

The Denotative and Connotative Meaning in Pamungkas Song Lyrics “Queen of the Hearts”

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Abstract

A Song lyrics as a part of literary works is basically an art of language use. Song lyrics can be used by musicians to express their ideas, thoughts, feelings and emotions in the form of artistic words. The object of this research is a song lyric by a famous musician, namely Rizki Rahmahadian Pamungkas or better known by the stage name Pamungkas. Pamungkas is a singer, songwriter and also known as a music producer and have their music producer company namely maspam records that produce other great musician like; Oslo Ibrahim, Prince Husein and Morad. Pamungkas born in Jakarta 14th April 1993 known to be great musician who already has 4th albums and one rearrangement album such; Walk the Talk, Flying Solo, Solipsism 0.1, Solipsism 0.2 and the one that was recently released is birdy. One of his famous song was Queen of the heart that will be the object in this research which searching of connotative and denotative. This research uses descriptive qualitative methods and theory uses in this research is semiotics theory of Roland Barthes which is focused on a denotative and connotative meaning in Queen of the Hearts song. The result of this research show that several denotative and connotative meaning in Queen of the Hearts song like, “queen of the heart” queen, means and independent women ruled something that mentioned in this song which is heart. Because of that reasons, the researcher interested researching connotative meaning in Pamungkas’ song lyrics.

Keywords: Denotative. Connotative. Pamungkas. Semiotics

INTRODUCTION

A work of art is born to fulfill the human need for beauty, from the beauty of language to the beauty of form. Therefore, art is divided into several types, namely, motion arts, theater or performance arts, fine arts, literary arts, and musical arts. The art of music exists to fulfill human needs for the beauty of sound. Music is a work of art in the form of sound that is arranged and arranged neatly, where the sound is produced from a combination of musical elements, such as harmony, melody and rhythm. Bernstein and Picker (Hidayat, 2014) state that music is sounds that are organized in time and have artistic value and can be used as a tool to express ideas and emotions from composers to listeners. This is one of the functions of music, namely as a composer's medium of expression.

As mentioned above, music can be used as a medium of communication to convey the emotions and feelings of the author. This can happen because the elements that make up music usually describe feelings. For example, a fast tempo generally represents

happiness, excitement, or perhaps anger. While a slow tempo generally describes sadness. Therefore, when listening to music, we can feel various kinds of emotions conveyed by the author, such as feelings of sadness, joy, and longing.

The Merriam Webster Dictionary defines a song as a brief musical composition that combines words and music (Webster, 2021). This concept is consistent definition of a song, which is a combination of rhythmic sounds made by a human voice and the sounds of a musical instrument (Nugraha, 2016). Songs can also be thought of as verses that are uttered in harmony with one another using specific tones, rhythms, bars, and melodies.

As expressed by Jan Van Luxemburg, "Song lyrics can be considered as poetry and vice versa, considering that the text of poetry does not only include types of literature but also includes advertising expressions, proverbs, mottos, prayers, and lyrics of pop songs. Setiawan, 2021." With some of these interpretations, it is clear that song is a combination of the literary and musical arts, which both require the ordered blending of sounds.

Song lyrics are one part of a literary work. This is similar to what was explained by Moeliono (in Resdiansyah, 2019: 8) that song lyrics can be said to be literary works in the form of poetry that contain outpourings of the heart, as the composition of a song. Pradopo (in Resdiansyah, 2019: 10) further explains that the lyrics of a song can be said to be poetic, because they are able to evoke feelings, attract attention, generate clear responses and cause emotion. From this explanation, it can be concluded that poetry and song lyrics are both created to express the ideas and feelings of the author through beautiful language that has aesthetic value, and has a deep meaning so that it can give emotion to the reader or the listener.

Song lyrics as part of a literary work are basically an art of language. Therefore, every word, phrase, or sentence used by the author must support the meaning of the lyrics of the song. In addition, a writer must also be able to convey his ideas through the choice of words as carefully as possible so that the reader can feel what the writer feels and understand the meaning of the lyrics of the song.

In expressing his ideas, a writer usually puts forward a theme, either indirectly (implied) or directly (explicitly) (Nurholis, 2018: 35). The theme is the subject matter initiated by the author through his work. There are many themes that are commonly used by writers in making a literary work such as poetry, for example the theme of humanity, the theme of nature, the theme of life, the theme of love, the theme of divinity and religion, and so on.

