

Revealing The Voice of Gay Pride in Troye Sivan's Song Heaven: Form and Meaning

Elok Surya Rachman

English Literature, Faculty of Languages and Arts, Universitas Negeri Surabaya
elokrachman@mhs.unesa.ac.id

Abstrak

Linguistik memiliki hubungan yang erat dengan penciptaan sebuah karya sastra, Bahasa dan berbagai macam fungsinya berperan penting dalam proses penyampaian pesan dan makna dalam karya sastra. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengungkap isu gay pride dalam lirik lagu dengan menggunakan Bahasa kiasan, teori makna, dan teori bahasa dan gender. Penelitian ini penelitian kualitatif menggunakan pendekatan semantics-pragmatics. Data dalam penelitian ini diambil dari lagu Troye Sivan yang berjudul Heaven. Lalu, data akan dipilih dari lirik yang diindikasikan menyiratkan pesan tentang gay. Data dikumpulkan menggunakan metode dokumentasi dan teknik mencatat, untuk kemudian dianalisis menggunakan metode deskriptif dan kualitatif. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan ada empat macam jenis Bahasa kiasan digunakan dalam lirik lagu tersebut, diantaranya; alegori, simile, paradoks, dan hiperbola. Disamping itu, ada dua jenis makna yang digunakan dalam lirik Heaven yaitu makna konotatif dan makna afektif. Dalam pembahasan, makna afektif adalah yang paling sering digunakan karena fungsinya yang dapat mempengaruhi intonasi dari penutur sedangkan makna konotatif digunakan untuk mengaitkan lirik heaven sebagai representasi dari gay pride. Selain itu, dua kategori gender ditemukan dalam penelitian ini, yaitu referensial gender dan gramatikal gender. Gramatikal gender memegang peran penting dalam mengungkap gay pride pada Heaven, sedangkan referensial gender adalah yang paling banyak ditemukan dalam penelitian.

Kata kunci: gay pride, Bahasa kiasan, makna, Bahasa dan gender

Abstract

Linguistics has a close relationship with the creation of a literary work, language and its various functions play an important role in conveying the messages and meanings of literary works. This study purposed to reveal the issue of gay pride within song lyrics by using figurative language, theory of meaning, and theory of language and gender. This study is qualitative research using semantic-pragmatics approach. The data was taken from Sivan's song titled *Heaven*. Later, the data will be chosen from the lyrics which indicated containing the message about gay. The data was collected by documentation method and note-taking technique. Afterwards, the data were analyzed using the descriptive method and qualitative method. The result of the study shows there are four types of figurative language by Perrine used in the lyrics of Heaven, there are allegory, simile, paradox, and hyperbole. On another side, there are two types of meaning used in Heaven lyrics, there are connotative meaning and affective meaning. In the discussion, affective meaning is commonly used caused its function can affect the intonation of the utterer, while connotative meaning is used to connect Heaven lyrics as a representation of gay pride. Moreover, two categories of gender were found within the discussion, there were referential gender and grammatical gender. Referential gender played an important role to expose gay pride in Heaven, while referential gender was found to be the major category of gender found in this study.

Keywords: gay pride, figurative language, meaning, language and gender

INTRODUCTION

Gay pride has become a common issue in society nowadays. In the past, gay issue was a taboo topic to bring

up in public. Nowadays, it was changed, gay issues had become a normal topic in public. It even often appeared in media, such as movies, news, songs, etc. Gay issue in

literary works such as song has close relation with linguistic approaches. This study was examining the relation of linguistics approaches within a song that indicated had the issue of gay pride. There are three main theories applied in this study, the first was figurative language. Theory of meaning has also been paired with figurative language to reveal the hidden message behind the song. Meanwhile, the theory of language and gender was important as well as the two theories before. It was used to ensure the issue of gay pride.

