UNDERSTANDING EMOTION REPRESENTATION IN LAUV FT LANY MEAN IT: SEMANTIC ANALYSIS

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ABSTRAK. Lagu "Mean It" oleh Lauv dan Lany menonjol sebagai salah satu karya yang menggabungkan lirik emosional dengan melodi melankolis, sehingga menciptakan pengalaman yang mendalam bagi para pendengarnya. Artikel ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis lirik lagu tersebut dengan menggunakan teori semantik dalam linguistik, dan mengeksplorasi dampaknya terhadap emosi pendengar. Dengan menggunakan pendekatan semantik, penelitian ini meneliti makna literal dari kata dan frasa dalam lirik. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa lirik dalam "Mean It" menyiratkan perasaan ketidakpastian, penolakan, dan kerentanan yang memperkuat respons emosional, termasuk kesedihan dan kebingungan pada pendengarnya. Selain itu, fenomena viral lagu ini di media sosial seperti TikTok menunjukkan bagaimana konten musik yang emosional mempengaruhi interaksi sosial dan menciptakan resonansi emosional di antara audiens global. Penelitian ini berkontribusi pada pemahaman yang lebih baik tentang hubungan antara lirik musik, semantik, dan emosi dalam musik populer.

Kata kunci: Lirik ; Lagu ; Emosi; Semantik; Musik Populer

UNDERSTANDING EMOTION REPRESENTATION IN LAUV FT LANY'S SONG "MEAN IT" THROUGH SEMANTIC THEORIES

ABSTRACT. The song 'Mean It' by Lauv and Lany stands out as a work that combines emotional lyrics with melancholic melodies, creating a profound experience for listeners. This paper aims to analyze the lyrics of the song using semantic theory in linguistics and explore its impact on listeners' emotions. Using a semantic approach, this research examines the literal meaning of words and phrases in the lyrics. The results show that the lyrics in 'Mean It' imply feelings of insecurity, rejection and vulnerability, which reinforce emotional responses such as sadness and confusion in listeners. In addition, the viral phenomenon of this song on social media such as TikTok demonstrates how emotional musical content influences social interactions and creates emotional resonance among global audiences. This research contributes to a better understanding of the relationship between lyrics, semantics and emotions in popular music.

Keywords: Lyrics; Songs; Emotion; Semantics; Popular Music

INTRODUCTION

The ability of music to evoke and impart emotion has been recognized for a long time. Lyrics have become a significant focus of research in the disciplines of music and linguistics due to their ability to influence and shape the emotional experiences of listeners. Lyrics, which serve as a conduit between the artist and the listener, are frequently a pivotal element that enables listeners to engage with profound emotional experiences. The song "Mean It" by Lauv and LANY, released in 2019, provides an illustrative example of how lyrics can convey complex

emotional nuances, such as uncertainty, vulnerability and confusion in romantic relationships. The song succeeds in capturing the listener's attention through its highly personalized depiction of emotions, which is enhanced by its melancholic blend of lyrics and melody.

The study of meaning is a central tenet of linguistics, and semantics provides the ideal framework for deconstructing how words and phrases in song lyrics are imbued with emotional weight. Building on foundational work by linguists like John Lyons and G. Leech, semantic analysis allows for an

examination of both the denotative (literal) and connotative (implied or emotional) meanings of a text. This approach is especially relevant for song lyrics, where the words, though seemingly simple, can carry a rich tapestry of subtext and emotional resonance. Semantic studies in song lyric analysis require a deep understanding of layers of meaning, particularly denotative and connotative meanings, which play a role in representing emotions linguistically.

Geoffrey Leech (1974) in his work Semantics: The Study of Meaning divides meaning into seven categories, including conceptual meaning, which is denotative and represents the basic or literal meaning of a linguistic expression, and connotative meaning, encompasses emotional and associations beyond the basic lexical meaning. Leech places connotative meaning within the category of associative meaning, which signifies its flexibility and dependence on the social and psychological context of the speaker. Meanwhile, John Lyons (1968; 1977) developed the dichotomy of sense and reference in explaining meaning; sense relates to the semantic relations between words in a language system, while reference refers to entities in the real world that are referred to by the expression, so that both contribute to the denotative aspect of meaning. Furthermore, Lyons also highlights the importance of emotive meaning, which is the affective and subjective dimension inherent in utterances and reflects the speaker's attitude and emotions. These concepts form the theoretical foundation for analyzing the representation of emotions in the song "Mean It" by Lauv ft. LANY, where the lyrics demonstrate the connection between semantic structure and emotional expression, both implicit and explicit.

