CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Research Background

Figurative language often uses words or expressions that are indirect and convoluted, making it difficult to understand directly. Since the true meaning is hidden behind the words, the reader or listener has to think deeper and interpret the meaning. For example, in poetry, a poet may use figures of speech to convey more complex feelings or ideas that cannot be explained in everyday language. As such, figurative language demands a deeper understanding and is not always easily interpreted by everyone.

Figurative language is essential in poetry because adding an aesthetic, emotional, and interpretative aspects. It evidents in the built of figurative language such as metaphor, simile, and personification that describe to reader into depth of experience. Through figurative language, poets convey complicated emotions such as love or grief with unmatched depth. The complicated and depth of the poems meaning are heightened by figurative language, to provide understanding and taking up of abstract concepts.

Figurative language from point of view Johnson & Arp (2016, p.780-781) instead of giving a direct statement, figurative language will more easily provide a way to say something what is meant because figurative language gives the pleasure of imagination, gives additional imagination into poetry, as if it becomes abstract it will become concrete, to raise a sense of adorable and adding an emotional level to the informative statement. Then, the reader have to be capable of sensitize and understand figurative language. Any using of figurative language will often be misinterpreted by readers who are at risk. It is rare that the readers have imagination to a certain extent and that it can be developed to interpret the figurative language that makes a person capable.

Futhermore figurative language as maintained by Díaz-Vera (2014, p.3) that suggests a meaning that depends on the amount of figurative language itself from other meanings. Figurative language has two inherent properties and can be

recognized for its contrast with more literal expressions, for example historically, it comes after the corresponding traditional expressions.

Thus, readers encourage to think and to elaborate in the secret of the meaning, then resulting in a meaningful. Philosophical or moral messages within poetry are communicated with strength and efficacy through metaphors, symbols, and allegories. Thus, figurative language not only to add aesthetic aspect but also to maintain a more profound comprehension of self, humanity, nature, and the world at large.

One contemporary writer who using figurative language through literary works is Najwa Zebian. Najwa Zebian's works, especially *The Book of Healing* offer a journey through pain, healing, and growth in the face of life's many challenges. In this work, Zebian extensively uses figurative language to describe the complexity of human emotions and the healing processes.

Then, it requires previous studies as a supporter of still relevant problems. In addition, this study seeks to reject the full imitate the work of others who became an absolute requirement of the study. Therefore, exploring relevant previous research is needed to fulfill this scientific research code of ethics, as the goal is to clarify the position of researchers to develop the concept of thinking in research.

Based on the results of previous research searches, some of the first research results are "*An Analysis of Figurative Language in Selected Children's Poems Book Dogs & Dragon Trees & Dreams By Karla Kuskin (1980)*" by Marta Rotua Sitohang (2023). The object of this study using children's poetry book by Karla Kuskin (1980) entitled "*Dogs & Dragon, Tree & Dreams*" with the theory of figurative languge of Laurence E. Rozakis and the results of her research there are 71 data, where one of them 33 lines personification with 46%.

The results of the second previous study were written by Sindi Werdiningsih (2021) entitled "*An Analysis of Figurative Language On Emily Dickinson's Poem Entitled "I'll Tell you How the Sun Rose""*. The object of research using the poem by Emily Dickinson's *I'll Tell you How the Sun Rose* and figurative languge theory used from M.H Abrams and supported by the theories of Charles Dillon Perine, Wellek Warren, and Leech. The results of this study there are 13 types of figurative

languages and the most dominant type of figurative languages is metaphor and the topic is about life and death and the theme is anything that is alive will be dead eventually like the sun, it rises and sets in the end.

The results of the third previous study entitled "*An Analysis of Figurative Language in Poetry Entitled Mending Wall by Robert Frost*" written by Rinda Sonia (2020). The object of research used is a poem by Robert Frost entitled Meding Wall and figurative languge theory used in this study is Tjahyono which is divided into thirty-nine types of figurative language. The results of this study using tautology, metaphor, symbol, personification, contradiction, repitition, rhetorical, simile, where symbol and personification dominate the use of figurative language in the object of this study.

The results of the fourth previous study were written by Ahmad Widian Yusuf (2023) with "*Figurative Language Used in Book a Poem I Wrote for you*". The object of this study using a book of poetry by Adi K.'s *A Poem I Wrote For You* and figurative language theory used in this study is Rozakis (1995). The result of this study is that there is a hyperbole language style that dominates the object of this study. The book is more interesting to read, and helps the reader to describe the illustrations and imagination created by the author in his book.

The results of the fifth previous research were written by Sri Dewirohati (2020) entitled "*Analisis Gaya Bahasa Pada Puisi Karya Marhalim Zaini*". This study uses the object of the Marhalim Zaini's *Solilokui Para Penunggu Hutan* poem with the theory used in this study is Pradopo (2010) which focuses on hyperbole, personification, and aposprof. The results of this study were 36 personification language styles, 1 hyperbole language style, and 9 apostrophe language styles.

The result of the last previous research were written by Ayu Suryaningrat (2019) entitled "*An Analysis Language Styles of Najwa Zebian Motivational Quotes on Instagram*". This study is to find out the type of language style and determine the meaning of the quotes used by Najwa Zebian, with the theory used is the types of language style from Keraaf. The results of this study show that the types of language style of Najwa Zebian's quotes on instagram using metaphor, paradox,

repetition, hyperbole, and personification that has the meaning of love, life, and humanity.

