

ANALYSIS OF MEANING IN *LIMBO* SONG LYRIC BY KESHI

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ABSTRAK

Language is often used as a means of communication, human interaction is also not separated from the use of language. Language is an important tool for communicating, feeling, expressing opinions and can be used as an artistic symbol. Without language we can not respond other people say and idea. Semantics is the study of meaning in a language. Meaning is an explanation or understanding given to something, such as words, symbols, or actions, so that it can be understood by others. This study aims to analyze the meaning contained in *Limbo* song lyric by Keshi. The method used in this study is qualitative methods. To collect the data the researchers listening and read the song lyrics. The researchers use theory from Yule [1] to analyze meaning of *Limbo* song lyric. The result of the study indicates that the meaning in *Limbo's* song lyrics is about one's anxiety in an uncertain life. Then, he is looking for his own way out to the problems of his life.

Keywords: *Meaning, Limbo, Keshi*

INTRODUCTION

Language is often used as a means of communication, human interaction is also not separated from the use of language. [2] According to Keraf there were two meanings of language. The first definition states that language is a means of communication between members of society in the form of sound symbols produced by human speech organs. Second, language is a communication system that uses vocal symbols (speech sounds) that are referees. [1] according to Yule language is based on the concept of natural sounds. [3] Finacchiaro states that language is a system of aimless oral symbol which permits all people in a given culture or other people who have learned the system of that culture to communicate or to interact. Also, according to Sapire [4] that language is a fully mortal and non-instinctive system of communicating ideas, feelings, and desires through a system of freely produced sounds. Then, [1] Yule state that language is the first language of a group of people who do not use a spoken language with each other. Meanwhile, Syamsuddin [5] states that language is a clear sign of good and bad personality, a clear sign of family and nation, a clear sign of moral reason. In culture, language can also be used as a symbol that has meaning, From the delineations of the experts, it can be concluded that language is an important tool for communicating, feeling, expressing opinions and can be used as an artistic symbol. Without language we can not respond other people say and idea.

Semantic is part of Linguistic . Before we learn about semantic, we learn about linguistic. Richard [6] define linguistics as the study of language as a system of mortal communication. Meanwhile, According to Leech [7] Linguistics itself has brought to the subject of semantics a predictable degree of logical rigour combine with a view of the study of meaning as an integrated element within total proposition of how language works. Semantic is the study of meaning in language. Yule [1] states that Linguistic semantics is concerned with the conventional meaning conveyed through the use of word, phrases and sentences of a language. Then, According to James [8] semanticists is to explain and clarify the nature of meaning. [9] Pateda state," In semantics it can be known about understanding meaning, form of meaning, types of meaning, aspects of meaning matters relating to meaning, factors of meaning, changes in meaning, cause words have only one meaning or further, and how to understand meaning in a word, everything can be attained through disciplines that called semantics. According to Kreidler [10] that semantics is the methodical study of meaning, and verbal semantics is the study of how languages organize and convey meanings. also, [11] According to Chaer semantics is a verbal study which concentrates on the disquisition of meaning in the words or rulings. In Addition, Yule [1] defines semantics as the study of the meaning

of words, expressions, and rulings. From experts description it can be concluded that semantics is the study of meaning in a language.

Meaning refers to the understanding of a thing or message contained therein. According to Riemer [12] the word 'meaning' is used to refer to such different things as the idea or intention lying behind a piece of language. Then, Kridalaksana state that Meaning is purpose speech, the influence of language units in perceptual understanding, and behavior human or group [13]. In addition , According to Aminuddin [14] Meaning is relationship between the language and the outside world that has been mutually agreed upon by the users language so that they can be mutually understood. Meaning is an explanation or understanding given to something, such as words, symbols, or actions, so that it can be understood by others.

Lyrics refer to a form of poetry written in the form of songs or rhymes which are usually accompanied by music. According to Dallin [15] song lyrics are written as a form of interaction between the writer and the listeners. Lyrics is a poem accompanied by music to express the feelings, thoughts, or emotional experiences of the author by using beautiful language. Meanwhile, according (Kurniawati et al., 2022) the lyrics of the songs can also used to teach reading comprehension by providing the students with varieties of questions.

This study aims to analyze the meaning contained in *Limbo* song lyric. The reason for choosing this song, because nowadays listeners only listen to it but do not understand the implied meaning conveyed by the songwriter in the lyrics. songs created by creators are usually related to the life image of the composer, friends and even family who inspired them to create the song. *Limbo* is a song that is popular and liked by young people.

Keshi is an American singer, songwriter, record producer. The singer whose real name is Casey Luong was born on November 4, 1994, Houston, Texas, United States. In the song entitled *Limbo*, it tells the story of someone who is in a confused situation with the direction of his life, is meaningless, and feels empty. However, behind it all, he still tries his best to live life. In the song *Limbo* found the meaning of the song. The problem of this research is "What is the meaning contained in the song *Limbo* by Keshi?" The purpose of this research is to develop semantics, especially meaning in songs.

Previously there are some studies that also talk about analysis meaning in song lyrics : The first with title "Analysis Of The Meaning Of The Song Lyrics Speechless" In The Film "Aladdin" was researched by Na'imah Hasan. This study examines the meaning of the song "Speechless" sung in the film "Aladdin". Every lyric in the speechless song has meaning and significance in the movie "Aladdin". The second with the title "An Analysis of Contextual Meaning In A New Day Has Come Song Lyrics" was researched by Riska Getty Anindya. This research found 65 words that have contextual meaning.

