

THESIS

A STUDY OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE: HYPERBOLE, PERSONIFICATION, AND SIMILE IN *BRING ME THE HORIZON'S ALBUM*

Submitted for Fulfill of Requirment for S1 Degree in the English Department Faculty of Humanities Bung Hatta University

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ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS BUNG HATTA
2025



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Judul Skripsi : A Study of Figurative Language: Hyperbole, Personification, And

Simile In Bring Me The Horizon's Album

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STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

This is to certify the originality of this thesis which I now submit to fulfill a requirement for an S1 in The English Department Faculty of Humanities Universitas Bung Hatta. The content of this thesis is entirely my work. All assistance received in writing this thesis and the sources cited have been acknowledged within the text of my work.

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STUDY OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE OF HYPERBOLE, PERSONIFICATION, AND SIMILE IN BRING ME THE HORIZON'S ALBUM

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ABSTRACT

Figurative language is widely used in song lyrics to convey emotions and ideas beyond literal meaning. Bring Me the Horizon's album is rich with expressive devices that reflect themes of pain, despair, and survival. This research focuses on three types of figurative language—hyperbole, personification, and simile—to examine how the band's lyrics communicate emotional depth and stylistic identity. This research applied a qualitative descriptive method. The data were taken from selected songs in Bring Me the Horizon's album. Each lyric containing figurative expression was identified and categorized based on figurative language theories. The analysis focused on interpreting the function and effect of hyperbole, personification, and simile in the context of the lyrics. The findings indicate that all three figurative devices are present throughout the album. Hyperbole appears most frequently, used to exaggerate emotions such as despair, hopelessness, and rebellion. Personification occurs when abstract concepts like death, fear, or depression are given human qualities, making inner struggles more concrete. Similes are employed to create vivid comparisons between complex emotions and familiar imagery, thus enhancing relatability and imagery. In conclusion, Hyperbole, simile, and personification in these song lyrics make the words more powerful and meaningful. Hyperbole shows strong feelings by exaggerating emotions, simile helps listeners imagine clearly by comparing two different things, and personification makes lyrics more alive by giving human qualities to objects or ideas. Together, they enrich the beauty of the lyrics, create deeper emotions, and help the message of the song connect strongly with listeners.

Keywords: Figurative Language, Hyperbole, Personification, Simile, Bring Me The Horizon.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all, I would like to express my highest gratitude to Allah SWT, God Almighty, for the blessings and mercy that has been given. Apart from that, I also express my respect to our prophet Muhammad SAW for bringing these people from darkness to a bright message of truth.

The researcher realized that many people had given their help and useful suggestions for the finishing of this thesis. Without the assistance of them, this thesis would never have existed. Therefore, the researcher would like to express his appreciation and sincere thanks to:

- My supervisor, Prof. Dr. Elfiondri, S.S., M.Hum for his valuable knowledge, ideas, advice, intense attention, and patience. It was a privilege to be under his supervision.
- 2. Diana Chitra Hasan, M.Hum., M.Ed., Ph.D., Dean of Faculty of Humanities Universitas Bung Hatta.
- Dra. Nova Rina, M.Hum., Head of English Department Faculty of Humanities Universitas Bung Hatta.
- 4. My amazing parents, my beloved family, my mother, and my father (Mr. Indra Purwadi and Mrs. Delvita Hendriaty) who have given me support, motivation, prayer, and working hard to see their son succeed in finishing his studies. Also my beloved brother and sister (Arva, Sadid, Raka, Aikko), and last but not least, especially to my uncle (Mr. Deni Desva Hendri)

- 5. My Academic Adviser Temmy Thamrin, S.S., M. Hum., Ph.D for giving me advice about my education
- My examiners Dr. Yusrita Yanti, M.Hum and Diana Chitra Hasan, M.Hum.,
 M.Ed., Ph.D for giving detailed feedback and ideas during the examination.
- 7. For someone special (AMM), who is always there when I need her and always by my side.

Because the researcher realizes that this thesis is not perfect, constructive criticism and suggestions are much appreciated. He wishes that Allah always maintains us on the right road, rewards and blesses us for what we do, and that this text is valuable to all of us.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Language is a system of traditional spoken or written symbols that people use to communicate with one another. People require language in order to communicate, engage, and obtain information from others. According Harmer (2007), as mentioned in (Hariyanto, 2017) suggests that language is commonly utilized for communication among individuals with different first or second languages. Language can be a vital requirement in human life. It plays an important part in everyone's ability to develop positive relationships with others.

