

AN ANALYSIS OF SADNESS EXPRESSION FOUND IN JAMES ARTHUR SONG LYRICS

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ABSTRACT

This study analyzes the sadness expression in the song lyrics of James Arthur. In this research, the writer analyzes the kinds and how the sadness expressed in the song lyrics of James Arthur. Using a qualitative method, the writer found the kinds of pain, sad, gloomy, depressed, melancholic, pathetic, lonely, desperate, and rejected. Literal words of sadness expressions were identified in 8 out of 63 data. Metaphor and personification is a figurative language that is most widely used to express feelings of sadness in the song lyrics of James Arthur. Besides that, the writer found simile and hyperbola.

Keywords: *Sadness, Song Lyrics of James Arthur, and Figurative Language*

INTRODUCTION

Communication is very important thing that we have to do in our life. We communicate with others to build a relationship and give the information which is needed. Language is a system for connecting thoughts that can't be heard, seen, or touched with sounds, letters, manual signs or tactile symbols [1].

Emotion are divided into 8 namely anger, sadness, fear, pleasure, love, surprise, annoyed, and shy [2]. In this research, I choose the aspect of sadness as the object of the research. There are many expressions of sadness found in the lyrics of the song, especially in the songs of James Arthur. Sadness is frequently associated with negative emotions [3]. Emotions can be transmitted literally or non-literally, which describes how to portray emotion in a variety of ways. Literal means that sadness is expressed through employing words in their correct contexts. Non-literal language refers to the use of words in figures of speech, often known as figurative language. Figurative language, also referred to as a figure of speech, as a manner of communicating something different from a word's literal meaning. Furthermore, he claimed that when a speaker or writer deviates from a word's conventional meaning for the purposes of convenience or emphasis, they are using figurative language [4].

The purpose of this research is to find the kinds of sad expressions and to describe how sadness is expressed in the song lyrics of James Arthur.

James Arthur is an English singer and songwriter. He started writing and recording songs when he was 15 years old as an artist without a contract or solo and in many bands. He rose to prominence after winning the ninth series The X Factor in 2012. His debut single, a cover of Shontelle's Impossible, was released by Syco Music after the finale and debuted at number one on the UK Single Chart. The next single, You Are Nobody til' Somebody Loves You, reached number 2 on the UK Single Chart. There are a total of 8 James Arthur songs that the writer will analyze, that is: *Impossible, Naked, Empty Space, Rewrite the Stars, Can I Be Him, Safe Inside, You're Nobody 'til Somebody Loves You, and Train Wreck.*

RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses qualitative research. This qualitative study was used to explore potential antecedents and factors that little has been known and explored [5]. The source of the data in this research is the song lyrics of James Arthur. The song derived from four different albums, that is "No Gravity" and then in the second album "You" then the third album "The Greatest Showman (Reimagined)" and the last album "Back From The Edge".

In analyzing the data, the writer used Goleman's theory to find the kinds of sadness and to describe how the sadness was expressed, the theory of figurative language according to Leech.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

The writer found as many as 63 data on expressions of sadness from 8 songs contained in the song lyrics of James Arthur. Based on the 63 data on sadness expressions, the writer found 16 data "pain", 2 data "sad", 4 data "gloomy", 7 data "depressed", 7 data "melancholic", 7 data "pathetic", 3 data "lonely", 15 data "desperate", and 2 data "rejected". And the writer discovered two ways to describe sadness expression, literal and non-literal. I did not find literally, and 8 non-literally. Non-literal includes 3 data "metaphor", 1 data "simile", 3 data "personification", and 1 data "hyperbola". Take a look at the sample data below:

1. Kinds of Sadness

Table 1: Kinds of Sadness

No.	Song Lyrics	Kinds of Sadness
1.	"You have gone and so effortlessly"	Pain
2.	"Watch you changing in front of my eyes"	Sad
3.	"Like it was a private show, but I know you never saw me"	Gloomy
4.	"And there are doors that we can't walk through"	Depressed
5.	"Then your walls need breaking down"	Melancholic
6.	"It's hard times when nobody wants you"	Pathetic
7.	"I'm alone in my head"	Lonely
8.	"I'm not getting through this"	Desperate
9.	"I'm not going to try 'til you decide"	Rejected

2. How to Expressed Sadness

A. Figurative Language

1.) Metaphor

"Pull me out of the **train wreck**"

In this data, as if on top of the object "*train wreck*", this is the use of metaphor where something recognizing or replacing one thing for another, two unrelated objects are implicitly compared in a metaphor.

2.) Simile

"Cause only you could this **empty space**"

In this data, as if on top of the object "*empty space*", this is the use of simile where something a simile entails comparing two distinct objects, rather than a fleeting entity with specific features.

3.) Personification

"I let **my ego swallow me**"

In this data, as if on top of the object "*my ego swallow me*", this is the use of personification where something non-living can do what humans do.

4.) Hyperbola

"I don't know **who I am without you**"

In this data, as if on top of the object "*who I am without you*", this is the use of hyperbola where something facts by making them seem much larger than they are when viewed objectively.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Based on the research that has been done, there are eight James Arthur songs that represent sadness. It was realized that in James Arthur's song lyrics, sadness is presented through the elements that make up the song. Sadness arises because the lover leaves and goes looking for his happiness. Another sadness then comes when the songwriter is separated from his lover and the relationship ends. Beloved is an important and very valuable figure for the songwriter, so when the lover leaves, they are devastated. The writer finds a desperate situation comes when the lover leaves.

Furthermore, the songwriter expressed his feelings in various ways, some tried to be strong, and some asked his lover to stay with him and persuaded his lover. The experience of loss makes the songwriter aware that his lover has forgotten him. They feel they don't deserve to be loved, and when sadness arises, all figures are angry and disappointed with the situation.

The writer proposes that the writer who wants to examine grief in song lyrics interpret the lyrics first. The analysis will be easier if the writer is familiar with the lyrics. The next researcher can expand on this research by studying the songs from a psychological standpoint using a psychological method to data analysis. Finally, the author hopes that the findings and conclusions of this study may inspire scholars to investigate grief in song lyrics.

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