

## Figurative Language In Suhunan Situmorang' "Sordam" Novel

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### Abstract

The study is focused on figurative language that consist of simile, metaphore, personification, hyperbole, synecdoche, paradox and simbol. according to Siswantoro (2002). The objective of the reaserch were to identify of figurative language in Suhunan Situmorang's "Sordam" Novel and the dominant one type of figurative language. This reaserch was conducted by using qualitative method. The sources of the data were "Sordam" Novel and the data were 108 sentences of Suhunan Situmorang's "Sordam" Novel. After analyzing, it was found that there were 108 sentences of Suhunan Situmorang's "Sordam" Novel. The findings of this reaserch were found that similes found is 53, the second is Hyperbole and the number of hyperbole found is 24, the third is Symbol and the number of symbol found is 10, the fourth is Personification and the number of personification found is 9, the fifth is Metaphor and the number of metaphor found is 7, the sixth is Synecdoce and the number of synecdoce found is 3, and the last is Paradox and the number of paradox found is 2. Simile 53 becomes the dominant type of figurative language in suhunan situmorang's "sordam" novel.

**Key words:** *figurative language, Suhunan Situmorang's "Sordam" Novel.*

### 1. Introduction

Written language can be found in the novel, newspaper, poem, subtitle of movie and magazine. While, spoken language can be found in the song, speech, movie and conversation. As human beings, people cannot separate ourselves from social communication and interaction, which certainly makes ourselves live must have language. In contrast to spoken language, written language should use the proper structure in order to make the reader can understand what the author wished to convey.

A written text can be said "good" if the reader can understand what the writers' intentions. However, sometimes the author uses words to embellish his writings in the form of a figurative language which needed more understanding to analyze the meaning inside. "Affirm that figurative language is a conspicuous departure from what users of a language apprehend as a standard meaning of words or the standard order of word, in order to achieve some special meaning or effect" (Abrams, 1999:96).

Figurative language is very easy to find in poetry, but is used in prose and nonfiction writing, such as novel, as well. Through the beauty of the language and its

out-of-usual form, figurative language can enhance every literary works and be the easiest way of getting image or a point across for every literary man. As my experience in the tomok parsoran when I was doing a field work practice. There, I heard a man said this to the women when a woman was in a party and met a man that said to her, 'Wow...*ho tarsongon bintang-bintang di langit bornginon*' Was the man really meant he literally see the stars in her? Certainly not, he wanted to say that she looked very beautiful in the party. So why doesn't he just say, 'Wow... *bagak hian ho di bornginon*'? Because that's figurative language is for. It is for clarifying and describing in more detail. As it is known, people have many different words in different level to say a woman is beautiful. It could be gorgeous, stunning, charming, perfect, admirable, pretty, cute, and many more. With no doubt, figurative language is very useful in giving accurate descriptions. However, used it incorrectly can make the readers confused or downright silly. In arranging this term paper, the researcher use a novel entitled "*Sordam*" by, SuhunanSitumorang which is a kind of culture fiction novel. The researcher also found many figurative languages like the example above. Many novels are known in Indonesia. One of them is a novel entitled "*Sordam*" which was written by SuhunanSitumorang a famous Indonesian Novelist. Thus, the researcher is anxious to analyze the use of figurative language of this novel.

## **2. Review of Literature**

Semantic is the study of meaning in language (Hurford, Heasley, and Smit, 2007:1). In language learning much meaning is contained in sentences spoken. Many factors affect in terms of the interpretation of a sentence delivered. The term of Semantics is the recent addition to the English language. Semantics is the philosophical and scientific study of meaning. The word semantics is derived from the Greek verb —*semaino* (to signify or to mean). Semantics is part of the larger study of signs, semiotics. It is the part that deals with words as signs (symbols) and language as a system of signs (words as symbols). (Hipkiss, 1995:9).

