

MOTIVATIONS THROUGH METAPHOR IN *NOT AFRAID* AND *READ ALL ABOUT IT*

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Abstract

This study examined the figurative language in the lyrics of Eminem and Emili Sande songs. It will easier and more interesting to analyze the figurative language trough the literary work that people hear everyday such a song lyric. This research use descriptive qualitative method. The main sources of data in this research were the lyric song of Eminem's *Not Afraid* and Emili Sande's *Read All About It*. The analysis of the data used the following step: first, listen to the songs, found the printed lyric of the song, found the figurative language. The last, the researcher drew the conclusion of this study. The result of this study show that, both song lyric, use the metaphor and personification. Based on the figurative language analysis, the singer wants to declare something and give motivation to the reader or listener through these songs.

Keywords: motivation, metaphor, personification, song lyrics

Introduction

Humans are social beings. They interact to another and live with another human. We leak emotion to each other. We have the mirror neuron that makes us match with other human beings' emotions, either unconsciously or immediately through communication. Communication a way of people to express their emotions, sharing information or motivate each others. But, in many cases, human beings can express their feelings in some other way for communication. In the past, they used a sender or messenger to meet ones they want to meet. Nowadays, there is no sender or messenger but people can use other methods to express their feelings, such as music.

In the end of 19th century, American slaves used music to talk about their hard lives as slaves and how they miss their lands. They shared the information, idea as well as thoughts using songs. Today, we listen to it every time, when we walking, while in transit, at work, and with our friend, music are like constant companion.

Music is the language of emotions. Music is the tool to share feeling between human being. However, musician created music not only to entertain but also to communicate through expressing or sharing

his/her feeling to the other. Music is not only the music itself but also the lyric. Through it, the reader or listener will know the topic of the song. Music is has language besides the musical arrangement. Through the song, the singer expresses his o her feeling. There are songs telling about sadness, happiness, love, social critiqued with direct and indirect ways.

According to the background above, the researchers make an attempt to analyze figurative languages and hidden meanings in two songs, i.e. *I am Not Afraid* by Eminem and *Read All About It* by Emeli Sande.

Methodology

1. Method of Data Collection.

This analysis uses qualitative analysis which is very "researcher-dependent". In this analysis, the researchers use observation method. Observation method is appropriate in observation of language.

In this research, the researchers used indirect observation technique by using the internet to get the song and the lyrics of *Not Afraid* by Eminem and *Read All About It* by Emeli Sande. The themes of the songs were to motivate others.

2. Method of Data Analysis.

Qualitative method is used in this research to analyze the data. Qualitative methods employ observations, interview, and/or the analysis of some type of text. Qualitative method is use to analysis meaning and theme. In this research, the researcher employs the content analysis on *Not Afraid* and *Read All About It*.

Findings and Discussion

In this analysis, the researchers analyzes the song lyrics of *Not Afraid* by Eminem and *Read All About It* by Emeli Sande to identify and analyze the figurative languages that the song writers in order to comprehend the messages of the songs. A song lyric is like a poem, considering the similarity of the structures to a certain extent.

1. Figurative Languages

Figurative language refers to words or phrases that have other meaning(s) beyond the literal meaning. In the study, two kinds of figurative languages are found. They are metaphor or personification. Metaphor is used to make a statement that doesn't make sense literally. It will make sense when the similarities between the two things become apparent or someone understand the connection between the two words. Personification is applied by using human characteristics to characterize some inanimate object, animal, or idea. They affect the way the reader imagines a thing.

a. Metaphor and Personification in *Not Afraid* by Eminem

This song is one of Eminem's famous songs. He is an American singer, rapper, recording producer and also actor. He is known as one of the most controversial and best-selling artists in early 21st century. He was born on October 17, 1972. His songs are usually related to the social criticism as well as reflecting himself. In *Not Afraid*, Eminem put all he wants to say with metaphors and personification to hide the true purpose.

We'll walk this road together, through the storm (line 31)

In this part of lyric, the word 'storm' represents 'problem'. But, it is not personification. Some of people think the problem is like a storm and the writer also tells the listeners or readers that they need to face their problems like one who is going through the storm.

In another line, the writer also uses metaphor to suggest the listeners or readers to believe that they are not alone when face a storm or problem.

Just letting you know that you're not alone. (line 33)

b. Metaphor and Personification in *Read All About It* by Emeli Sande

Eminem is not the only singer that uses his song to express his feeling. There is also Emeli Sande, a singer from the United Kingdom that uses the music as the tool of communication and a way to express her feeling, such as in *Read All About It*. In her song, Emeli Sande uses many metaphors and personifications. Here is an example.

You've got a heart as loud as lightening (line 8)

In this part of lyric, the writer put the personification to describe the heart of the people. The writer uses word as 'loud as lightning' to represent how strong the human heart just likes the power of lightning.

I wanna scream 'til the words dry out (line 16)

The writer also uses metaphor to make her song more dramatic. The writer tries to tell the readers or listeners to scream until they word dry out. Dry is for the water. But in that part, the writer uses the words "dry out" to say that you need scream till you cannot scream anymore.

2. The hidden purpose or meaning

Both of *Not Afraid* by Eminem and *Read All About It* by Emeli Sande have beautiful lyrics and arrangements. Both

singers share all they want to tell with the listeners about what they feel and want.

In *Not Afraid*, Eminem wants to tell others (listeners / readers) to not afraid and stand up against any problem, even when it is so bad because they are not alone. There are many people who also struggle to fight their problems.

I'm not afraid (I'm not afraid)
To take a stand (to take a stand)
Everybody (everybody)
Come take my hand (come take my hand)
We'll walk this road together, through the storm
Whatever weather, cold or warm
Just letting you know that you're not alone
Holler if you feel like you've been down the same road (same road)

Emeli Sande also shares her thought with the listeners to not afraid and to shout out what they want. Her song tells the listeners to say loudly (scream) what they want, and if someone can't speak it anymore just write it and everyone can also read.

I wanna sing, I wanna shout
I wanna scream 'til the words dry out
So put it in all of the papers,
I'm not afraid
They can read all about it
Read all about it, oh

Conclusion

Based on analysis above, the songs represent genuine feelings of the writers. The song writers express all they feel to communicate with others and share with them a story, as well as give motivate them to stand up and never give up when facing a problem. Both of Eminem and Emeli Sande are great singers and song writers.

Eminem as a rapper can give the people motivational words through his hard core tones and harsh language in his music. His music is rich of metaphor and personification that make his song have some deep feeling, though hard to

understand. On the other hand, Emeli Sande with her pop music is easy to understand even with some metaphor and personification in her song. Moreover, even when they use different kinds of music, they give the same motivation to the listeners.

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