THE METAPHOR USED IN LOVE AND MISADVENTURE POEM BY LANG LEAV’S: SEMANTICS STUDY

Jovanka Rizviera Alexandra Rorimpandey¹, Dinda Siti Fauziah², Daniel Leonarto³, Febrina Amelia Putri⁴, Ervina CM. Simatupang⁵

¹,²,³,⁴,⁵ English Department, Widyatama University, Indonesia
¹Corresponding Email: jovanka.alexandra@widyatama.ac.id

ABSTRACT

The purposes of this research are to analyze kinds of metaphors and meanings using Leech theories. The researcher used the descriptive method to analyze the data. The data were collected by reading Love and Misadventure Poem by Lang Leav. In analyzing the data, the researchers used the theories by Leech about kinds of metaphors. They are synaesthetic, anthropomorphic, and concrete to abstract. There were classified 21 data, synaestetic data is 10 data (52%), anthropomorphic is 8 data (41%), and concrete to abstract is 3 data (7%). The most used metaphor in Love and Misadventure Poem by Lang Leav’s is synaesthetic which is 10 data (52%). Metaphor expression meanings have 3 meanings. They are 3 data sadness meaning (55%), and 2 data sincerity meanings (45%). The most frequently used expression meaning in the data is 3 data which is sadness expression (55%).

Keywords: metaphor; kinds of meaning; meanings; poem; semantics

I. INTRODUCTION

Language is an important aspect of humans. Language has a big role in human life to make connections in their environment. One expert stated that language is used widely in communication between people who do not use the same first (or even second) language (Harmer, 2007). This shows that language is very important to learn in human life. Metaphor is generally applied in literary works. One of the literary works is poetry. To assume that figurative language is frequently used in poetry, this thesis discusses, in particular, the application of figurative language in selected Maya Angelou poetry. The descriptive words of figurative language have meanings that go beyond the literal ones. Figurative is a language that uses symbols to describe other things or metaphorical events which means using words to identify other words so that they cannot be interpreted based on literary views and readers cannot find those meanings in the dictionary. Poetry might be defined as a type of language that is said more intensely than language ordinary (Laurence & Thomas, 1992).

That is why the figure of speech is mostly found in poetry because it uses a language that goes beyond ordinary language. Poetry also has an important meaning for education such as poetry can be useful for students in how to improve reading comprehension. Through poetry, a person experiences an increase in vocabulary and critical analysis skills. Many people systematically abandoned texts based on their length alone. They just couldn't believe that they were able to read long passages and never attempted to read a novel. Poetry may be a possibility for reading comprehension since poetry is only a shorter piece of text (Norris, 2010). Languages have many functions in our lives, not only to communicate verbally to one another but also to express our feelings, mood, and thoughts, through literary works, for example writing to express the hidden feelings. It can be more comfortable when people express their feeling and ideas through literary works like poetry. The purpose of the writer chose the title “The Metaphor used in Love and Misadventure poem by Lang Leav’s” intended to explain what kinds of Metaphor appeared in that poetry. This study aims to determine kinds of metaphors and determine the meaning that occurred in Love and Misadventure poem.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Semantics is the study of meaning communicated through language; it is a study of the meaning of words, phrases, and sentences of Yule (2010: 112). One of the modern linguistic insights is that speakers of languages have various types of linguistic knowledge, including how to pronounce words, how to construct sentences and
the meaning of individual sentences. To reflect this, linguistic descriptions have different levels of analysis. So phonology is the study of what sounds a language has and how these sounds combine to form words; Syntax is the study of how words can be combined into sentences; and semantics is the study of the meaning of words and sentences (Saeed, 2009: 3). According to Simatupang (2019), The branch of linguistics that studies meaning is called semantics.

Figurative Language

According to Pradopo (2000:61), figurative language is a language to describe the comparison, equation, and imagery. Figurative language is crucial to get the poetic meaning of the poem. There is figurative language that makes the poem more interesting, more beautiful, more life, and make clear of imagination. There are various kinds of figurative language, but although they are diverse they have something (characteristic) common, namely figurative language that connects things by plugging in something else. The types of figurative language are simile, metaphor, personification, allegory, metonymy, etc.

In Zainuddin (1992: 51), figurative language is the use of a variety of language that represents or describes something by choosing and arranging the words in the sentence to obtain a certain effect. The existence of this figurative language causes rhyme to become attractive attention that causes the freshness of life. This figurative language makes an analogy or likening something to something else so that image becomes clear, more interesting, and more life.

Figurative language is the use of language style by the poet to describe, issue, and express feelings and thoughts in writing poetry. The figurative language of poetry is causing a lot of meaning. Because figurative language produces the imagination in poetry so that it becomes clear. Figurative language is not to make confusing, but to make clear, (Jones, 1968: 95). Figurative language refers to words, and groups of words, that exaggerate or alter the usual meaning in figures of speeches of the component of words. A figure of speech may be said to occur whenever a speaker or writer, from the sake of freshness or emphasis, departs from the usual denotations of words (Kennedy, 1983: 479).

