

METAPHOR IN NIGHTWISH`S DARK PASSION PLAY ALBUM

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ABSTRACT

This research focuses on metaphor used in *Nightwish`s Dark Passion Play album*. The research was conducted by using descriptive qualitative method. The data are collected from the song lyrics in *Nightwish`s Dark Passion Play album*. The findings of the study show that there are 83 occurrences of eight types of metaphor. They are active metaphor (8), inactive metaphor (3), subjective metaphor (3), mimetic metaphor (17), phenomenalist metaphor (4), precision metaphor (7), symbolism metaphor (18), and approximate metaphor (23). The most dominant type used in *Nightwish`s Dark Passion Play album* is approximate metaphor (27,71%). It means that the point of this album is a description of the idealism of the band about life. Approximate metaphor is a kind metaphor that has no clear ground and topic, it create smany interpretations from reader and hearer and made this album never stopped being discussed.

Keyword: Metaphor, Lyric, Song.

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INTRODUCTION

Language has unlimited enchantment and a substance that will never be removed from human being. Language divided into spoken and written language. Except as a tool of communication between human, language also constitutes as a media to reveal expression, imagination, and emotion. Absolutely irrefutable, music becomes public daily consumption since it founded. In this era, music is not only as the media of entertainment but also transformed as the media to struggle the freedom, criticize the government and as the media of propaganda. This situation is exploited by several musicians who want to spread deviant propaganda to influence young generations in bad attitude. Using of metaphor in their song is one of the ways to deceive their target who generally still teenagers and do not understand about the purpose of their song. Metaphor is part of language, it means that metaphor is universal. Every people has a right in utilizing it for good and bad purpose.

The writer takes one of the best symphonic metal bands from Finland named Nightwish and their sixth studio album “Dark Passion Play” as the object of the research. Almost the entire band from Finland that carried metal as their genre use paganism as their theme in music and full of high level of metaphor that hard to interpret. Despite from the use of metaphor, it is a phenomenon in language that very interesting to analyze.

The research questions of the present study are what types of metaphor that used in Nightwish`s Dark Passion Play Album, Which type of metaphor is the most dominant in Nightwish`s Dark Passion Play album, and Why the most dominant type of metaphor occur in Nighwish`s Dark Passion Play Album.

METAPHOR

Goatly (1997:8) states that metaphor occurs when a unit of discourse is used to refer unconventionally to an object, process or concept, or colligates in an unconventional way. Common sense traditional teaching often states that metaphor is an anomaly or unusual language that something people do in literature class. Over the last thirty years, philosophers, psychologists and linguists agreed that metaphor is something that cannot be easily confined because it is an indispensable basis of language and thought.

Generally, metaphor is a rhetorical trope that describes a first subject has a similarity to a second subject in some way. But, metaphors do not use the word “like” or “as” in its usage. In Oxford Advanced Learner’s dictionary (1995:734), metaphor is the imaginative use of a word or phrase to describe something as another object in order to show that they have the same qualities and to make the description more forceful. Leezenberg (2001:285) states that metaphorical transfers need not depend on similarities that are already present at the conceptual level, but may involve the attribution of a feature that is determined, or in a sense ‘created’, by a theory. Metaphor is the use of language that refers to something other than it what it was originally applied to, or what it ‘literally’ means, in order to suggest some resemblance or make a connection between the two things (Knowles and Moon, 2006:3). Metaphor is pervasive language and there are two principal ways in which it is important. First, in relation to individual words: metaphor is a basic process in the formation of words and word meanings. Second, in relation to discourse: metaphor is important because of its functions – explaining, clarifying, describing, expressing, evaluating and entertaining (Knowles and Moon, 2006:4).

Types Of Metaphor

Goatly (1997: 126) states that there are eight types of metaphor. They are Active, Inactive, Subjective, Mimetic, Phenomenalistic, Precision, Symbolism, and Approximate Metaphors.

1. Active Metaphor

An active metaphor is one kind of metaphor which has close relationship between the main subject and modifier. It can be called as living metaphor. It depends on the interaction of the vehicle (conventional referent) and the topic (conventional referent), which is being referred to and their grounds will consequently be variable according to the context.