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We often use simple words that are simple to understand when communicating. But there are some statements that have an implied meaning when discussing literary

works like a poem, movie, play, song, and many more. Understanding between the speaker and the listener is essential for effective communication because it prevents miscommunication. In this situation, meaning research is required. Semantics is one of the branches of linguistics that teaches about meaning. According to Yule, semantics is the study of word, phrase, and sentence meaning. In semantic analysis, an effort is always made to concentrate on what the words traditionally imply rather than what a speaker may desire to mean at a given time.

Connotative and denotative meanings are two different types of meaning that can exist in semantics. The true meaning found in dictionaries is called denotative meaning. According to Yule, "Denotative or conceptual meaning covers fundamental, crucial meaning components that are conveyed by the literal use of a word." Contrarily, connotative meaning is implicit and dependent on context. In addition, Yule noted that "different persons might attach various associations or implications to a word like needle. People may have various connotations with it, such as "pain," "sickness," "blood," "drugs," "thread," "knitting," or "hard to find" (particularly in a haystack). These connotations are not considered to be a part of the mental meaning of the word.

Songs are one literary form that frequently contains connotative meaning. Songs can now frequently be heard both at home and in public settings. A song is a compilation of lyrics with a specific tone that are typically inspired by or developed through personal experience, whether happy or sad. Song is defined as "a brief piece of music with words that you sing" in the Oxford Learners' Pocket Dictionary. According to Jamalus, music is a work art in the form of sound that reveal thought or feeling from author through the main elements of music. The author of a song frequently uses both implicit and explicit meanings in the song lyrics to create a lovely sound. As listeners, we occasionally hold divergent opinions regarding the author's intended meaning.

This study uses Roland Barthes' semiotic approach. Semiotics or semiology is a science that studies signs (Sakinah & Aufa A., 2019: 117). This is in line with Preminger's opinion (in Pradopo, 1999: 76) which states that semiotics is the science of signs, studying socio-cultural phenomena, including literature as a sign system. Furthermore, the purpose of semiotic analysis itself is to try to find the meaning of a sign, including the things hidden behind a sign (Nugraha, 2016: 296).

Roland Barthes himself is a philosopher who is most synonymous with the world of semiotics (Fu'adi, 2020: 23). Roland Barthes is famous for his theory which continues and develops the thoughts of the father of linguistics, Ferdinand De Saussure. His notion of semiology is also known as a gradual signification system, which includes several terms in semiotics, namely denotation, connotation, and myth (Sakinah & Aufa A., 2019: 117).

Based on explanation above, the reason why researcher choose denotative and connotative as an object research because there are still of listeners who have trouble interpret utterance from the speaker fits the context. Therefore the researcher wants to research the denotative and connotative significance of Queen of the Heart song lyrics. As evidence that many adults and teenagers today enjoy Pamungkas' music, one of the categories in one of the top music applications is "The Most Listened Songs in Indonesia." This is why the researcher chose Queen of the Heart song lyrics by "Pamungkas" for the research.

Based on the background above, the formulation of the problem in this study is what is the meaning of denotation and connotations in the lyrics of the song Queen of the heart Pamungkas song?

METHOD

Research design is a research strategy and procedure that includes an evaluation of data collection and analysis methods. There are several types of research designs, including quantitative and qualitative. The researcher used a descriptive qualitative method to analyze the denotative and connotative meaning in Pamungkas' Queen of the Heart song lyrics in this study.

Qualitative methods, according to Lewis and Ritchie, are used to answer research questions that require an explanation or understanding of social phenomena and their context. According to Sugiyono, qualitative research is a research method used to examine the condition of a natural object (usually an experiment) where the researcher is the key instrument, the data collection technique is triangulation (combined), the data analysis is inductive, and the results of qualitative research emphasize meaning over generalization.

That basically means that descriptive explanations can be used to give clear information because qualitative research is descriptive. Based on the theory just explained, the researcher used descriptive qualitative analysis to examine and describe the denotative and connotative significance of the lyrics to a song by Pamungkas.

Research subject according to Spradley is a source of information. Pamungkas' song lyrics were the researcher's choice for this study's research topic. The lyrics of Queen of the Heart Pamungkas' song were examined for their Dennotative and connotative significance.

Instrument is very important in the research. In qualitative research, the researcher plays a crucial role in the data collection process. The researcher used the internet to gather song lyrics for the study's data and the Oxford Dictionary to look for actual meanings to contrast with denotative and connotative.

Data analysis procedures

There are several to collect the data used by the researcher:

1. The researcher browsed Pamungkas Queen of the Heart song in internet in order to be analyzed.
2. The researcher watched and listened the Queen of the Heart song by Pamungkas in youtube.
3. The researcher copy the lyric of Queen of the Heart song in internet by pamungkas.

