

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter researcher will discuss the study's background, research problem, purpose, significance, scope, limitations, and key term definition.

### 1.1 Background of The Study

Language is one of the important aspects in human's social life. Keraf (2001), asserts that language serves as a communication tool among community members through sound symbol produced by human speech. Communication is the most effective and comprehensive method for convey ideas, messages, intentions, feelings, and opinions to others (Walija, 1996: 4). Everyone's express their feelings and opinions are through communication. This means that humans can use language in their social life either spoken or written, some use language through writing or a work and one of the forms that is conveyed in writing is literature. There are many ways that can be used to express opinions or feelings through literature, for example through stories, poetry, and songs.

According to Sudjiman (1986: 68), literature is a diverse range of written or oral works that exhibits originality, artistry, content beauty, and expression. Literature allows us to convey what is on our minds in different ways, use imagination and create many new things that are more beautiful and interesting. Literature also has no limits for anyone who wants to conduct their imagination, freely express and convey their feelings.

The song is part of a beautiful literary work, it uses words that have many meanings implied in them. According Dallin (1994), explains that lyrics serve as an interaction between the writer and listeners, often carrying a message to motivate them to think about it, influenced by cultural contexts such as musical preferences and time. In a song, there can be a story or a message to be conveyed to the listeners. In addition, we can also become more motivated to do various things if we find a song that suits the conditions we are facing. The use of figurative language in songs enhances their beauty and depth of meaning.

Robb (1996) emphasized that the song writing process empowers individuals to express their experiences and emotions in a unique and creative way. Not many people can express what they feel or experience, but there are also some people who can easily convey it using their creativity. There are many ways that can be used to

express expressions and experiences, one of which is through songs that we can create ourselves. The more feelings we share, the stronger the message and impression that can be conveyed to those who hear it.

According to Dancygier and Sweetser (2014), figurative language refers to the unique aspect of a text that allows it to express ideas and enhance the aesthetic value of a poetic text. Art will increase its artistic value if it is conveyed with right figurative language, it can beautify and show an aesthetic impression to convey it. Like poetry, novels and music, which use a lot of figurative language instead of usual words, it can add more value and make the audience feel more able to explore the meaning that is to be conveyed in that art.

Another previous research done by Ferawaty Puspitorini and Haris Hamdani (2021) studied An Analysis of Figurative Language on The Lyric of Coldplay's Selected Songs. These two studies have almost the same findings, namely about several types of figure of speech used, then explain the characteristics of various types figurative language, the type of figurative language they find, and the last is the meaning they want to convey from the lyrics.

From this statement, the researcher is interested on analyzing figurative language in Three Alec Benjamin Song's as the subject of this study, researcher will also show what type of figurative language frequently appears in the three Alec Benjamin songs. Alec Shane Benjamin (Alec Benjamin) is an American singer-songwriter from Phoenix, Arizona. The researcher's study aims to identify the figurative for the song, "Pretending", "Paper Crown", and "My Mother's Eyes" by Alec Benjamin.

## **1.2 Statement of Problem**

According to the background of study, researcher presents a problem to be investigated as follow :

1. What are the various of figurative language are employed in Three Alec Benjamin Song's Lyric?
2. What are frequently type of figurative language found in Three Alec Benjamin Song's Lyric?
3. What are the interpretation of the figurative language used in Three Alec Benjamin Song's Lyric?

### 1.3 Purpose of The Study

Related with statement of problem, this study intended to description of :

1. To overview what kind of figurative language in Three Alec Benjamin Song's Lyric.
2. To know in which type of figurative language is the most dominant in Three Alec Benjamin Song's Lyric.
3. The study aims to analyze and explain the contextual meaning of the figurative language used in in Three Alec Benjamin Song's Lyric.

### 1.4 Significance of The Study

The researcher expects to contribute to the students in the English Department of the University of Muhammadiyah Malang. The researcher hopes to assist other students in conducting similar research.

This research is expected to help the reader to know more about figurative languages in song's lyric, and this research can make people understand what the singer wants to convey through songs written using figurative language.

### 1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this research is Figurative Language Analysis in Three Alec Benjamin's Song Lyric. The limitation is needed to make the research more focused so that this research limits on three song lyrics in Alec Benjamin's album.

### 1.6 Definition of Key Terms

Some of the following definitions below are crucial for readers to comprehend the terms in this study for easier understanding.

1. *Song* is an expression of feelings that expressed in form of writing or poetry, with a mixture of figurative language to beautify a word. The Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary defines a song as a brief musical piece containing words that are sung.
2. *Lyrics* are a group of poetry that reflects a certain feeling, to express what is experienced, felt, heard and seen. Lyrics are short poems that focus on an individual feeling and emotion than external event or attitude.

3. *Figurative Language* enhances emotion by introducing and comparing specific things or general concepts, making it a beautiful and effective tool for conveying emotions (Tarigan, 2013).
4. Alec Shane Benjamin or better known as Alec Benjamin, an American singer-songwriter, achieved global success with his 2018 single "Let Me Down Slowly," which reached the top 40 in 25 countries and accumulated over 880 million streams on Spotify.