Early studies on meaning in semantics were greatly influenced by the thinking of John Lyons and Geoffrey Leech, who provided a theoretical basis for the distinction between literal (denotative) and non-literal (connotative) meanings. In their analytical framework, metaphors were recognized as part of non-literal meaning, but were not the main focus. Leech (1969) positions metaphor within the category of figurative language, defining it through the relationship between the tenor (the subject being discussed) and the vehicle (the image or concept used to represent the subject). Although non-literal, metaphorical meaning still relies on conceptual

meaning as the basis for transferring meaning from one domain to another. Meanwhile, Lyons (1977) places metaphor in the realm of linguistic creativity, where the relationship between sense and reference can be manipulated to produce new meanings in specific contexts. For Lyons, the metaphorical use of language is a form of exploitation of the semantic system that enables the expression of affective and complex meanings in human communication.

However, this structural approach underwent a significant paradigm shift with the emergence of Conceptual Metaphor Theory (CMT) in the 1980s, developed by George Lakoff and Mark Johnson (1980). In this theory, metaphors are no longer viewed merely as rhetorical devices, but as fundamental cognitive mechanisms for understanding abstract concepts through mapping them onto concrete experiences. For example, the conceptual metaphor ARGUMENT IS WAR shows that the way we understand and experience arguments is shaped by a framework of thinking that resembles a situation of conflict or battle. Further contributions come from Zoltán Kövecses (2000), who specifically examines how emotions are constructed metaphorically, such as in the metaphor ANGER IS THE HEAT OF A FLUID IN A CONTAINER, which explains the emergence of expressions like boiling with rage or blow one's top. Through CMT, metaphor studies have shifted from formal linguistic analysis toward an understanding of how language, mind, body, and culture interact in shaping emotional experiences. Therefore, in analyzing the representation of emotions in the lyrics of the song "Mean It," a cognitive approach to metaphor becomes highly relevant for uncovering the layers of meaning hidden behind the linguistic expressions used.

Research by Yutong and Zixin (2024) supports the view that song lyrics have a great influence on listeners' emotion perception. By measuring participants' emotional responses to music with and without lyrics, they showed that the presence of lyrics enhances the emotional understanding of songs. This finding resonates with the analysis of the song "Mean It," where the lyrics reflect emotional nuances such as frustration, confusion, and vulnerability. Moreover, Ina'am and Abdul-Kadhim (2024) also reinforce this argument by highlighting that emotions affect the interpretation of language, which is relevant in the context of song lyrics. In the song "Mean It," for example, phrases like "Don't

build me up just to let me down" not only express a literal sense of disappointment but also exhibit an emotional effect on the listener's interpretation, where the meaning of the language becomes stronger due to the accompanying emotional context.

According to Yutong and Zixin (2024), the language used in song lyrics has a significant influence on how people perceive emotions in music. They found that the presence of lyrics can enhance or change the emotional perception of a song through language processing by the brain. In addition, Ina'am and Abdul-Kadhim (2024) explained that emotions are not only expressed through language but also influence the interpretation of language. Affect-as-Information Theory and Judgment Theory form the basis for understanding the complex interaction language and emotion. between Affect-as-Information suggests that emotions serve as information that influences cognitive interpretation, while Judgment Theory emphasizes that emotions arise from an individual's evaluation of a situation, which ultimately affects the way language is understood.

Despite this growing body of research, a gap remains in a thorough, semantic exploration of modern pop music lyrics. While the general influence of music on emotion is well-documented, the specific linguistic mechanisms through which lyrics shape emotional perception are less understood. A detailed semantic analysis of "Mean It" can help bridge this gap by shedding light on how the song's vocabulary and phrasing construct an emotional message that is both relatable and impactful. This study aims to analyze the lyrics of "Mean It" from a semantic perspective, focusing on how the literal and figurative meanings of the words contribute to the listener's emotional experience. By applying semantic theory, we can better understand how lyrics simultaneously create meaning and evoke emotion, thereby guiding the listener's interpretation and deepening their engagement with the song.

