

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

Song lyrics that give an important touch to every listener can represent the impressions of everyone's attitude. Roberts (2012) assert that themes referred to by music lyrics actually make a relevant difference for the expression of ideas and feelings, among other aspects. Working like that imagines drowning us and every lyric is neatly arranged into a song. The song is one of the most amazing works that makes listeners enjoy it with the combination of music, arrangement, and individual lyrical meaning. Sanchez Gozales (2021) stated explains that the fact music can act as a multi-purpose tool is widely accepted, as it can actually address identity and emotional needs in developmental stages in young people resulting in a change of perceptions of different aspects of life.

By reviewing the lyrics of each song in conjunction with semiotic theory, which is an area of science devoted to studying tonal system processes, we can find out just what this song means.

The term "literature" can be used to refer to an imaginary work. Literary work is very efficient be a fun and expanding entertaining reader's vocabulary, every word of its literature in literary work is very beautiful and has strings of meaningful words; Literature work itself has an important role in representing the

feelings of listeners and the author. According to Ade (2008) “literature is imaginative, literature expresses thoughts and feelings, literature deals with life experiences, literature uses words in a powerful, effective and yet captivating manner literature promotes recreation and revelation of hidden facts”.

Literary works are works of imagination that describe human life in a society that can be appreciated, justified, and used by the general public. The writer will write in several forms of literature what his imagination has come up with. There are many forms of literature, e.g. dramas, poems, stories, novels, and songs. Each literary expert defines the works of literature in his own way. One form of literary work that is included in the real application is characterized by the usage of language with a sweet touch, beautiful, attractive, and has charm everyone who enjoys it is called a song. There are the same characteristics of poetry and song lyrics. Meanwhile Wellek & Warren (1956) sums up “Literature as a full creation form, emotion, and expression which designate imaginative ideas through language as media.”

Because stories are capable of describing complex situations in their writing form, song lyrics may be considered part of literature. Lyrics and poetry are somehow very similar; they both employ verbal language, often using characteristic rhetorical and figurative language is, to tell stories, to come up with ideas about life and the world, and sometimes to delineate the boundaries of language in negotiations between 'subject' and „world'. Poetry differs from lyrics in several ways: while the voice in poetry is generally thought of as an internalized voice encoded in the medium of writing, the lyrical sound is by

definition external. According to Ara & Gopalkhrisna (2021), lyrics in music can affect the emotion to its listener. Lyrics contain a lot of meaning and it has been created along sequenced with the rhyme and the melody of music.

Every human being may have a problem with the importance of loving oneself and making peace with oneself. Many people do stupid things because they think they are weak and lack confidence in themselves, and not a few people end up committing suicide because they think they are not good. In today's world, self-love is needed because a lot of people hate themselves when they see various things happening in the news. This study examines the meaning of songs that have the meaning of self-love in each of the lyrics.

Consequently, music can affect the identity patterns by following emotional states R. Hariri et al. (2000). Music that has the meaning of self-love can be more accepted by listeners. They usually listen to the lyrics of the song and understand what they mean. A few listeners had no idea what this song meant, they gave a response in various forms, some were immediately told stories, and others said words of wisdom derived from the meaning of that song. According to Ferarri & Verga (2016) pointed out that music can be a tool for therapeutic tool for modulate cognitive functions.

Finally, the responses of readers to lyrics reflect their psychological problems after reading them and even as they are interpreted through their own ideology or understanding. Reader-response theory is based on the assumption that a literary work takes place in the mutual relationship between the reader and the text Mart

(2019). The reader's response theory is based on understanding by readers; obviously, with regard to the context, there are divergent interpretations from different readers. To give meaning to texts that can rely on background and, where possible, on the reader's knowledge and experience, the reader response theory focuses on the point of view of the reader.

Theorists do, however, believe that many of the readers are responding for a variety of reasons. Readers may respond to express their emotional reactions, to discuss difficulties in understanding, to corroborate or validate their opinions with others, to make social connections by exchanging responses, or to explain their attitudes. These different goals imply an equally wide range of responses engage, understand, relate, explain, interpret, and judge. They may be used to plan a range of responses.