Focusing, choosing, and simplifying abstract ideas found in the text or body of writing, among other things, is what this method entails. Data condensation in this

situation is the initial step in data analysis by concentrating on data to aid researchers in carrying out study. The data used in this study came from a song by Pamungkas Queen of the Heart, and the researcher concentrated on the different denotative and connotative meanings and the author's intended message.

FINDINGS and DISCUSSION

The denotative meaning is the meaning of the word which is based on a clear, innocent, and straightforward designation. Meanwhile, connotative meaning is an aspect of the meaning of a word or group of words based on feelings or thoughts that arise or are generated by the speaker (writer) and listener (reader) (Suwandi, 2011: 99). The denotative and connotative meanings are interrelated. This is the same as expressed by Athaifani (2014: 1), stating that denotative and connotative meanings are interrelated and have good concepts in the native language or foreign language.

The Pamungkas song, entitled Queen of the Hearts, has the theme of love, about someone who falls in love with a woman who completely controls his heart. It can be seen from the lyrics which contain words about love. To find out more clearly about the denotative and connotative meanings in the lyrics of the Queen of the Hearts song, the researcher will attach the lyrics of the song and their meaning according to Roland Barthes' theory. The following are the lyrics of Queen of the Hearts song by Pamungkas:

*I feel very strange
I don't miss you
Not in the way
Like how I used to
I feel very strange
I don't miss you
Not in the way
Like how I used to
Taking a walk like a champ in the night
I walk slow but
I never walk back
Having a talk with you in my mind tonight
You worry so much as if the world is ending
(Don't you know)
Don't you know you're better
Than you think you are (Don't you know)
Don't you know you're better
Than you think you are
Queen of the hearts
Queen of the hearts
You won me over
You're the queen of the hearts
(Don't you know?)
Seeing your creation over a tech application*

One, two, three, four,
did I say I adore you before? Your poetic mind,
I can listen to you for hours
Like a valentine, darling you talk like flowers
(Don't you know)
Don't you know you're better
Than you think you are (Don't you know)
Don't you know you're better
Than you think you are
Queen of the hearts
Queen of the hearts
You won me over
Queen of the hearts
Baby I don't know why
The reason why
You even talk to me
I may feel odd,
just a little Strange, does it tickle?
Can't believe it's true
Why don't you tell me why
The reason why
That it had to be you
You caught me off my guard
And you see all my cards
Queen of the hearts
Queen of the hearts
Queen of the hearts,
oh Queen of the hearts
Queen of the hearts
Queen of the hearts
You're the queen of my hearts

Denotative and Connotative meaning in Queen of the Heart Song

I feel very strange
I don't miss you

the sentence "i feel very strange" above is denotative, namely explaining that the writer says it as it is, that the writer feels strange about something and continues with the next lyrics which explain what makes him feel strange "i don't miss you". The writer here expresses what he wants to express without using figures of speech or anything, the writer is ordinary and has no extra meaning. The word "i" here refers to the writer who finds it strange that he doesn't miss the "you" mentioned in the song, "you" here refers to the person the writer likes and wishes for. The word "strange" the writer felt shocked at

something that he normally didn't feel and the writer couldn't understand and it was explained at a later glance that he no longer misses the "you" in this song.

*Not in the way
Like how I used to*

the next lyrics the writer writes "not in the way, how i used to do" these lyrics are an explanation of the previous sentence which says that the writer feels strange, in this sentence the writer explains that this is not something I usually feel and what the writer usually feels is misses the "you" in this song referring to someone the author loves. The phrase "not in the way" has a connotative meaning that one should not go this way. The word "way" here does not mean direction but the author's sense of the way he normally feels.

Taking a walk like a champ in the night

This lyric have connotative meaning because the author compared his walks with a champ. According to Merriam Webster, a champ is someone who places first in a competition and walks with a sense of proud and happiness. Word "like" tells that the the author feels the victory of something and you could say the victory will get someone the author wants.

*I walk slow but
I never walk back*

This phrase has a connotative meaning. Seen in this phrase, it has another meaning from what the author wrote "i walk slow" which means he is someone who walks slowly and also has a connotative meaning, namely the writer lives his life casually facing what is in front of him, the phrase "i never walk back" means the writer likens even though the writer walks slowly the writer stays focused forward without looking back. Then connotatively the phrase in this song means someone who continues to face life without seeing what has been through or forgetting all that has passed.

Having a talk with you in my mind tonight

This lyric is considered have connotative meaning, "having a talk" and "in my mind" is two different things. Additionally, the author claims to be having a conversation with someone in his head, but this isn't the literal sense as he can't talk with someone in his head; rather, the author is implying that he was imagining or thinking about the person in the author mind.