The history of gay pride had begun on 28 June 1969, in New York when the police arrested some people in a gay bar. Then, it led to a mass movement of protest among the LGBTQ community. Now day society has become more open and acceptable to the LGBTQ community. It cannot be separated from the struggle of LGBTQ communities, LGBTQ activist, and LGBTQ influencers who fights for LGBTQ right and equality.

Troye Sivan is one of LGBTQ influencers known to be vocal in voicing gay pride. Sivan is an Australian singer and songwriter who came out as gay at a young age. Sivan's background as a gay man had made his works always identified as a voice of gay pride.

This study was discussing one of Sivan's works from Blue Neighborhood album, titled Heaven. The song had been released on 17 October 2016, while the music video was purposefully released on 19 January 2017, a day before Trump's inauguration. The song was about a young boy who experienced rejection and the struggle of being gay in a religious environment. In an interview with Billboard (2017) Sivan stated that the song was a tribute to LGBTQ history. Heaven was a personal song that hopefully could inspire other LGBTQ people. Sivan also said that it was an interesting time to come out. And the most important thing is to band together and continue the movement forward stronger than ever, he added.

Cited to Sizemore-Barber (2016) "Pride" has become an international phenomenon, spreading from gay-friendly European and American cities to numerous locations across the world. It is frequently the setting for dramatic confrontations on divisive issues within the LGBT movement. pride is a space to express the rise and celebration of LGBTQ community. It is also an arena for reversing roles and norms as well as subversion and critique of LGBTQ community to the hegemonic power dynamics governing public space.

Society ostracizes homosexuals for critical analysis, of the reality of their condition as homosexuals. psychoanalysis, weighed down with prejudice, applies categories of interpretation taken over from the typical heterosexual view of homosexuality. In other words, it is

a judgment of appearance to appearance, showing illusions, erecting obstacles to criticism and reinforcing the privileged ideology (Mieli, 1980).

The song is an arrangement of words that is attractive by the creator and sung with a beautiful voice. Every song has a specific purpose to be conveyed to the listeners. Song lyrics are often using figurative language to deliver some informative literature that gives information in literal meaning. It is important to know the meaning of figurative language used in the lyrics. Language does not only reflect the principles of culture and particular patterns of thought, but systems of language can shape our cognitive understanding of the world around us. (Prewitt-Freilino *et al.*, 2012).

The study of figurative language and conceptual meaning through literary works had been done by many researchers before. This study applied two studies of figurative language as samplers. The first is Figurative Language in The Song of Passenger's Album "All the Little Lights" by Permana and Rajeg (2018), which analyses the types of figurative language and conceptual meaning. Permana used theory of conceptual meaning by Leech which was also applied in this study.

The second study is entitled Figurative Language in Song Lyrics of Likin Park by Yastanti *et al* (2018). As was mentioned in the title, Yastanti were analyzing types of figurative language in Likin Park's songs by using the theory of figurative language by Perrine which was also employed in this study.

The third study is from Semykina (2018) titled Media Construction in LGBT Pride in Russia: Framing Dynamics and Frame Resonance. The study by Semykina had shown how the media presented gay pride in Saint Petersburg. It was under the branch of discourse analysis, which focused on dynamic and resonance frames. The difference between this study and the previous studies was in the object of the study. This study was focused on gay pride within a song.

Therefore, this study is entitled "Revealing The Voice of Gay Pride in Troye Sivan's Song Heaven: Form and Meaning". This study aimed to find out the types of figurative language, types of meaning, and categories of language and gender used to reveal the gay pride within *Heaven*.

Figurative Language

In sense of phrase, figurative language offers many variations of styles to express something of a different style. Figure of speech has a significant role either in song lyrics or other literary works (Permana & Rajeg, 2018).