Theorist, on the other hand, believes that readers respond to a variety of reasons. Readers can respond by expressing their emotional reactions, speaking about difficulties in understanding, rebutting or validating opinions and connecting to each other through the exchange of responses or explanations for their views. These divergent objectives call for an equally wide range of response strategies that engage, educate and understand, relate, explain, interpret, and assess. These data may be used as a starting point for the development of different response activities. Reader response theorists are particularly interested in responding to a number of different types of texts, in addition to their interest in identifying specific positions and intentions. The traditional literary theory is usually directed towards "literature" as well as traditional sources such as

novels, stories, poems, essays and plays. Lately, theorists like that have emerged Robert Scholes has widened the definition of words to cover a broad range of advertising modalities, genres and types of advertisements, historical books, videos, television programs, bumper stickers, editorials, electronic hypertext etc. The reader will be able to see the influence of author's use of different language techniques on their text, thanks to an application of a reading perspective in historic texts. Graves et al. (2011) define that the theory acknowledges the varied interpretations those readers might have on literary works in this top-down model.

Reader response theory has been viewed as a critical development that can be identified since the late 1970s. The theory of a reader's reaction is advocated by Kenneth Burke, Wayne Booth, Stanley Fish, Louise Rosenblatt and Walker Gibson. They agreed that reader response analysis should focus on the fields of brain science, history, and human science despite the fact that these theorists differ on a large number of readers response analysis highlights. It is important to note that, in view of how you perceive and understand the significance of literature, these elements have a major impact: class, race, ethnic background, gender, nationality, age, physical condition, profession, vocational interest, etc. It is for readers to assist them in their reading with references and combine this understanding of the content with his or her knowledge of the world. Because the reader's response theory agrees with the reader's interpretation power, it does not imply that "anything goes" in understanding. In essence, reader-response theory is a backlash against the proponents of New Criticism who assume that meaning

existed solely in the text and can only be deciphered by competent literary critic who possesses concise analytic skills (Mokaya : 2017).

Love yourself by Justin Bieber, released in 2015 for the first time. The song has quite a deep meaning, as the title suggests, Love Yourself tells about a young woman who loves herself too much and ignores everything because she loves herself too much. It's easy to identify the song as an expression about loving yourself, like a lot of other songs. It's about a man's obsession with himself, and he doesn't consider his partner to exist, in the lyrics of this song. That was bad for their relationship, and they decided to get rid of each other.

So am I by Ava max which was released in 2020. The significance of this song is to make people realize that it doesn't matter what difference you have from someone else. It doesn't matter if you are different from someone else, be confident in what will happen to you, don't fear being different because it isn't strange.

I like me better by Lauv's which was released in 2018. In this song it has a meaning when a person feels himself changing over time and feels strange about himself, gradually that person will begin to accept himself by accepting all the changes that occur I Like me better actually means that "I feel happier when" and can be about "I like myself when" there is a double meaning here, both of which have meanings that relate to the whole lyrics.

Who Says, a song by Selena Gomes, which was released in 2011. There's a meaning to the song, and it's a message for the listeners, so we have to be

confident wherever we are. This song is also teaching us to accept our flaws, even if it means loving ourselves no matter what anyone else says.

Me! Sung by Taylor Swift Ft. Brendon Urie which was released in 2019. It means that we must be able to accept our personalities and think of ourselves as better than others, and do not get worried about what's going on. Because these few lines in the lyrics influence the reader to assume that way. Music connoisseurs gave mixed responses with commentary comments. In this song, which has the meaning of self-love, it is hoped that many are aware of the importance of self-love from themselves. This song was well received by music lovers.

The difference between my analysis and the previous analysis is that if the previous analysis analyzed the lyrics of the song that contained the meaning of heroin use, while I analyze the song that contained the meaning of self-love in the song and the previous researcher only.

The previous study of Vitria (2013) also brings lyrics from Maher Zain's album "Forgive Me" in order to analyze the language style used in the songs. The aim of this research is to know language style and social meaning in Maher Zain's song lyric. This study presents analysis study of language style and social meaning of Maher Zain's songs.