You worry so much as if the world is ending

The author tells in this phrase that "you" in this song is worrying about something and it's considered to be denotative in this song. "You worry so much" tells the exact meaning of what the author want to tell in this song as someone is worrying about the author condition or somewhat about the author. "The world is ending" the author imagined that "you" in this song worrying about the author.

You're the queen of the hearts

In the song's lyrics, "You're the queen of the heart, "queen" refers to both his lover and the female ruler of an independent state with a royal family who is married to a king. Therefore author used word "queen" in this as the author imagined that "you" in the mind of author is someone that rules of his heart. The phrase "the hearts" refers to the author's use of a human organ. The "Queen" can make the singer fall in love with her, according to the actual meaning of this lyric.

Seeing your creation over a tech application

According to Oxford dictionary word "creation" is the act or process of making something that is new, or of causing something to exist that did not exist before. The author tells that the author "seeing your creation" a work created by "you" in this song means that author seeing the work of "you" in this song "over a tech application" it could be means something like app in the phone or something similar.

*Your poetic mind,
I can listen to you for hours*

According to Collins Dictionary, "poetic" refers to something that is extremely beautiful and sensitively or movingly expresses emotions, while "mind" refers to the part of a person that is responsible for thought, feelings, and intention. Furthermore, the singer intended for this song's lyrics to show that someone who has a lovely idea and conveys her emotions delicately may perceive both the romantic and melancholy sides of things. The word "mind" refers to a person or a person who is using the part of themselves that allows them to think, feel emotions, and be aware of their surroundings.

You won me over

According to Merriam Webster, "won" is to succeed (as in a contest). The actual meaning is that someone received the author's encouragement, affection, or appreciation rather than a trophy or medal because the author is a human and this is not a competition. The author tells that "you" in this song is won something from the author, it's like the heart as mentioned in the lyric before "queen of the hearts".

You caught me off my guard

The phrase "caught me off" have connotative meaning, based on Collins Dictionary is to surprise someone by doing something that we do not expect it. The actual meaning is the singer wants to tell that she made him surprise with what her did.

And you see all my cards

This lyric contains a connotative meaning because there is a use of phrase "all my cards" in it. The word "traits" is changed to the word "cards." The lyric's intended meaning is that she unintentionally sees all of his characteristics. Supported by the line, "You caught me off my guard," from the prior line.

Like a valentine, darling you talk like flowers

Merriam Webster defines a darling as someone you adore greatly, hence this song's usage of the word "darling" qualifies it as denotative. The word "darling" was used by the author to refer to the woman she adored.

Baby I don't know why

As a result of the word "baby" being included, this lyric is regarded as a denotative. According to Merriam Webster Dictionary, the term "baby" is a slang term frequently used to refer to a loved one. In order to refer to someone, the author changed their name to "baby."

*One, two, three, four,
did I say I adore you before?*

The word 'four' and 'before' have similar sound but have different meanings. Four is a number, and before means that something takes place before a specific day, hour, or event.

*I may feel odd,
just a little Strange, does it tickle?*

'Little' and 'tickle' are two words that come to mind. These words sound alike, yet their meanings couldn't be further apart. According to Merriam Webster, "little" refers to something that is small in size or quantity, and "tickle" means to softly touch a body part in order to pique nearby nerves and elicit a giggle.

CONCLUSION

Roland Barthes revealed that language is a sign system that reflects the assumptions of a particular society at a certain time (Sobur, 2003: 53). Song lyrics as a literary work that uses language as its medium, of course, has denotative and connotative in it. The song Queen of the Hearts is one of the songs on the album Solipsism Pamungkas which was released in 2020. The meaning of the song Queen of the Hearts is very romantic, the lyrics tell about the happiness of the author who is in love with a woman. The author in this song is described as drunk or surprised by what the woman the author likes is doing. The author can't believe that the woman he wants is suddenly close to the author, invites the author to talk and etc. A thing that kept ringing in the author's head until late at night. The author also describes the figure of this woman as a queen in this song, which is described by the author that this queen is an amazing figure that is not known by herself or even other people.

The word "queen" implies that the author considers the woman he loves as someone who controls his heart, has a good demeanor, and has a beautiful and admirable face. Like a queen who is known in real life as a female group leader who has a positive image. In this study, it was found that the lyrics of the song Queen of the Hearts contain several symbols such as Queen of the Hearts which means a woman who owns and controls the author's heart. The word "won" that describes someone has won the author hearts not the word "won" that used to be winning something like medal and similat things but won in this lyric is known as she in this song is winning the author heart.

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