The objective of this study is to analyses the lyrics of the song "Mean It" from a semantic perspective, with a particular focus on the manner in which the literal meanings of the words and phrases employed in the song influence the emotional experience of the listener. The semantic method is relevant when studying the denotation and connotation of words such as "don't kiss me right now" or "don't tell me you need me," which directly reflect feelings of uncertainty and the desire for emotional clarity in relationships. These phrases are examples of sentences that are relevant to this examination. The purpose of this study is to make use of semantic theory according to Lyons (1977) and Leech (1974) in order to shed light on the manner in which the lyrics of the song in question form meaning and emotion in a manner that is simultaneous and integrated, as well as to determine the degree to which they direct listeners' emotional interpretations.

It is anticipated that this research will make a significant contribution to the field of semantics in modern pop music, particularly in the context of complex romantic relationships as depicted in the song "Mean It." Furthermore, this analysis will contribute to the existing literature on the relationship between language, music and emotion, offering a novel perspective on how lyrics can influence and modify listeners' emotional experiences in the context of contemporary popular music.

METHOD

The research entitled "Understanding Emotion Representation in Lauv ft Lany Mean It: Semantic Analysis" uses a qualitative approach with a case study design. This type of research aims to understand and analyze the phenomenon of emotions contained in the lyrics of the song "Mean It" by Lauv featuring LANY through a semantic theory approach. This approach was chosen to deeply explore the relationship between song lyrics and the emotions they convey, providing a richer explanation of how listeners process the emotional experience of the song. This study focuses not only on literal lyrics but also on semantic representations that provide deeper emotional meaning.

The semantic analysis stage was conducted by highlighting key words and phrases that have emotional content. The data collection process was carried out by intensive observation of the lyrics, accompanied by notes taken manually using a pen and notebook to ensure the accuracy of the data. The primary data used in this study are the lyrics of the song "Mean It", while the secondary data are theories from Yutong and Zixin (2024) regarding the relationship between song lyrics and the perception of emotions in music. In addition, devices such as cell phones for listening to songs and laptops for

writing reports were also used as supporting instruments.

The collected data were analysed using semantic concepts to identify the types of emotions emitted through song lyrics, as well as understanding how the lyrics affect the listener's emotional perception. The analysis technique was carried out through interpretation of the linguistic elements contained in the lyrics, such as metaphors, connotations, and symbolism, all of which play a role in shaping the emotions that the singer wants to convey. This analysis process aims to produce findings that are relevant to semantic theory and able to contribute to the understanding of the relationship between language and emotion in a musical context. In the final stage, the researcher draws conclusions based on the data and theories used, which are expected to provide new insights in linguistics and music studies.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Music is often a powerful medium to express human emotions and experiences, especially in interpersonal relationships. The song Mean It by Lauv and LANY is one such work that not only manages to steal the show through its melody and lyrics, but also reflects complex relationship dynamics. The song has gained wide resonance among the younger generation, especially those who experience phenomena such as situationships and stateless relationships. Using a semantic approach, the following analysis will explore how the meaning contained in the lyrics of Mean It creates a deep emotional experience for listeners, as well as how the song has become a cultural phenomenon through platforms such as TikTok.

4.1 Analysis of Mean It Song Lyrics

The lyrics of the song 'Mean It' by Lauv and LANY reflect the complexity of emotions that are often present in interpersonal relationships, especially among young people who face uncertainty or ambiguity in commitment.

4.1.1 Denotative and Connotative Meanings

1. "I'm all, I'm all in / I'm calling, no answer"

Denotatively, this phrase describes a concrete action: the speaker has given their all ("I'm all in") and tried to contact someone but received no response ("no answer"). This is a very literal one-sided communication

situation. However, connotatively, this line carries a very strong emotional charge. "I'm all in" is an expression of emotional totality—a willingness to open oneself completely and take risks in a relationship. Meanwhile, "no answer" is not just about the phone not being picked up, but symbolizes rejection, neglect, and even feelings of being ignored. From Leech's perspective, this contains an affective meaning that indicates disappointment and hurt. Meanwhile, according to Lyons, the use of repetitive structure ("I'm all, I'm all in") reinforces the emotional intensity and creates psychological pressure for the listener.