From previous studies above the differences between this research and previous research are the object and the theory that researchers used.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The method used in this study is qualitative. According to Sugiyono [17] a qualitative research method is a research method based on philosophy that is used to research scientific conditions (experiments) where researchers as instruments, data collection techniques and qualitative analysis put more emphasis on meaning. To complete this research, the researchers (1) listened to the song. (2) read the song lyrics. This research focuses in meaning in *limbo* song lyric.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

According to Yule [1] semantics is the study of meaning in language, there is more interest in certain aspects of meaning than in others. *Limbo* song sung by Keshi that has meaning about his feeling. He feels emptiness and he don't know what to do, but trying to survive and try to find solutions for his way of life. This song seems like feeling down but keep trying to be okay. The meaning contained in each of the lyrics that impress the listeners. Yule [1] In semantic analysis, there is always an attempt to focus on what the words conventionally mean, rather than on what an individual speaker (like George Carlin) might want them to mean on a particular occasion.

The following is an analysis of the first stanza :

*I've been going through motions, back and forth like ocean
I am a fraud, I am the shit, hoping that nobody notice
Bang chest in the morning, head down in the night
Drink less if I wanted, strike up with a light*

In the first stanza line 1 *I've been going through motions, back and forth like ocean* that have meaning he felt that his life was repeating itself in the same pattern, like the waves that kept rolling onto the beach and back into the sea. Then, in first stanza line 2 *I am a fraud, I am the shit, hoping that nobody notice* have a meaning show a sense of pride in the ability to lie. So, the sentence in the line 3 *bang chest in the morning, head down in the night* have meaning he is feeling down. Next, in the line 4 with the sentences *drink less I wanted, strike up with a light* can be interpreted as the view that him can achieve his best potential and be in his best condition by drinks that can affect healthy and quality of his life.

The following is an analysis of the second stanza :

*And square up, I'm the mightiest
Myself in the fight, hurt twice, but I tried it
No advice for this shit, might die for this shit
Do I feel alive, feel alive, feel alive?*

In the second stanza line 1 with the sentences *And square up, I'm the mightiest* an expression of one's confidence and determination to face struggles that lie ahead with the belief that they have sufficient strength to deal with them. Next, in second stanza line 2 *Myself in the fight, hurt twice, but I tried it* have meaning he fight with himself until he was injured twice and tried to get up again. So, in line 3 that define a feeling of hopelessness that made him want to ends his life, with the lyric *No advice for this shit, might die for this shit*. Then, in the last line with the sentence *Do I feel alive, feel alive, feel alive?* He ask to himself "do I feel alive?" because he's feeling so down.

The following is an analysis of the third stanza :

*Feel more like limbo, hands out my window
Chasin' that sunset, that's more my tempo
Yeah, that's more my tempo*

In the third stanza line 1 *Feel more like limbo, hands out my window* have meaning feelings that can be very depressing and make a person feel hopeless. So, in line 2 with the sentence *Chasin' that sunset, that's more my tempo* is defined that he chasing hope. In the third stanza line 3 *Yeah, that's more my tempo* he is looking for the meaning of his life.

The following is an analysis of the fourth stanza :

*Ooh, but this is all that I am
I only show you the best of me
The best me*

In the fourth stanza it was clear that he was hiding his feelings and showing others that he was fine.

The following is an analysis of the fifth stanza :

*Looked in my demons and saw myself
Put all my meaning in someone else
Outta sight, outta mind, don't know where to find it
Don't know where to hind, but I still*

In the fifth stanza line 1 with the sentence *Looked in my demons and saw myself* can be defined that he only shows his ugliness to himself. Then, in second stanza line 2 *Put all my meaning in someone else* that have meaning behavior in which a person depends on how others treat him for his purpose in life. So, in fifth stanza line 3 can be defined that looking for ways to find other people who have a good understanding of him. Next, in fifth stanza line 4 with the sentence *Don't know where to find, but I still* that have meaning he don't know to find.

The following is an analysis of the sixth stanza :

*Eat good, drink good, feel good, it's all good
Can't hear my head when I'm sat beside you
Fucked lungs and a liver, good looks in the mirror
Do I feel alive, feel alive, feel alive?*

In the sixth stanza line 1 can be defined that he still fine and enjoying life. Then, in the second line *Can't hear my head when I'm sat beside you* that have meaning even though he is fine but no one understands what's in head when sitting beside him. Next, in the third line *Fucked lungs and a liver, good looks in the mirror* have meaning he has serious emotional problems, but he tries to hide his plight behind a smile and an outward appearance that seems fine. Last, *Do I feel alive, feel alive, feel alive?* Then he ask again to himself does he feel alive?.

CONCLUSION

Based on research result *Limbo* song lyric by Keshi. In first stanza, it can be conclude that he admitted and he actually lied to himself because he didn't want anyone's attention, he also expressed his feelings of loneliness and confusion in his life. Then, in second stanza can be conclude, even though experiencing and difficult situation he still tries to achieve happiness by looking for things that give satisfaction in himself. He feels he is in the same condition and wonders if he is really alive. So, in third stanza can be conclude that he is feeling hopeless and is looking for a solution he is also trying to reach the goal even though it is difficult. In fourth stanza, can be conclude that he only shows his best in himself to show other. While, in fifth stanza he explain that he is down and hopes that someone else will understand him. But, he does not know how to find that someone. Then, in sixth stanza can conclude that he is still fine and enjoying his life. Even though his soul is hurt but he shows a smile. Despite being down and wondering if he really felt alive? From definition in every stanza above, researchers can conclude that even though life is in difficult circumstances and don't know what to do but he still tries to make it fine.

This research can be used a source information regarding analysis meaning in song lyrics and can provide knowledge to further researcher also for readers especially about the important meaning in building a song.

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