2. Inactive Metaphor

Inactive metaphor is metaphor where the topic is referred to directly through a conventional and fixed meaning of V-term and vehicle is available, but will be wired in parallel under normal processing, otherwise their ground may be perceived in the right circumstances: incorporated in the topic concept so predictable. Inactive metaphor often gives information which can provoke an affirmative or negative response. Inactives are open to agreement negative question and yes or no question. This could be different interpretation according to the culture of the user of the metaphor. This metaphor has become inactive as they are used repeatedly and entered entry in dictionary with second meaning.

3. Subjective Metaphor

Subjective metaphor is the description of metaphor because the speaker has different ideological or physical view of the world from the listener or some which involve the presentation of another's speaker thought or representation.

4. Mimetic Metaphor

Mimetic metaphor is the unique metaphor that extends to non-verbal expression straying beyond linguistic text into visual aid plastic art. It demands the readers to imagine a word in which the assertions are literally true.

5. Phenomenalistic Metaphor

Phenomenalistic metaphor is the use of language to refer to an imaginary world. Its construal, one must realize does not simply apply to the portion of fictional texts that are anomalous in some way local metaphor. If the text is fictional then it will be consistently referring to an imaginary world. Song belongs to phenomenalistic if the lyrics using imagery and fictive thought.

6. Precision Metaphor

Precision metaphor is the process or quality that is made more precise by being related, through modification, to a specific order to identify. The modification can be in form of unit of linguistics for example word, clause, or sentence.

7. Symbolism Metaphor

Symbolism metaphor is a particular kind of substitution of the interpretation.

8. Approximate Metaphor

Approximate metaphor is a kind of metaphor that uses the approximate number of expression to describe action or thing.

Methodology

This study is conducted by applying descriptive qualitative design. Creswell (1998:15) defines that qualitative research is an inquiry process of understanding based on distinct methodological traditions of inquiry that explore a social or human problem. Qualitative research involves analysis of descriptive data such as words, examples from interviews, transcripts, pictures, recordings, notes, documents, and records of material culture, audio-visual materials and personal experience materials (such as artifacts, journal and diary information and narratives). This study belong to descriptive qualitative design because it was intended to analyze song lyric in Nighwish`s Dark Passion Play Album. This study focuses on finding out the use of metaphors in Nighwish`s Dark Passion Play Album

The data of this study were collected by doing documentary technique categorizing the types of metaphor, counting the dominant types, and describing the implication of the dominant types that used in Nighwish`s Dark Passion Play album.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The analysis shows that the metaphor used in Nightwish`s Dark Passion Play Album. The Distribution of Metaphor in Dark Passion Play Album. the eight types of metaphor were occurred in Dark Passion Play Album Song by Nightwish, they are active metaphor (8,43%), inactive metaphor (3,61%), subjective metaphor (2,40%), mimetic metaphor

(20,48%), phenomenalistic metaphor (4,81%), precision metaphor (8,43%), symbolism metaphor (24,09%) and approximate metaphor (27,71%).

It can be seen that the most dominant type of metaphor is approximate metaphor. It is concluded that *Dark Passion Play Album Song by Nightwish* is a description of the idealism from the songwriter. In this case, it is quite difficult to find same interpretation with the songwriter because approximate metaphor is kind of metaphor that has no clear ground and topic. Therefore, the songwriter of this album uses approximate metaphor to create wild interpretation from reader and hearer. So that, this album became full of mystery and never stopped to discuss.

Discussion

Nightwish's *Dark Passion Play Album* contains of twelve songs, the eight types of metaphor used in the album.

Active Metaphor

Example: My home was there and then Those meadows of heaven. (The Poet and The Pendulum)

This lyric is classified as active metaphor because the vehicle (meadows of heaven) is a represent of the beauty of home (topic). This interpretation strongly emphasized based on the context that appeared in the second part of the song that told about the longing of writer to his beloved home. The writer try to dramatize that all the happiness, calm, and the beauty of his home same with meadows of heaven.