2. "Don't kiss me right now / On your lips just leave it / If you don't mean it"

This phrase denotatively conveys an explicit request not to kiss the speaker if the action is not sincere. The sentence appears to be a literal command. However, its connotation is much deeper. "Don't kiss me" becomes a symbol of rejection of false intimacy. The kiss here does not only mean physical touch but also represents emotional closeness. The request to "just leave it on your lips" shows firmness regarding emotional boundaries an effort to maintain self-respect in an ambiguous relationship. In framework, this phrase reflects the tension between literal linguistic meaning and nonliteral emotional content formed by context. Leech would see it as an expression of strong interpersonal evaluation, namely a critical attitude toward a partner who is inconsistent between words and feelings.

3. "Don't build me up just to let me down"
Denotatively, this describes the act of raising someone's hopes and then crushing them. The literal meaning is clear: someone creates expectations and then destroys them. However, connotatively, this line carries deeper emotional wounds. "Build me up" does not only mean giving hope but also involves fostering a sense of security and love, while "let me down" signifies a betrayal of trust. This is a form of emotional denial that causes psychological trauma. In Leech's context, it is laden with affective meaning that indicates deep hurt caused by

unfulfilled emotional expectations. Lyons highlights how the metaphorical structure of this sentence creates connotations of disappointment and betrayal that are not grammatically explicit but are semantically powerful.

4. "Don't tell me you're falling with your feet still on the ledge"

Denotatively, this sentence describes someone who claims to be falling in love, but has not yet physically taken a step forward they are still on the edge. This is a spatial metaphor that is both literal and visual. However, connotatively, "falling" here does not only mean falling physically, but is a metaphor for falling in love; while "feet still on the ledge" implies doubt, fear of commitment, or even manipulation. In Lyons' view, this metaphor conveys a meaning that cannot be reduced to a literal description, but rather marks a rich emotional semantic field. Leech would call this an ideological and evaluative connotative meaning: the lyrics criticize a partner who professes love without being truly willing to take emotional risks. This line evokes emotion because it contains a paradox between words and actions.

5. "You've got me in the palm of your hand / But I love those hands"

The denotative meaning of this line is that the speaker feels completely under the control of another person, visually depicted through the metaphor "in the palm of your hand." However, connotatively, it symbolizes the loss of self-control in an unequal relationship. The phrase "But I love those hands" reinforces the emotional irony: despite being aware of being controlled or manipulated, the speaker still loves that person. In Leech's theory, this reflects the simultaneous conflict of positive and negative affective meanings—a painful yet honest emotional ambivalence. Meanwhile, Lyons highlights that this structure contains implicit connotations of interpersonal power, where love is overshadowed by domination. This is a lyric that evokes deep empathy it captures a realistic because contradictory emotional dilemma.

4.1.2 Metaphor and Symbolism in Lyrics

1. "Feet still on the ledge"

The phrase "feet still on the ledge" metaphorically describes a critical situation or threshold, where one feels on the edge of a big decision but does not yet have the courage to step forward. In denotation, a ledge is an edge of a surface that is usually associated with a high place, such as a building or a cliff. Metaphorically, this phrase symbolizes a sense of doubt and uncertainty in romantic relationships, where one feels afraid to fully commit due to the risks they may face, such as rejection, failure, or emotional hurt. According to semantic theory (Lakoff & Johnson, 1980), metaphors like this allow us to understand abstract concepts, such as emotional doubt, through physical images that we can visualize.

In the context of the song Mean It, this metaphor communicates that one party in the relationship feels unsure of their own or their partner's intentions. The singer feels an emotional imbalance, where she is ready to jump in and give it her all, but her partner is still standing with their "foot on the edge" without making a clear decision. Listeners who have faced relationships full of ambiguity or emotional situations that demand major decision-making can feel a deep connection to this metaphor. In addition, this metaphor provides a visual image that creates emotional tension, influencing the listener to feel the feelings of discomfort or anxiety experienced by the singer.

2. "You've got me in the palm of your hand"
This phrase, when taken literally, suggests a physical act where someone or something is in complete control in the palm of one's hand. However, metaphorically, this phrase describes how the singer feels herself to be in the complete power of her partner. The singer recognizes that her partner has emotional control over her, creating a dependent relationship dynamic. In semantic theory, this is an example of how language uses metaphors to express complex emotions

such as vulnerability and a sense of powerlessness (Cruse, 2004).