On the journal titled "An Analysis of Deixis On the Song Lyrics of Ed Sheeran "Divide" Album" by Simbolon et al. (2010) conducted a research about analyzing popular musician artist Ed Sheeran through his album "Divide". This

research was published in 2010 in Global Scientific journals. The research finding shows there were types of deixis, namely person deixis, temporal deixis, and spatial deixis using pragmatics approach.

Another study that also discussed song lyrics as an object is written by Agustina (2008). The study tells about analyzing song lyrics in the album “Let Go” by Avril Lavigne. The researcher use Discourse Analysis for examining the elements of song lyrics as discourse and also describe the composer’s intention in the songs include in the Let Go album.

On the other hand, on the previous study conducted by Y. Shelton (1994) also use Reader Response as the tools to identify the object of the study. A study examined the theory concerning reader response and the rationale and practice of reader response in the high school English curriculum.

I chose to analyze the meaning of song lyrics that contain self-love in the lyrics because I think it is very important to love yourself and accept your own situation whatever it is. Insecure is necessary in oneself but insecure makes us better. Love yourself and accept the circumstances that occur, make peace with everything. Each song has a different meaning of self-love; therefore I want to analyze some songs that have the meaning of self-love so that we can understand what kind of self-love we should apply.

1.2. Statement of the Problem

This study attempts to answer several questions as stated below:

1. How do the respondents relate the meaning of self-love in the songs with their experience of self-love?
2. How are the overall meaning of self-love from the respondents viewed from Reader Response Theory?

1.3. Objective of the Study

Based on the questions contained in the problem formulation, this study has the following objectives:

1. To analyze the reader's relationship with the problems described in the song lyrics through their experiences.
2. To explain the importance meaning of self-love.

1.4. Scopes of the Study

This study will focus on exploring the relationship between the respondent's self-love problem and the meaning conveyed in a specific song. It will investigate how the respondent's personal struggles with self-love influence their interpretation and understanding of the song's meaning.

1.5. Significance of the Study

This study has a contribution to the field of education by bringing new nuances with insights into the meaning of songs. In addition, this study offers valuable insights into the interpretation process and the subjective nature of musical experience. Understanding how people attribute meaning to music can contribute to the fields of music psychology and music therapy.

The significance of this research lies in its potential to advance knowledge of the relationship between self-love, song meaning, and self-development, offering insights that can be applied in therapeutic settings, personal growth journeys, and interdisciplinary collaborations.

It is hoped that this research will be useful and can be used as a reference for further research.

1.6. Approach of the Study

The approach used in this research is descriptive qualitative method in which the goal is describing and analyzing the meaning of self-love depend on reader's interpretation. I use the Google Questionnaire to analyze, interviewing five people that are my best friends. Therefore, they are hoping to take the view of their own version of love when interpreting the meaning of the song's lyrics.

Bogdan & Biklen (2007) The descriptive qualitative research is which the data collect in the form of words or pictures rather than number. The data in qualitative research is collected in the form of words and sentences. The research contains excerpt of data to reflect the presentation of the report. The data itself is obtained from reader's interpretation and opinion about the lyrics of the song from Love Yourself by Justin Bieber and Me! Sung by Taylor Swift Ft. Brendon Urie.

As for the reason, Reader Response theory will be applied as a tool for analyzing the data taken from reader's opinion about two song lyrics. Reader first as the test subject requested to read the lyrics and have their understanding about

the messages of the lyrics. The way for analyzing self-love can be conducted by providing several questions related to the object in order to get the meaning of the lyrics.

As it already stated above, the data generated in the form of descriptive data obtained from the data in form of writings or documents related to the object of this research.

1.7. Organization

This paper is divided into five chapters. The chapter one is the introduction that contains the background of the study, statement of the study, objective of the study, scope of the study, significance of the study, approach of the study, and organization of the paper. Chapter two is literature review. Chapter three is a theoretical framework. Chapter four is analysis and discussion. And, chapter five is the conclusion and suggestions.

In this study, I analyzed songs that contain the meaning of self-love which has been explained in chapter one. The songs that I studied were Love Yourself by Justin Bieber, So Am I by Ava Max, Who Says by Selena Gomez, I Like Me Better by Lauv, and the last one Me by Taylor Swift. This study aims to assess how messages in self-strengthening and Self-confidence are expressed through music, and music can also contribute to increasing self-love and increasing self- confidence."