There are several types of figurative language designed by experts. According to Perrine, (Yastanti et al., 2018) figurative language is separated into 13 types there are:

- i) Personification is a branch of figurative language in which human attributes are given to non-human (animal, object, or concept) to make them look like a living person. The example is The sun is smiling brightly today
- ii) Metaphor is a direct comparison between two subjects without using a conjunction such as like, the same, etc. For example, Johnny has the voice of heaven
- iii) Simile is a comparison of two different subjects by using a conjunction such as like, resembles, as, similar to, etc. For example, Maykha is swimming like a fish
- iv) Irony is the contradiction of what one means. For example, only miss the sun when it starts to snow
- v) Symbol is a reference to something that refers to another thing. For example, he has the pride of rainbow
- vi) Hyperbole is a noticeable and cautious overstatement and excessive statement. It is a figure of speech that is not proposed to be taken which has a way of profuse to express something. For example, I have a ton of homework
- vii) Synecdoche is a word or phrase that refers to a part of something being substituted to stand in for the whole, or vice versa. The use of synecdoche is to shorten what is being talked about by stating a significant detail. For example, Mark just got a new wheel
- viii) Metonymy is a state of something that is closely related to the idea or the idea itself. In metonymy, the speaker and the listener have to understand the detail of the thing being discussed. For example, I'm all ears
- ix) Allegory is the narrative description that has two meanings, one literal meaning and one implicit meaning. For example, rainbow (literal meaning: an arch of colour formed in the sky after the rain. Implicit meaning: symbol of LGBT community)
- x) Paradox is a fact that expressed or uttered in an opposite way to the general assumption. For example, All I know is that I know nothing
- xi) Understatement is an utterance where its meaning said to be less important than it really is. For example, I just broke up and I'm all fine
- xii) Apostrophe is the definition of addressing someone absent or something non-human as if it was a living person and could reply to what it is being talked about. For example, nothing I love more than my phone
- xiii) Repetition is a proponent using the repetition of words as an affirmation. For example, I really really really like you

Theory of Meaning

The theory of meaning by (Leech (1981) is employed in this study. Leech has defined the study of meaning into eight different types of meaning, there are:

- i) Conceptual meaning can be shown to be integral to the essential function of language in a way that another type of meaning is not. The meaning has a complex and sophisticated organization of a kind which may be compared with, and cross-related to, similar organization on the syntactic and phonological levels of language.
- ii) Connotative meaning is the communicative value of an expression by what it refers to, over and above its purely conceptual content. Its meaning is open-ended in the same way as our knowledge and beliefs about the universe are open-ended: any characteristic of the referent, identified subjectively or objectively, may contribute to the connotative meaning of the expression which denotes it.
- iii) Social meaning is meaning that a piece of language conveys about the social circumstances of its use.
- iv) Affective meaning is a reflection of the personal feeling of the utterer, including his attitude towards the listener, or his attitude towards something being talked about. It is largely a parasitic category of meaning in which the sense to express emotions rely upon the mediation of other categories of meaning (Conceptual, connotative, or stylistic).
- v) Reflected meaning arises in the case of multiple conceptual meanings, where one sense of a word forms part of the response to another sense. The circumstance where reflected meaning imposes through the complete strength of emotive suggestion is most strikingly exemplified by words which have a taboo meaning.
- vi) Collocative meaning consists of the associations a word acquires on an interpretation of the meaning of words which tend to occur in its situation.
- vii) Associative meaning refers to the certain qualities or characteristics beyond the explicit meaning that people commonly think of (correctly or incorrectly) concerning a word or phrase. It has known as expressive and stylistic meaning. It refers to the various types of meaning that are distinct from denotation (or conceptual meaning): connotative, thematic, social, affective, reflective, and collocative.
- viii) Thematic meaning is what is communicated by how the utterer or writer organizes the message, in terms of order, focus, and emphasis.

Language and Gender

The theory of Gender and Language is applied to analyze the relationship between the lyrics and the issue of gay pride through the song. Hellinger and Bubmann (2015) stated there are four categories of terminology to represent men and women.