According to the explanation on semantics, meanings are ideas or concepts that are able to be transferred from the speaker's mind to the hearer's mind by embodying them, as it were, in the forms of one language or another. There are three main ways in which linguists and philosophers have attempted to construct explanations of meaning in natural language:

1. By defining the nature of word meaning. It describes that the word meaning is taken as the construct in terms of which sentence meaning and communication can be explained;
2. By defining the nature of sentence meaning. It is a sentence meaning which is taken as basic with words characterized in terms of systematic contribution they make to sentence meaning;
3. By explaining the process of communication. It means that both sentence and word meaning are explained in terms of the ways in which sentence and words are used in the act of communication (Kempson, 1980: 11).

### **2.1 Figurative Language**

Figurative language comes in creative writers using metaphor, analogy, symbols and more to stir the reader's imagination and bring out the emotion and understanding that can't be expressed by the words dictionary meaning

alone. Generally, figurative language is used to improve the speech with artificial language. It makes the sentence more interesting, fresh, and more obvious. This the way of the writer to use language as the device to expressing and the hidden feeling thought.

According to Nurgiyantoro (2009: 297), "the use of figurative language or heating may generate impressions and a certain atmosphere, a certain sensory responses and embellish the narrative, which means supporting the goals of aesthetic literature." Similarly, the use of figurative language plays a role in the delivery of a person's intent. Sometimes a person can have be different interpretations of the intent expressed through stylistic others. Sayuti (1985: 124) add that Figurative language is a means or a tool to clarify the description of the idea, concretize an idea and grow a new perspective through comparative.

## 2.2 Types of Figurative Language

According to Siswanto There are seven kinds of figurative language expressions. They are simile, metaphore, personification, hyperbole, synecdoche, paradox and simbol.

### a. Simile

Simile is a comparison between two objects or objects of different types, but it has a point in common. Simile usually marked with the word: like, as, so, Appear, seem, more than (Siswanto, 2002: 24). Example : *My love is like a red, red rose,*

### b. Metaphor

Metaphor is like a simile. Metaphor also compare between objects that have a common point, but without the use of certain words such as: like, axles, etc Siswanto (2002:27). Example : *He was a lion in the fight.*

### c. Personification

Personification is the depiction of inanimate objects or not human either invisible or abstract which are treated as if they were humans Siswanto (2002:29). Siswanto (2002:27). Example : *The old train crept along the narrow path.*

### d. Hyperbole

Hyperbole is used by the poet in the portrayal of objects, ideas and others to give weight to excessive pressure to obtain intense effects Siswanto (2002:34). Example : *I am able to fill it with tears.*

### e. Synecdoche

Synecdoche is a style that is reflected in the packaging portion manifestations, but already includes a whole Siswanto (2002:39). Most of something already covered for all cases mentioned. Example : *He has many mouths to feed.*

### f. Paradox

Paradox is part of a style that uses contradictory phenomenon, but if examined actually show the truth Siswanto (2002:41).

For example. *The poorest man is the richest, and the rich are poor.*

### g. Symbol

Symbol is something more that we can catch Siswanto (2002:43). For example : - *A black dog is rubbing its back again a wall.*

## 2.3 Suhunan Situmorang's "Sordam" Novel

Figurative language can be finds in novels. Novel is one of literary works that usually has many contents which can be analyzed by the readers. Some of them are

figurative language and also the meaning which will give different interpretation depend on the readers.

Suhunan Situmorang who was born in Pangururan, Samosir, March 12, 1961, is known as the author of "*Sordam*" published in 2005 by Gagas Media. The author who has the full name Suhunan Madja Situmorang is a person who is humble and friendly when communicating, so that anyone who just knows him feels cared for. Suhunan, who wrote many short stories about the intricacies of life, culture, and about the Batak community, has now skyrocketed thanks to "*Sordam*." This 360-page book is not only read by Batak people who love Batak literature, but also by the readers outside the Batak ethnic group.