There are many kinds of figurative meanings. Leech in Dewi (2010:2) has classified figurative meaning into eight types. They are personification, simile, metaphor, hyperbole, irony, litotes, metonymy, and oxymoron.

There are many kinds of figurative languages, such as simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, Irony, personification, etc. According to Tjahjono (1988: 201), in general, figurative language is divided into four types: comparison, assertion, innuendo, and contradiction.

Metaphor

A metaphor is an implied simile, metaphor also compares two different things but it does not like simile, state one thing is like another or acts another but takes that for granted and proceeds as if the two things were one and it does not use a connective word such as 'like' or 'as' (Siswantoro, 2002: 27).

According to Keralf(2007:15), metaphor is classified in figurative language, the first figurative language established by comparison or equation.

Metaphor is slow closely intertwined with the very texture of human speech that we have already encountered in various guises: as a major factor in motivation, as an expressive device, as a source of synonymy and polysemy, as an outlet for intense emotions, as a means of filling a gap in vocabulary and in several other roles (Ullman, 1972:212).

Aristotle discusses metaphor primarily in two works: the poetics, which is about excellence in poetic works, with an emphasis on tragedy, and the rhetoric which is about the composition of persuasive speeches.

A metaphorical expression is an expression that is caused by an element of comparison between two things that have the same physical form, nature character, even based on one’s perception. Every metaphorical expression has a meaning in it, and that meaning cannot be immediately understood. According to Kreidel (in Subroto, 2011: 23) states meaning of the metaphorical expression is sadness, happiness, longing, sincerity, and loyalty.

The Types of Metaphors in Semantic
The types of metaphors according to Stephen Ullman (2009:266-270).

**Anthropomorphic Metaphors**

Anthropomorphic Metaphors are kind of metaphor that is sourced from human body parts or human characteristics which are then related to inanimate objects like a table leg or an aisle mouth.

**Synesthetic Metaphor**

Synesthetic metaphor is a kind of metaphor that is created based on the transfer of conceptions or senses.

**From Abstract to Concrete Metaphor**

The third metaphor was a metaphor that appeared as the result of the transfer of concrete to an abstract experience and vice versa from an abstract to a concrete.

**Poetry**

Poetry is the most considered and concentrated form of literature (Perrine in Siswantoro, 2010: 23). Poetry as a genre has completely competition of using word. It does not give space to make free creation for the author because poetry has a solid competition and also concentrated. Poetry useless word than the other literary works, but with fewer words a poem can explain more cases.

Poetry is the expression of ideas and feelings through a rhythmical composition of imaginative and beautiful words selected for their sonorous effects (Tomlinson, 1999: 38). Poetry use language for media, but a poem has its own language that differs from the usual language used. In poetry, language can explain more insensitive cases than usual language. Usual language is only used to practice information. Poetry has unusual language; it can be shown in the artistic arrangement. Siswantoro said that poetry is a piece of art, like the other art: painting, dance, and music (Siswantoro, 2010:14). Poetry has organization inside or intrinsic term that builds a beautiful structure of words so that the information given is covered by the artistic competition.

According to Aminuddin (2011:134), poem is a branch of literature that uses words as a medium for delivery to produce the illusion and imagination, it like painting using line and color to draw the concept of the painter (Waluyo, 1995 :71). In the poem, there are shaper elements of poem, the first physical structure of the poem and the second inner structure elements of the poem. In the physic structure poem, there are diction, figurative language, verification, typography, and concrete word. The second inner structure elements of the poem there are theme, tone, feeling and message.

**III. METHODOLOGY**

This research used descriptive analysis. This research uses a descriptive method. The purpose of the descriptive method is to identify, classify and analyze the seven types of meanings in Lang Leav’s poems and the meanings used in the collection of poems. Descriptive analysis is concerned with describing a phenomenon that is how and why we think about it. Which examines the situation and describes the norm (Walliman, 2011: 10). The descriptive analysis describes what is there and tries to pave the way for discovering new facts. This includes collecting data related to, products, people, individuals, events and situations and then organizing, tabulating, describing, and describing the results. This type of research design is largely guided by one or more research questions and often does not follow a structured research hypothesis (Travers, 1978).

**Research Questions**

The problems in this study which refer to the above background are:

What kinds of metaphors are found in Love and Misadventure poems?

What are the metaphor’s meanings in that poem?

**Research objectives**

To find out the kinds of metaphor in “in Love and Misadventure poem”.

To find out the meaning of metaphor in that poem.
IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Data 1

Shrinking in a corner, pressed into the wall;
do they know? I’m present,
am I here at all?
Is there a written rule book,
That tells you how to be—
all the right things to talk about—
that everyone has but me?

**Slowly I am withering—A flower deprived of the sun;**

Longing to belong to—
Somewhere or someone.