- i) Grammatical gender is a crucial issue in linguistics. It is consisting of three gender classes such as feminine, masculine, and neuter. Grammatical gender is the basis of a noun that defines which kind of agreement for instance article, adjective, verb, numeral, or preposition that could follow the noun.
- ii) Lexical gender is referred to the appearance of a lexical unit that carries semantic properties of maleness and femaleness. For instance, son and handsome are related to male or masculine, while daughter and pretty refer to feminine terms.
- iii) Referential Gender is a linguistic expression, in referential gender, a word could change its basic grammatical and lexical function to be feminine, masculine, or neuter when an idiomatic expression is used. Many languages are found to use "generic masculinity" when it refers to both maleness and femaleness.
- iv) Social gender can be recognized as the social separation between masculinity and femininity roles and character attributes. In other words, a personal noun is formed specifically socially when it is no difference between feminine and masculine words in grammatical and lexical views.

METHODS

Quantitative research, by contrast, focused on the way the world was understood in researchers' minds, it often used abstract concepts and terminology, and the data usually consisted of scores on measuring instruments of some kind (Copley, 2015).

This study employed qualitative research. The qualitative approach was chosen to analyse the type of figurative language, types of meaning and categories of language and gender within the lyric of Heaven. The analysis revealed. Another reason that qualitative research was suitable for this study because it allowed the researcher to analyse the problems in-depth and further. Using the descriptive qualitative method gives more advantages for this study to be explored and widely observed.

This study is using documentation method and note-taking technique. Firstly, the song was downloaded

from Troye Sivan's YouTube channel. Secondly, the lyrics were taken from www.azlyrics.com and printed out to make the analysis easier. The last but not least, the note-taking technique was used to mark the important data and information found for this study. Therefore, the researcher was a primer instrument for this study, while laptop and WiFi were also important instruments during the analysis.

The object of the study was a song by Troye Sivan entitled Heaven. The source of data was the form of utterances sung by Troye Sivan as the interlocutor. The data was collected in form of a word, phrase, or sentence of *Heaven* lyrics. To be focused on the theme, the data were limited to lyrics which indicated the message of gay pride. After the data were collected, it sorted based on their type of figurative language, then followed by the analysis of meaning and categories of language and gender.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Song lyrics are another kind of poem, which often employs figurative language for an aesthetical purpose. There are several types of figurative language found in the lyrics of Heaven. the analysis of figurative language was based on Perrine (2018) thirteen types of figurative language but, since the data were limited to the issue of gay pride, there were only four types of figurative language indicated to contain the voice of gay pride. That were allegory, simile, paradox, and hyperbole.

Allegory was found as the major type used within the song. Simply because its function could be brought two meanings at once. Sivan had implied two meanings in one sentence for an aesthetical need and expressed his feeling without saying it clearly

“Trying to keep faith and picture his face staring up at me” (1)

It was hard to identify the figurative language used on datum 1 at first glance, but it become easier with the appearance of the term “Faith”. The term faith stands for two meanings. First, it stands for an abstract idea Sivan's has in his mind. Soon that abstract idea can be assumed as believe of his sexual orientation. The second interpretation of faith is related to a strong religious belief in God e.g., Allah in Islamic belief. Moreover, the whole lyric of datum 1 also stands for two meanings. First, it could be interpreted as Sivan's desire to keep his identity as gay. This argument is strengthened by the appearance of 'his' in the following phrase. The second meaning of faith could be assumed that the singer wanted to keep his faith and

buried the memories of his boyfriend for his own. Because in any religion sexual deviation is a sin.

Datum 2 and datum 3 were having similarities in both word structures. The difference between the two data were in the first phrase of each data.

“Without losing a piece of me” (2)
“Without changing a part of me” (3)

Those two phrases were identified as allegory because it has two meaning for each phrase. Its literal meaning had clearly stated the singer's emotion of confusedness. In the other hand, the phrase was also containing an explicit meaning which presents gay pride. “A piece of me” and “A part of me” were indicated as Sivan’s sexuality,

How do I get to heaven? (The 2nd phrase of datum 2 and datum 3)

Jump to the second phrase which has its own meaning of allegory, the discussion will be focused on the term “Heaven”. In this lyric, Heaven is an object that the speaker wants to achieve. According to Cambridge dictionary, heaven is a place imagined to be in the sky where God and goddess live, and a place where good people are believed to go after life. Or informally represent a situation of pleasure. On the other side, related to the singer's background Heaven could be assumed as a society or neighborhood in Australia where the singer lives.

