language construction that replaces one word or sign with another word or sign to hide the real meaning and as a language aesthetic that tends to be related to emotional aspects. According to Keraf, the way to display thoughts through unusual language to show the character and soul of the author is to use figurative language in writing (Wibisono & Widodo, 2019). Therefore, figurative language can represent unconsciousness in psychoanalysis.

Changes from shame and diversion of desires taken from reality are then put into imagination. This imagination forms fantasy in humans. A person who fantasizes is a person whose desires cannot be fulfilled. Therefore, the formation of fantasies is a desire that is not satisfied, and every fantasy is the fulfillment of a desire formed from past patterns. They create and shape their own world in their own way. This fantasy satisfaction is discussed in Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory.

Psychoanalysis is a theory used in literature that is considered a theory related to the author's personality. This theory is the most controversial theory compared to other literary criticism because of the harmony between the author's intentions and the reader's intentions (Bernaldez, Ilustrisimo, Makiling, & Diones, 2022). Psychoanalysis contributes to the creation of fantasies written using figurative language in works because it is related to the author's emotions. According to Freud, humans are biological/physical and psychological creatures, thus humans have the ability to create their own desires. According to Freud, humans have three psychological structures: ID (unconscious), ego (conscious), and superego (conscience). The ID/unconscious in psychoanalysis has three concepts. They are condensation, diversion, and symbolization. The subject of the unconscious in Freud's psychoanalysis is humans who use the unconscious in their souls to deceive themselves. The psychoanalytic approach can be used to understand the representation in a literary work and also explore the relationship between the author's life and his literary work.

The reasons mentioned above encourage the researcher to choose to examine figurative language in songs using a psychoanalytic approach as a tool to reveal that fantasies in works of art are a form of satisfaction of subconscious desires, which result

from dissatisfaction in the real world. This research focuses on finding out the desire experienced by the author which is realized in the form of condensation, diversion, and symbolization in the use of figurative language in songs. In conducting this research, researchers were inspired by previous research. Previous research is of course different but still related to this research.

The first research is entitled “Analysis Metaphors in the Song “All Too Well” by Taylor Swift as a Tool for Storytelling”. Researchers analyze how to reveal the meaning using figurative language; metaphors in a Taylor Swift song. This metaphor is used to express feelings of love and that emotions help listeners understand the story of the song. This metaphor is also used by the author to make it easier for listeners to feel the singer's emotions in conveying storytelling in the song. Therefore, the use of this metaphor is considered influential in storytelling through song lyrics but the meaning can still be understood by listeners (Sofian, 2022). This research was taken because the discussion is relevant to the research topic of how figurative language reveals the meaning of a song.

The second research is entitled “Youth’s Depression of an Artist Portrayed in “Lonely” Song by Justin Bieber”. This research discusses moral values in the song and succeeded in identifying the message "Lonely" with a psychological approach. The meaning of the song "Lonely" is an expression of despair. That hopelessness is the cause of mental problems; depression is experienced by the author in a song. This research also found factors that cause songwriters to experience depression (Mursalim & Mustikawati, 2022). This research seems relatable to the research topics in analyzing how the author's life can influence the author in creating a work.

The third research is entitled “Psychoanalysis of Alice Garton’s Character as a Conservative Mother in Response to Helen and Chris’s Relationship in “Dear Nobody” by Berlie Doherty”. This research analyzes a woman's psychic representation in the unconscious by analyzing the character's personality in the novel. This research also observes and explains the causes of unconscious behavior in fictional characters

(Maharani & Heriyati, 2022). This research seems relatable to the research topics on analyzing how unconsciousness represents a desire.

The fourth research is entitled *Figurative Languages Used In Robert Frost's Selected Poems*. This research analyzes what messages are revealed through figurative language in the poems and what kinds of figurative language are used in the poems. This research also explains the definition and example of simile, metaphor, personification, apostrophe, synecdoche, metonymy, symbol, allegory, paradox, hyperbole, understatement, and irony (Wulandari, 2015). This research seems relatable to research topics about figurative language and helps researchers to more understand figurative language.

The fifth research is entitled “Billie Eilish Select Songs: Psychological Study of the Depression of Youth Today”. This research analyzes psychological aspects through symbols in songs, specifically mental disorders; depression, and telling aspect of depression (Bernaldez, Ilustrisimo, Makiling, & Diones, 2022). This research seems relatable to the applied psychoanalysis approach in the song.