(source: Lang Leav, *Love & Misadventure*; Wallflower’s poem)

Based on data 1, the sentence above shows the use of metaphorical figures. This can be proved by the expression "Slowly I am withering — A flower deprived of the sun"; Metaphor used to make a comparison between two things that are not the same but have something in common. Metaphorical comparisons are more indirect, usually made by suggesting something is something else. Metaphors are very expressive; it was not meant to be taken literally. Metaphor in this data has the meaning of sadness or form of suffering. The kind of metaphor in the data is concrete to abstract since the use of metaphorical abstract to concrete for this phrase was able to provide the resulting sentence becomes more beautiful and interesting since the word flower and sun in the data. In this data, there is a contextual meaning in the sentence, “Slowly I am withering — A flower deprived of sun”. Sadness is a sad feeling that someone feels. Sadness can be in the form of separation, being left by someone very loved, being betrayed by someone, loss, loneliness, death, etc.

The metaphor above can be described how it feels to be an introverted kind of person, she has so many things in her mind but she can’t let it all out because being an introvert isn't easy, an introvert person tends to be very shy and quite, they have their own boundaries and space and they even feel more comfortable being surrounded by people who've known them long enough so sometimes when it comes to crowded places they tend to be quiet and invisible. The point of this poem is that sometimes Introvert people question about their presence and vibes.

Data 2

**A sunken chest,**

on the ocean ground,
to never be found
was where he found me.
There he stirred,
my every thought,
my every word,
so gently, so profoundly.
Now I am kept, from dreams I dreamt,
when once I slept, so soundly.
(source: Lang Leav’s Love & Misadventure; Lost and Found’s poem)

Based on data 2, the sentence above shows the use of metaphorical figures. This can be proved by the expression “A sunken chest, on the ocean ground”. The metaphor found in data 2 is anthropomorphic since the phrase of sunken chest on the ocean ground compares to part of human body. The word of the chest which is part of the human body is compared to drawer word that considered having a chest likes what human have.

The metaphor of this data has the meaning of the girl who already gives up love and her dreams, it’s like there is no hope at all for her to survive because she already gives up on that, but then there is this boy who saved her from her darkness time and guides her to reach her dream, he even made her believe in love and dream after she gave up on her dreams. In these data, there is a contextual meaning in the sentence, a sunken chest on the ocean is found in the phrase. A sunken chest is interpreted as someone who gives up all of his dreams and hopeless.

Data 3

What is she like?

I was told—

she is a melancholy soul.

She is like

the sun tonight;

a momentary gold.

A star when dimmed by dawning light;

the flicker of a candle blown.

A lonely kite lost in flight—

someone once

had flown.

Based on data 3, the sentence above shows the use of metaphorical figures. This can be proved by the expression "She is like the sun tonight, a momentary gold. A star when dimmed by dawning light, the flicker of a candle blown. A lonely kite lost in flight someone once had flown”. In this data, found 3 different kinds of metaphor, there are synaesthetic, anthropomorphic, and concrete to abstract. Synaesthetic metaphors are found in lines 3, 6, and 9. Anthropomorphic metaphor is found in lines 5 and 7 whereas concrete to abstract metaphor is in line 8.

The meaning of the metaphor expression above is sincerity which is an action that a person does something without expecting something in return. From the data can be seen "she is like the sun tonight a momentary gold" which means she likes to courage someone. This metaphor describes how amazing she is, all the good things living with her, even though she is lonely and always sad because it was told she is a melancholy soul but she is amazing, for anyone who had ever left her was unlucky and for whoever has her is the luckiest.

Data 4

A dusty room,

A window chair,

Unseeing eyes

that gaze into

the montage of a love affair.

A carousel of memories,
spinning round into a blur.

Her mind is now a fairground ride—

she wonders if

you think of her.

(source: Lang Leav’s Love & Misadventure; A Reverie)

Based on data 4, the sentence above shows the use of metaphorical figures. This can be proved by the expression "A carousel of memories, spinning around into a blur. Her mind is now a fairground ride". The data above is a kind of synaesthetic metaphor since is created based on the transfer of conceptions or senses. "A carousel of memories, spinning around into a blur" which means all the memories from her past keeps replaying in her mind until it feels numb. The word “Her mind is now a fairground ride” means she is an overthinker.

This data has a metaphor expression meaning sadness. Sadness is a sad feeling that someone feels. Sadness can be in the form of separation, being left by someone very loved, being betrayed by someone, loss, loneliness, death, etc. "A carousel of memories, spinning around into a blur. Her mind is now a fairground ride" which means she doesn't move on from her past and still thinks about it.

V. CONCLUSION

From this research, it is found there are 3 kinds of metaphor. They are synaesthetic, anthropomorphic, and concrete to abstract. There were classified 21 data, synaesthetic data is 10 data (52%), anthropomorphic is 8 data (41%), and concrete to abstract is 3 data (7%). The most used metaphor in Love and Misadventure Poem by Lang Leav’s is synaesthetic which is 10 data (52%). Metaphor expression meanings have 3 meanings. They are 3 data sadness meaning (55%), and 2 data sincerity meanings (45%). The most frequently used expression meaning in the data is 3 data which is sadness expression (55%).

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