Paradox was in the second place of figurative language used in Heaven. Paradox was applied to show the contradiction of situation that Sivan's faced at that time.

Trying to replace the love that I fake [a]
With what we both need [b]
(4)

Datum 4 was identified as paradox because it shows contradiction which was known to be a characteristic of paradox. The lyrics show a contradiction between the singer's condition (fact) and the reality he faced. The fact was represented in phrase [b] while the reality was represented in phrase [a]. Phrase [b] assumed as Sivan’s dream of gay romance. Then phrase [a] assumed as reality where Sivan had tried to stop pretending as a straight guy. Furthermore, the whole lyric of datum 4 was a representation of Sivan's misery, where he did not want to pretend as a normal guy, instead, he wanted to have a gay romance.

So if I'm losing a piece of me [a]
Maybe I don't want heaven [b]
(5)

Paradox in datum 5 contained contradiction of fact and reality. The fact [a] represented as *maybe I don't want heaven* and the reality [b] represented as *If I'm losing a piece of me*. Paradox in datum 5 contained polemic, and imagination. The polemic can be found in both phrase [a] and [b]. The polemic of phrase [b] was an interpretation of a situation where the singer portrayed having a hard time in deciding whether he should hide his identity as a gay or come out as gay. Then the polemic founded in phrase [a] was about the singer’s hesitation in facing reality, the singer had been anxious about deciding against living in *heaven* or leaving *heaven*. the term *heaven* itself was identified as the characteristic of imagination in paradox.

Simile was the second type of figurative language used in *Heaven*. It was used to express Sivan's states of emotion, as shown in datum 6.

All my time is wasted [a]
Feeling like my heart mistaken [b] (6)

The lyric was categorized as simile because it has two characteristics of simile applied in the lyric. First, character of comparison: the lyric is comparing the first phrase to the second phrase. The subject of phrase 1[a] “my time” had compared to the subject of phrase 1[b] “my heart”. The second characteristic of simile found was the conjunction which connects the two phrases. The term 'like' applied as a conjunction, while *like* was known as the basic character of simile.

Hyperbole Datum 7 was identified had the characteristic of hyperbole. It was proofed by the idiom *colour me free* which was an aesthetic wordplay to use in a song. On another side, take a look at figurative language it could be associated with hyperbole because the subject 'me' in this case is Troye Sivan is a human, juxtapose to 'colour' which was related to painting stuff, those two words have a different background, yet the combination of that words created a new meaning which assumed as Sivan’s desire to publicly came out as a gay man.

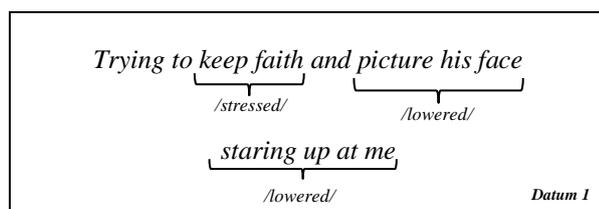
Theory of Meaning

Leech (1981) had been separate meaning into eight types as quoted in the introduction section. Although,

only two types of meaning appeared in this research. That were affective meaning and connotative meaning.

Affective meaning is the major type of meaning used in *Heaven*. That was because the object of the study was a song which closely related to the intonation of the speaker, while intonation could affect the construction of the meaning of an utterance. Therefore, the affective meaning was commonly found in the data.

Affective meaning was found in *datum 1* as a tool to convey the message from the singer to the audience. Datum 1 presented the state of emotion and situation of the singer. The lyric was containing emotions of doubt and confusedness, beside the word structure, the intonation had an important role in constructing the meaning.