The context of this lyric shows that although the singer feels deep love towards her partner, she also feels an emotional dependency that makes her vulnerable. Listeners can understand how this metaphor describes a sense of love mixed with a fear of losing control. The lyrics also reflect the internal conflict experienced by the singer: on the one hand, she enjoys the love and care of her partner; however, on the other hand, she feels trapped because of the emotional dependency. Listeners who have experienced an emotionally dependent relationship can relate to these lyrics, especially as they create a strong visual image of how love can be a source of both happiness and pain.

3. "Don't run me 'round and 'round"

This phrase is a metaphor that describes the feeling of being trapped in a repetitive relationship cycle with no clear direction or purpose. Literally, running around describes someone moving without direction, often indicating ineffectiveness or confusion. In the context of the song, this metaphor is used to describe the cycle of an uncertain relationship, where the singer feels frustrated because there is no clear progression or resolution.

Connotatively, this phrase reflects the emotionally exhausting dynamics of the relationship. The singer feels like she is being played or emotionally manipulated by her partner, who constantly keeps her hopeful without providing any real commitment. In semantic theory, this metaphor shows how simple physical actions, such as running in a circle, can be used to represent complex emotional experiences, such as feeling unappreciated or trapped in an unhealthy relationship.

The lyrics also create a strong emotional resonance for listeners who have experienced relationships filled with uncertainty or emotional manipulation. By describing the exhausting cycle of relationships, this metaphor invites listeners to reflect on their

own experiences and, in the process, create a deeper emotional bond with the song.

4.2 Relevance of the Song to the Listener's Emotions

The lyrics of Mean It describe a situation that is very relevant to many young people's experiences, especially those who are stuck in situationships, stateless relationships, or long-distance relationships. In semantic theory, the relationship between word meaning and the listener's emotional experience is important. Phrases like 'If you don't mean it' contain an element of presupposition, which is the assumption that certain actions or words should be accompanied by earnestness. This element triggers an emotional resonance in the listener, especially those who feel like they have false hopes in their relationship.

1. Frustration: Unresolved Tension

Frustration is one of the most striking emotions in this song, especially evident in lyrics like "Don't mess with my head" and "Don't run me 'round and 'round." These lyrics describe the singer's feelings of exhaustion due to the vagueness and ambiguity of the relationship. The word "mess" literally means to mess something up, but connotatively, it refers to the emotional disturbance caused by the uncertainty of her partner's attitude. Meanwhile, "run me 'round and 'round" creates the image of an aimlessly repeating cycle, suggesting a relationship full of confusion and without clear direction.

According to Cruse (2004), words with negative connotations like these reinforce the emotional message the singer is trying to convey. Listeners who have experienced emotionally conflicted relationships can easily relate to this frustration. The lyrics communicate a deep sense of exhaustion, making the listener not only hear the story, but also feel it personally.

Research by Forgas (1995) in Mood and Judgment: The Affect Infusion Model (AIM) suggests that negative emotions such as frustration can increase one's sensitivity to injustice in relationships. This makes song listeners more likely to connect with the singer's feelings when they themselves have

felt uncertainty or confusion in their relationships.

2. Confusion: Uncertainty that Creates Insecurity

The emotion of confusion is strongly felt in lyrics like "Last night we were more than fine / Just tell me if you changed your mind." This line expresses the sudden change in attitude of the couple, leaving the singer in a state of vacillation. Semantically, the phrase "changed your mind" means an unexplained shift or change, reflecting unclear and confusing communication.

This vagueness creates an atmosphere of emotional instability that is often a source of pain in relationships. According to Lyons (1995), this kind of change in meaning in a semantic context can create emotional tension, as the listener has to interpret the situation based on their own experience. This strengthens the emotional involvement of the listener, as they can imagine similar situations in their own lives.

3. Regret: Awareness of Absent Sincerity Regret comes through very strongly in lyrics like "Don't kiss me right now / If you don't mean it." In this context, the singer realizes that this relationship is not based on sincere feelings. The phrase "mean it" semantically emphasizes the importance of intentionality or sincerity in relationships. The singer refuses to accept love that is only based on superficial actions without a real emotional foundation.