From the six results of the previous study with research that will be examined, there are similarities and differences between the equations using qualitative methods and the figurative language approach. Then, the difference uses the theory and object of research, where Johnson and Thomas, Rozakis, and Perrine. Then, researcher will use the object of a book of poetry by Najwa Zebian's *The Book of Healing*.

The Book of Healing is the poetry and prose book by Najwa Zebian, she uses the theme of emotional experience and personal growth. An emotional experience is a feeling experienced by a person in response to a situation. In this context, analyzing emotional experiences focuses on how poets convey emotional experiences in their works. Emotional experience refers to the subjective responses that we have to various stimuli, events, or situations that evoke emotions within us. These experiences are deeply personal and can range from joy, sadness, anger, fear, surprise, or a combination of these and other emotions. Emotional experiences are influenced by many aspects such as our Previous experiences, culture, and personality traits current circumstances. For example, the loss of a loved that someone may evoke feelings of grief and sadness, while achieving a long-awaited goal may result in feelings of happiness and fulfillment.

Personal growth is the process of psychological, emotional, or spiritual development of an individual. In the context of literary work analysis, it may refer to change or to transformation of characters or narrators in the work as the plot or theme develops. Personal growth, refers to the process by which a person acquires skills, knowledge, self-understanding, and other personal qualities to improve their overall quality of life. This process involves a conscious effort to become the best version of yourself.

Some novels tell or theme personal growth and emotional experience one of them on Elizabeth Gilberth's *Eat, Pray, Love* is about emotional experiences and personal growth novel, Elizabeth Gilbert's autobiography tells the story of her spiritual journey after a painful divorce. Elizabeth Gilbert feels trapped in her

unhappy life, especially after a difficult divorce. She feels lost and feels the need to find a new meaning in her life. Then, she decided to leave everything behind and travel for a year to three places: Italy, India and Indonesia. First of all, she went to Italy to explore the delights of food and language. There, she enjoyed fine cuisine and learned Italian. Later, she went to India to find spiritual peace through meditation and self-search. Eventually, Gilbert went to Indonesia, where she found love in the form of a new romantic relationship. On the other hand, she also found peace and self-acceptance among a friendly society and culture. During her journey, Gilbert experienced significant personal growth, overcame her grief, found peace in spirituality, and found a new love (Cyntara, 2020).

In *The Book of Healing* tells through poems and proses, where the proses use simple or daily language without figurative, but the poems use lots of figurative language. This makes researcher will explore kinds of figurative language*,* at once researcher will explore the meaning of figurative languages in *The Book of Healing*.

1.2 Research Problem

Based on the background of problem presented above can be formulated into the research question as follows:

1. What are kinds of figurative language use and the meaning in *The Book of Healing*?

2. How does the function of figurative language in conveying the themes of emotional experience and personal growth in *The Book of Healing*?

1.3 Research Purposes

To answer the formulation of this research problem, researchers identified two research questions, among others:

1. Identifying the kinds of figurative language used and the meaning in *The Book of Healing*.

2. Analyzing the function of figurative language in conveying themes of emotional experience and personal growth in *The Book of Healing*.

1.4 Research Significance

This study presents literary works using the approach of figurative language, in particular, the application of the Structuralism theory. It is hoped that this research can be help develop the study of structuralism and figurative language in subsequent analyses. Practically, this research can be used as a tool for figurative language and structuralism in literary works, especially in Najwa Zebian's *The Book of Healing*. This research can also be used as a new consideration in the study of literary works using figurative language, especially the application of Structuralism.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

a) Poem is a type of written art composed of connected lines that convey a specific message or idea. Poems can take various forms, including free verse or structured rhyme, with each line contributing to a coherent pattern. While poems often utilize standard or concise language, they maintain rich layers of meaning within their brevity (Visitpare, 2023).

b) Poetry is the craft of creating poetic expressions, encompassing a wide array of literary compositions in verse form, including diverse genres of poems. Beyond individual pieces, it unites multiple poems into a cohesive entity, highlighting the aesthetics, profound significance, and eloquence of language (Visitpare, 2023).

c) Figurative language is the utilization of the richness of language elements and the use of specific language varieties to give an impression and taste to a literary work. Figurative language is a way of conveys the writer's feelings and views in language so that it seems more maximized and practical to the reader or listener. Meanwhile, two forms of figurative sentences, namely oral and written. Oral figurative sentences are oral speech products from the mouth and tongue. Meanwhile, written figurative language is written products or texts that are generally contained in works of fiction such as poetry (Masruchin, 2017, p. 9).

d) Personal according to Merriam Webster is concerned with the individual or a person's character, behavior, motives, or personal affairs often in an offensive way, while growth according to Merriam Webster is a stage in the process of progressive growth or development. Thus, personal growth refers to the process of development and progress of an individual in various aspects of their life. It involves improving skills, knowledge, and personal qualities, as well as developing new potentials and abilities. Personal growth can occur in various areas.

e) Emotional according to KBBI is something that touches feelings or is emotionally moving, plus emotion according to Merriam Webster is appealing to or arousing emotion or markedly aroused or agitated in feelings or sensibilities. Experience according to KBBI is the feeling of an event, plus according to Merriam Webster is the fact or state of having been affected by or gained knowledge through direct observation or participation. Thus, emotional experience is an individual's subjective experience involving feelings, emotions, and psychological reactions to a specific stimulus or situation. Includes a variety of feelings such as joy, sadness, fear, anger, love, and more. Emotional experience can be influenced by internal (such as personality, previous experiences, and mental health conditions) and external (such as social situations, environment, and interactions with others) factors.