As shown in the table above, Sivan had stressed and lowered the tone of some words. The stressed tone has shown Sivan's doubt while the lowered tone had shown confusedness. Further, that emotional tone was presenting a chaotic situation at that moment, referring to the released date, 2016, when Australia had not yet legalized same-sex marriage. It could be inferred that gay romance was a defiant and sinful relationship.

Datum 2 was identified as affective meaning due to Sivan's emotion while singing. Background of the situation shows on datum 2 had affected the intonation in process of delivering the message. Based on the lyric, it assumed that background of the situation at that time was overwhelming. Cited from Thenetline (2022), Sivan once said in an interview that he would love to take a role as Elio in a gay movie *Call Me by Your Name*. Sivan says, "I really feel like that was the first time, pretty much ever, that I've looked at a character and been like, 'I 100% relate to that person'. Like every single thing, even down to his body type and the way that he looks. It's so strange". The character of Elio in *Call Me by Your Name* is a cheerful and nice teenage boy, he has a sexual relationship with his childhood friend Marzia. Then Elio's life started to change when a young researcher named Oliver come to work with his father. Soon, Elio realized that he has grew a feeling toward Oliver, a feeling of love and lush towards a man (Aciman, 2007).

Further, according to Sivan statement which said that he had the same experience as Elio, the meaning of datum 2 was interpreted as Sivan's experience when he finally dares to reveal his identity as a gay and stop doing things such as faking love just to look 'normal' and accepted by society.

Datum 3 was containing polemic which affected the intonation of the singer. Therefore, affective meaning was employed in datum 3 as a tool to deliver the meaning. Although the words seem to be simple, the meaning was quite sensitive. Quoted from New Yorker Magazine (2019), Sivan once was asked, 'if there is anything within religion he could change, what would it be?'. Sivan replied, 'if he could change anything within the religion, he would change about the gay things, it does not make sense why a religion would be against It', he added. The statement above can be assumed that the lyric in datum 3 have meaning that Sivan does not want to change his identity as a gay, so he was about to give up on reaching heaven.

Datum 4, seeing from affective meaning point of view, *trying to embrace the picture I paint and colour me free* can be interpreted as Sivan's pride in coming out as a gay. The message attached within datum 4 can be interpreted as the moment when Sivan had finally started to deal with his situation and make peace with himself. This argument was strengthened by the presence of 'embrace' and 'free' which have positive energy. Moreover, Sivan had put stress on every word while he sang the line of datum 4. The stressed tone had shown Sivan's excitement to start a brand-new day as a gay. Therefore, affective meaning was applied in datum 4.

Connotative meaning was applied in this study due to its communicative value as an expression by virtue, of what it denoted. There were two data identified that contained connotative meaning, which were datum 2 and datum 3. Both data were having similar purpose and word structure, so the analysis was broken down at once, presented by datum 2.

"Without losing a piece of me, how do I get to heaven?" (Datum 2)

"Without changing a part of me, how do I get to heaven?" (Datum 3)

Based on that characteristic of connotative meaning, datum 2 presented the singer's psychological condition at that moment. Through the lyric Sivan wanted to share his self-conflict, an emotion and contradiction of 'living in heaven'. The conflict begins *Without losing a piece of me,*

followed by *How do I get to heaven?* the first phrase was assumed as Sivan's desire to hold his pride as a gay man. While the second phrase was about his doubt and fear of how to be acceptable in society.

Taking look at the song released date in 2016 or even further to 2013 when Troye Sivan was publicly coming out as gay, the lyric presented Sivan's crisis of self-acceptance. Cited from Thomas et al, (2020) Australia had been legalized same-sex marriage in 2017 after a long debate and campaign. Although, it does not confront the issue of transphobia and homophobia, presence only enquiries about marriage monogamous coupledness, and love. The song had written and released a year before Australia legalized same-sex marriage. Which mean that the gay issue was not yet accepted by the citizen. That was the reason for Sivan's struggles as gay.