Inactive Metaphor

Example: Choose a dark day to live. (Cadence of Her Last Breathe)

In this lyric the metaphor or the vehicle refers to dark. Inactive interpretation is needed in this case. Dark has conventional meaning without light but in this case the interpretation based on the second meaning of dark define as sorrow and hopeless. it is also an analysis based on the whole context of the song lyric. In this song, the writer told about a moment before death of a woman.

Subjective Metaphor

Example: Heaven has a darkened face. (Sahara)

It is clearly describes a subjective metaphor. The writer imagined heaven has a darkened face, it is totally different view from common people because all religion describe heaven as the most beautiful place that God created. This metaphor expresses frustration feeling of the writer. Heaven has a darkened face means heaven is a place with there is no happiness.

Mimetic Metaphor

Example: Tonight a fantasy for a zombie. (Whoever Bring Me The Night)

The vehicle or the metaphor is zombie. it is also kind of mimetic metaphor because zombie defined as a dead person back to life without spirit has no fantasy. It just the imagination of the writer to represent the characteristic of people who has no energy, seems to act without thinking and uncontrolled.

Phenomenalistic Metaphor

Example: I need to die to feel alive. (Bye Bye Beautiful)

The songwriter persuade the hearer and reader to imagine what is exactly he wanted to deliver from the lyric. “I need to die to feel alive” is a metaphoric statement that belongs to phenomenalistic because it drag the reader to imagine the despair of the writer. It is not a real life, it is an imaginary life that the songwriter express where the only thing that make him live is to die.

Precision Metaphor

Example: Caress the one, the never fading rain in your heart, the tears of snow white sorrow. (Amaranth)

Here “the one” has function as the vehicle or metaphor. And the next two phrases are the precision of “the one”, this is the reason why this line become precision metaphor. It also becomes a clue to interpret what is exactly the one means. Based on analysis, “the one” is pain in your heart. This interpretation based on explanation from two supporting phrases “the never fading rain in your heart” and “the tears of snow white sorrow” which both of them represent about sadness and pain.

Symbolism Metaphor

Example: Leech in a mask of virtue. (Master Passion Greed)

Here leech symbolize a person who want to destroy people softly and slowly. Because leech essentially is a shifty animal who take blood from human or animal without

detected. And after this animal feeling satisfied, they will leave their object. The songwriter correlated a people in his mind to this parasite animal.

Approximate Metaphor

Example: Streams of silver. (Meadows of Heaven)

This phrase belongs to approximate metaphor because there are more than one possibly interpretation. First, streams of silver means river and secondly it could be bunch of jewelry. But, the researcher prefer to choose the first interpretation because of context of the song that told about childhood of the writer about describing his beautiful home and its surrounding.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

After analyzing and determining the types of metaphor used in the transcript of the Dark Passion Play Album Song by Nightwish, it can be concluded that: first, the eight types of metaphor were occurred in Dark Passion Play Album Song by Nightwish, they are active metaphor (8,43%), inactive metaphor (3,61%), subjective metaphor (2,40%), mimetic metaphor (20,48%), phenomenalistic metaphor (4,81%), precision metaphor (8,43%), symbolism metaphor (24,09%) and approximate metaphor (27,71%).

Second, the most dominant type of metaphor used in Dark Passion Play Album Song by Nightwish is approximate metaphor with 23 occurrences (27,71%).

And the third, The songwriter of the album has a purpose to make this album become a mystery by using approximate metaphor dominantly. There is no certainty about precise interpretation of song that use approximate metaphor. It created many different interpretation from reader and hearer and made this album never stopped being argued.

Suggestion

With reference to the conclusions, there are some suggestions needed to be considered. The students need to improve their knowledge about metaphor so that they can avoid misunderstanding in communication and can understand the purpose of literary works such as song or poem that usually using metaphor. English teachers are suggested to enrich their teaching material by using song that has quality in its lyrics to get an attraction from student and make the study become interesting. And other researchers are suggested to make a more depth analysis of metaphor in other objects.

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