There are two types of meaning in language: implicit meaning and explicit meaning. Language can represent both explicit and implicit emotions and concepts. Language serves as a means of communication, allowing individuals to express their thoughts. According to (Shahrour & Bull, 2008, p. 155) explicit meaning is the message that is presented directly and explicitly in the text. He also defined implicit meaning as a message that is not expressed explicitly in the text, such as figurative language. There are several types of figurative language, including simile, metaphor, personification, alliteration, exaggeration, idioms, and others.

Figurative language is a figure of speech used to convey information other than the literal meaning of the words Figurative language consists of saying less than what is intended. Figurative language is frequently used in literary works. One of the literary works is a song. According to (Hatch, 1995), figurative language is

often classified as similes, metaphors, allusions, and personifications. It is assumed that the writer and reader can specify that, figurative language or not, in order to identify the text and then describe the comparison. Figurative language is utilized in many forms of communication, including everyday speech, social media, movies, song lyrics, and so on.

According to (Shahrour & Bull, 2008) a song as a brief piece of music with words that you sing. Because lyric is a language production (poem) that incorporates personal feeling expression, song lyric is a type of figurative language. Authors write songs based on their life experiences; they tell about someone or something. People can communicate with each other nowadays through songs. Through music, one can convey what is being felt so that the other can know it. Many songs today can communicate our emotions, including those with love or social or political topics. As far as we know, singing is a form of literature.

According to (Meyer, 1997) literature is a term used to describe written texts marked by careful use of language, including features such as creative metaphors, well-turned phrases, elegant syntax, rhyme, alliteration, which are aesthetically read and are intentionally somewhat open in interpretation.

In this research, the writer focuses on the study of figurative language in Bring Me The Horizon song lyrics, especially hyperbole, personification, and simile. However, understanding the meaning of Bring Me The Horizon's song lyrics is challenging because it uses implicit meaning or indirect expression, and we must study figurative language to comprehend the meaning of their song lyrics.

Bring Me the Horizon (BMTH) is a British rock band that formed in Sheffield in 2004. The writer used BMTH's eighth album *Post Human: Survival Horror* in 2020, which was published in 2020 and *Post Human: Next Gen* in 2024. The writer chose this song because it is interesting, popular, and well-known in society. However, understanding the meaning of BMTH's song lyrics is challenging because they utilize implicit meaning or indirect expression, and we must examine figurative language to comprehend the meaning of their song lyrics. This topic is interesting for research since there are several figurative languages in song lyrics.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background of the research, the writer poses the following research questions:

- 1. What are figurative language of hyperbole used in song lyrics by BMTH in *Post Human: Survival Horror* and *Post Human: Next Gen* Album?
- 2. What are figurative language of personification used in song lyrics by BMTH in *Post Human: Survival Horror* and *Post Human: Next Gen* Album?
- 3. What are figurative language of simile used in song lyrics by BMTH in *Post Human: Survival Horror* and *Post Human: Next Gen* Album?

1.3 The Purpose of the Research

Based on the problem above, the purpose of the research are formulated as follows:

- 1. To find out the figurative language of hyperbole used in BMTH's in *Post Human:*Survival Horror and Post Human: Next Gen Album.
- 2. To find out the figurative language of personification used in BMTH's in *Post Human: Survival Horror* and *Post Human: Next Gen* Album.
- 3. To find out the figurative language of simile used in BMTH's in *Post Human:*Survival Horror and Post Human: Next Gen Album.

1.4 Limitation of the Research

The writer only concentrated on the figurative language in BMTH's *Post Human: Survival Horror* and *Post Human: Next Gen Album*, which is in the types of figurative language, especially hyperbole, personification and simile. This study only looked at figurative language in BMTH's *Post Human: Survival Horror* and *Post Human: Next Gen Album*. An analysis was conducted on the lyrics of the BMTH's *Post Human: Survival Horror* and *Post Human: Next Gen Album*.

1.5 Significance of the Research

The writer aims to identify theoretical and practical significance after conducting this research. The following are the implications:

1. Theoretically, This study aims to enhance the reader's understanding of figurative language, particularly the varieties of figurative language and contextual meaning in BMTH's song, in order to better their communication through indirect expression or implicit message.

2. Practically, The writer expects that by employing figurative language, those who listen to the music would be able to enjoy its contents. The writer also expects that as a result of this research, individuals would be able to appreciate music without losing sight of the song's purpose.