Different from some previous studies, this research is intended to reveal the implicit meaning of a literary work which is part of the author's fantasy as an unconscious satisfaction of a desire, and to connect the literary work with eros and thanatos. Researchers also chose songs from the music group Reality Club because they were considered songs that contained implicit meaning, not just storytelling. This research focuses on the use of figurative language as a condensation, diversion and symbolization of language. Based on what has been described, the researcher determined the title of this research to be **Eros and Thanatos in Reality Club's Album *What Do You Really Know?*** To find out how desire influences authors in creating works. This research is expected to provide benefits for researchers, readers, and science.

1.2 Statement of Problem

According to the concept of eros and thanatos that was depicted in the research background above, researchers tried to apply that concept to one of Reality Club's albums *What Do You Really Know?* Because it was considered to contain a lot of figurative language and has complex meanings. Returning to the background of the album, again the songs on the album has complex meanings about life. Not just romance, the songs on this album contain various points of view about disappointment, loss, anger and acceptance of life. Even so, the song lyrics are always written in figures of speech and do not directly show the real meaning. Therefore, those songs need to be analyzed to find out the meaning of the author wants to convey, and how the figurative language represents eros and thanatos. Moreover, the songs from Reality Club are always composed directly by one of the band members. These factors seem to make the research object and topic correlate to reveal the author's desire. Therefore, from the research background above, the researcher concludes that two questions will be the main focus of this research:

1. What is figurative language used in the songs from the album *What Do You Really Know?* By Reality Club?
2. How does the figurative language represent eros and thanatos?

1.3 Research Objective

Based on the formulation of the research question above, the researcher intendeds:

1. To analyze what is figurative language used in the song from the album *What Do You Really Know?* By Reality Club.
2. To find out how the figurative language represents eros and thanatos.

1.4 Research Significance

1.4.1 Theoretical Significance

Theoretically, this research can provide several benefits for readers in analyzing literary works, especially songs. Through this research, researchers provide an analysis of the meaning of songs using the concept of the author's

desire. To strengthen the argument, the theory of the unconscious is used in this research because the song being analyzed is written with fantasy lyrics with figurative language instead of storytelling with real meaning. Thus, this research can be used as a reference in other studies that analyze songs using either just one theory or several theories, especially regarding unconsciousness.

1.4.2 Practical Significance

a. Academic reader

For academic readers, it is hoped that this research will be useful and can broaden the reader's insight. Not only insight but readers will be able to find a combination of theories and concepts that can be used to analyze a literary work, which does not only focus on the fictional characters in the story but a literary work can be linked to the author's life, what is the background behind the author creating a work of literature, especially songs.

b. General reader

For general readers, it is hoped that this research will provide insight and can make fans of literary works, especially song listeners, interpret a song more deeply to gain moral lessons about life. Apart from that, it is also hoped that this research can be an inspiration for people to interpret each journey of life.

1.5 Conceptual Framework

This research aims to analyze how the figurative language can connect the author's desire with their works in Reality Club's album *What Do You Really Know?* By exploring the meaning of the song and what kinds of figurative language is used to represent eros and thanatos. This research employs a literary criticism approach. To answer those questions, the researcher uses the concept of unconsciousness and the theory of psychoanalysis.

According to Afifah (2021), Someone who experiences unconsciousness can experience it due to pressure, and dissatisfaction, so they vent because they feel unfamiliar with their situation. This situation is experienced by authors where the author's life background is unsatisfactory, which will greatly influence the author in creating his work. Whatever work, be it literary or artistic, the creator will always involve the unconscious in creating the work. However, in written works such as songs, novels, short stories, and drama scripts, the use of figurative language is one way to express the unconscious, because the construction of language makes the true meaning seem hidden.

Freud identified psychoanalysis as the study of unconscious contents and processes, and the aim is to make the unconscious conscious (Leonardi, Gazzillo, & Dazzi, 2021). In the study of Sigmund Freud's theory, humans have three psychological structures: ID, ego, and superego. Sigmund Freud said that the id is a part of the process that occurs in the subconscious, this has existed since humans were born. The ego is formed from the real world as a mediator between the id and the superego, which is the human logical space. Meanwhile, the superego is the human motivation to determine whether an action is good or bad (Khoirunisa, Maemonah, & Aditya, 2022). The ID (unconscious) is the wild urge of all forms for pleasure that contains the concept of condensation, diversion, and symbolism.