Categories of Gender

According to Hellinger and Bubmann (2015) there are four terms to define gender in language. Although that only two categories of gender appeared in this study. Those two categories are grammatical gender and referential gender. Referential gender was mainly used within Heaven, almost all of the data were indicated as referential gender. However, grammatical gender was playing the most important role in the study.

Grammatical gender had only appeared once in Heaven, but it holds a vital role to reveal gay issues within the song. Lyric of datum 1 would be a normal love song if Sivan does not use a specific gender pronoun. The lyric said, *'Trying to keep faith and picture his face staring up at me'*. There was a male pronoun that appeared in the lyric. "His" was a masculine term which functioned to address a man. The appearance "his" within the lyrics had brought over the idea of gay sexual. It was because Sivan is a man and he addressed his lover using a male-made pronunciation. Therefore, *Heaven* was indicated as containing gay pride, while it also proved that gay pride in Heaven was not just an issue.

Six, of seven data in this study, were categorized as referential gender. The data were taken in form of pronounced terms that appeared in the lyrics. According to Hellinger and Bubmann (2015) many terms are having neuter gender and it can be referred to as both male or female. Several generic pronouns appeared within the lyrics, later it considered male pronounce referred to Sivan's gender. All of the data were spotted having one or more pronounced within the lyrics. The pronoun found were displayed in the table below:

<u>Table of Pronouns</u>			
Referred to Troye Sivan	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="font-size: 2em; margin-right: 5px;">}</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>I</p> <p>My</p> <p>Me</p> </div> <div style="font-size: 2em; margin-left: 5px;">}</div> </div>	Masculine terms	
Referred to Sivan and His Boyfriend			<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="font-size: 2em; margin-right: 5px;">{</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>We</p> </div> <div style="font-size: 2em; margin-left: 5px;">}</div> </div>

The terms 'I, My, and Me' appeared several times in Heaven. These terms were 'gender neuter' but in this study, these terms were considered as masculine terms. It was because the terms were referred to the singer who is a man. Thus, 'I, My, and Me' were considered as masculine terms.

Meanwhile, 'We' was also identified as referential gender referred to Sivan and his lover. Although the lover's gender was not mentioned as boyfriend or girlfriend, it was obvious that the lover was a man (boyfriend). It was because Sivan had addressed the lover using 'his' which was known to be a male pronunciation. So, it could be inferred that the lover was a man, and 'We' was a masculine term that referred to Sivan and his lover who both are men.

Referential gender was applied in this study because it has a function that could relate the gender neuter terms to the object being discussed, so then the gender of each term could be clarified. Therefore, the pronoun found within the data were considered as masculine terms because Sivan and his lover are men, and it could be exposed by using referential gender only.

CONCLUSIONS

This study analyzed the linguistic features as tools for voicing gay pride in Troye Sivan song entitled *Heaven*. The analysis had focused on types of figurative language, theory of meaning, and categories of gender Then the data was taken from Heaven lyrics which indicated containing the message of Gay pride.

Based on the foregoing analysis, there were four types of figurative language discovered in the lyrics. Those four types of figurative language were: Allegory, Simile, Paradox, and Hyperbole. There are three out of seven data were considered as allegory. It was because allegory has a function that allowed a word, phrase, or sentence to provide more than one meaning.

While there were only two types of meaning found in this study. Affective meaning was the most common used for the data, and connotative meaning is in the second place. Affective meaning was often found in the data because it deals with emotion that can affect the tone of the speaker.

Furthermore, categories of gender by Hellinger and Bubmann was applied as a connector to analyze the message of gay pride through the song. There were two categories of gender discovered within the analysis, there were grammatical gender and referential gender. Grammatical gender has only appeared once, but it had a significant role in revealing gay pride within Heaven.

The last but not least, this study is expected to be useful and helpful for people who is interested in analyzing literary works, especially songs. As theories employees in this study are: 13 types of figurative language by Perrine (2018), types of conceptual meaning by Leech (1981), categories of language and gender by Hellinger et al (2015), along with several references of LGBT asserted. The data might be used as reference for further study.

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