Emotionally, the lyrics imply an awareness of a non-ideal situation and a desire to protect oneself from further emotional hurt. According to Palmer (2018), regret in songs is often communicated through words that show reluctance or rejection, as in this phrase. This regret gives the song emotional depth, encouraging listeners to reflect on their own relationships and search for meaning in their experiences.

Studies by Ekman (1992) in An Argument for Basic Emotions suggest that emotions such as regret are often associated with the re-evaluation of interpersonal relationships.

In the context of this song, the lyrics show how important emotional honesty is in relationships, and its absence can lead to deep regret.

4. Vulnerability: Trust that Opens Emotional Wounds

Vulnerability is an underlying emotion highlighted in lyrics like "But I'm all, I'm all in / I'm falling faster." The phrase "all in" semantically suggests full unconditional commitment, while "falling faster" reflects the feeling of losing control when diving into a relationship. The singer describes herself as fully surrendering her heart and emotions, despite being aware of the potential emotional scars she could receive.

According to Lakoff and Johnson (1980), metaphors like "falling" are often used to describe the intense yet vulnerable emotions of love. The lyrics communicate the sense of vulnerability and fear experienced by the singer, who is highly dependent on her partner's response. Listeners can feel a deep sense of desperation in this emotional expression, especially if they have experienced unrequited love.

5. Sadness: dashed hopes

Sadness comes across very strongly in lyrics like "Don't build me up just to let me down." The phrase "build me up" literally means to build or improve something, while "let me down" means to disappoint or destroy hope. The combination of these two phrases creates a dramatic contrast, highlighting the pain of unfulfilled expectations.

Emotionally, the lyrics communicate a deep sense of disappointment and heartache resulting from an unstable relationship. According to Cruse (2004), this combination of words with contrasting meanings creates semantic tension that amplifies the emotional impact of the lyrics. Listeners who have had their hopes dashed by their partners can easily relate to these emotions, making the song even more memorable.

6. Doubt: A Barrier to Trust

Doubt is a major theme seen in the lyrics "If you're looking at me with a heart of doubt." The phrase "heart of doubt" semantically reflects internal conflict and lack of emotional commitment. The singer feels that her partner has deep doubts, which becomes an obstacle to building a stable and genuine relationship. This uncertainty creates a deep sense of mistrust, making the relationship feel insecure and unpredictable. In a semantic context, this phrase highlights the importance of emotional clarity in relationships, as well as how uncertainty can undermine the foundation of trust between partners.

Studies by Izard (1977) in Human Emotions show that doubt can trigger other negative emotions such as anxiety and frustration, exacerbating tension in relationships. The song captures that dynamic vividly, making listeners feel connected to similar experiences in their own relationships.

7. Despair: Relationship Imbalance

Despair is strongly felt in lyrics like "I'm calling, no answer / Would you text me when you feel like?" The phrases "no answer" and "when you feel like" semantically imply an imbalance in the relationship, where one party is trying to establish communication but not getting an equal response. The singer feels unappreciated and unimportant in this relationship.

Emotionally, these lyrics depict the sense of hopelessness and helplessness felt by the singer. According to Lyons (1995), words that indicate indifference or lack of attention often create deep emotional pain. These lyrics make listeners reflect on their own experiences with unrequited relationships, creating a strong emotional connection between the song and the listener.

According to Palmer (2018), this kind of imbalance often creates a sense of hopelessness and helplessness in relationships. The song illustrates how a one-sided attempt at communication can leave one feeling unappreciated and unimportant.

The song Mean It becomes a catalyst for listeners to articulate feelings that are difficult to express,

reinforcing the emotional connection that makes this song so moving. The lyrics meticulously depict multiple layers of complex emotions, ranging from frustration and confusion to doubt and despair, which can deeply affect the feelings of listeners, especially those who may be experiencing relationships with similar dynamics.

CONCLUSION

The conclusion of the analysis of the song 'Mean It' by Lauv and LANY shows that the semantic approach is very effective to understand how the words in the lyrics can convey complex emotions and uncertainties in relationships with unclear status. Lyrics such as 'If you don't mean it' and 'Let's stay in bed while all our friends go out' literally reflect the desire to have an intimate and exclusive relationship, but on the other hand, there is a discrepancy between words and actual intentions. Through the literal meaning and the implied connotation, the song depicts an emotional unease familiar to many young listeners, especially those involved in situationships, friendzones, or long-distance relationships full of uncertainty.

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