Psychoanalysis explores subconscious motives and reveals how the unconscious creates and structures work, whether there are fears, wounds, anxieties, and conflicts from the author's past life. All of this is reflected in the meaning of the song regarding the author's life story and the implications for his life. According to Lacan, the unconscious is structured like a language. Figurative language can be a part of the unconscious because it forms a thought structure that is unconscious of the author's desires even though it was written consciously. Carl Jung introduced the concept of conscious language (directed thinking) and unconscious language (fantasy thinking). Figurative language, as part of unconscious language, is a "door" to understanding and accessing the deeper layers of the mind. It can be said that authors

deliberately add figurative language to their work but they are not aware that the meaning is their desire. Figurative language can help in accessing language that is usually rejected by the conscious mind. This rejection in the conscious mind occurs because someone is embarrassed to express it directly therefore a figurative language is used to representat of desire.

Desire is a condition where humans want something, whatever the form. Obviously everyone has a desire, but not everyone can fulfill that desire. The forms of desire are varied; love desire, academic desire, job desire, and many more. Everyone also has their own way of satisfying their unfulfilled or unfulfilled "desire". Merriam Webster defines desire as a longing or hope for something and showing or feeling a desire for it. Desire can be found consciously and unconsciously. In literary works, the author has the right to fulfill his desires which cannot be achieved in the real world in his work.

All creators of literary works are called authors. Author involves two types of mind; conscious and unconscious to create a work. This unconscious mind is a seepage of desires that cannot be realized or cannot be achieved by the author and is too shy to express in real life. Therefore, figurative language is used by authors as a medium to fulfill desires because figurative language is a language structure that does not reveal literal meaning and includes fantasy thinking, where "fantasy" is formed from desires that are not fulfilled in the real world. So the author puts their desire into their literary work to fulfill their unsatisfied desires in the real world through literary works and through the narrator.

According to Bethancourt (2017) "lyrics change people; it is the gist of a song that acts the theme out" (Bernaldez, Ilustrisimo, Makiling, & Diones, 2022). The emotions and feelings contained in the lyrics reveal what is in the artist's heart. This method shows an artist's intention and its relevance to the music used in a song. Songs are also a songwriter's self-expression that can make the singer and listeners connect with each other.

After finding a match between the concept and theory, it will lead to the discovery of the factors that influence the author to create a work with the desire of his life. Hence, to support the research, the psychoanalysis theory which is conducted by Sigmund Freud will be used. The theory is suitable to the concept of unconsciousness in the complex meaning of songs about life's journey on Reality Club's album *What Do You Really Know?*.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

1. Literature: Literature is a form of art that combination of the aesthetic of words and the depth of meanings with “language” as an expression medium. According to Bernett (2004) literature can be thought of as talking about the special: it is the most daring and challenging form of writing that explores in depth the extraordinary dimensions of human experience, thought and feeling.
2. Song: Songs are imaginative writing that needs to be connected to real objects. A song is a work consisting of lyrics and music, which means that the lyrics can be accompanied by music to be sung. Maoula (2022) states that song is a universal means of communication, used to convey desires, thoughts, ideas and emotions. Viewed from a psychological perspective, songs demonstrate a not always regimented approach to self-development and have deep significance.
3. Psychoanalysis: Psychoanalysis is a theory that attempts to explain human personality. In literature, psychoanalysis is a theory of literary criticism that seeks analogical relationships between literary works and the psychological aspects of the writer that lie behind the process of creating the literary work (Nurrachman, 2023).
4. Unconsciousness: Unconsciousness is part of the human level of consciousness. According to Freud, humans have three levels of consciousness, which are; conscious, pre-conscious, and unconsciousness. Unconsciousness is the level of consciousness where the subconscious controls most human behavior.

5. Desire: Desire is a feeling of wanting to have something or wishing for something to happen.
6. Figurative language: Figurative language is one of literary's elements. Figurative language is a language style that expresses something with something else, in other words figurative language doesn't use the words strict or real meaning.
7. Eros: The drive for life, love, and reproduction. In the context of music, all lyrics that contain expressions of love, reproduction, zest for life, progress, and all cheerful songs are reflections of eros. Major tones also represent eros because they have a sound that seems more pleasant, cheerful, or relaxing. Major tones exhibit characteristics of a cheerful, spirited, and optimistic atmosphere because the intervals between the notes create a buoyant ambiance.
8. Thanatos: The drive for death, aggression, and destruction. In the context of music, all lyrics contain expressions of heartbreak, destruction, violence, disappointment, and all songs with a sad tone are reflections of thanatos. Minor tones also reflects an eros because it create a melancholic or sad atmosphere due to their specific interval structure, generating a more serious nuance. Therefore, minor tones are capable of evoking deeper and more complex emotions, making them well-suited to expressing feelings of despair, disappointment, anxiety, and various other forms of sadness.