Suhunan Situmorang who married Hastuti Naenggolan with three children: Jogy Situmorang, Tesalonika Situmorang, and Ayu Situmorang. In addition to working as a legal practitioner at the Nugroho Partnership, he is also writing his second book, "*Terang Bulan in Rura Silindung*", which took place in the 1970s. This book is planned to be launched in 2009.

"*Sordam*" tells the story of the intricacies faced by the figure of the Batak youth, Paltibonar Nadeak, who went to Jakarta to try his luck. In this city, there were cultural frictions experienced by Paltibonar Nadeak as nomads. In "*Sordam*," Suhunan Situmorang also touched on the views of the people in Indonesia towards the Batak people who he considered very cliché, such as rude Batak people, loud voices, and could only sing and play chess only.

Paltibonar's existence began to be questioned when this figure could not be contacted and his family was not known to exist in the village, especially by his elderly mother. Through *Sordam* the family meeting process was conducted. *Sordam* is an inflatable device made of bamboo which is larger in size than flute (*sulim*). This inflatable device is a medium to summon the spirits of people to die mysteriously, also missing people and so on.

### **3. Research method**

In this chapter the writer discusses the research methodology including general methodology, procedures of collecting the data, and procedures of data analysis. Furthermore, it will assist the author in collecting the data in chapter IV. The research uses qualitative method used in this research is descriptive qualitative method. According to Van der Voordt (2002:5), descriptive research is about describing how reality occurs. Descriptive research focuses not only on collecting data, but also focuses on the meaning of the data that has been taken. Qualitative research is a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of speech or writing and behaviors of people are observed.

The procedure of collecting data will use technical documentation. So, the writer requires the note for records to collect data. Here are the procedures of collecting data that had been used by the writer:

- a. The writer reads through the Suhunan Situmorang's "*Sordam*" Novel and read the story contained in the novel.
- b. Then, the writer will search any expressions using figurative language in the novel.
- c. The writer will take some notes about figurative language and put in.

- d. The writer will make the code about kind of figurative language. That was Simile (Sim), Metaphor (M), Personification (Per), Hyperbole (H), Synecdoche (Syn), symbol (sym) and Paradox (Par).

The writer will use the technique in collecting data by documentation. Sordam will be analyzed by using procedures below:

- a. The writer rewrites the sentence of figurative language contained in Suhunan Situmorang's "Sordam" Novel.  
 b. The writer will classify the most dominant show of the sentences from figurative language containing suhunan situmorang's "sordam" novel .

#### 4. Research Findings

After read the Suhunan Situmorang's "sordam" Novel, the writer found 108 sentences that contain figurative language from 1-200 pages. The classification of figurative language used in Suhunan Situmorang's "sordam" Novel in the following table.

Table 4.1  
 The data finding of Suhunan Situmorang's "Sordam" Novel.

No	Types of figurative language	Total
1	Simile	53
2	Metaphor	7
3	Personification	9
4	Hyperbole	24
5	Synecdoce	3
6	Paradox	2
7	Symbol	10
Total		108

The most dominant used is Simile and the number of similes found is 53, the second is Hyperbole and the number of hyperbole found is 24, the third is Symbol and the number of symbol found is 10, the fourth is Personification and the number of personification found is 9, the fifth is Metaphor and the number of metaphor found is 7, the sixth is Synecdoce and the number of synecdoce found is 3, and the last is Paradox and the number of paradox found is 2. The total figure of speech is 108. Simile is the dominant type in Suhunan Situmorang's "sordam" Novel because the sentence in the novela comparison between two objects or objects of different types, but it has a point in common. This figurative language is a language style expression that compares explicitly with one thing to another with the use of conjunctions or comparators as a correlation function. Explicit comparisons of simile majors are interpreted as meaning that is directly compared to the words that become the parable. The conjunctive words used in the advanced simile sentence are: like, as, so, Appear, seem, and more and in the novel there are so many found this figurative type that the authors of this novel often use this magazine because Batak's culture tends to like to compare and it makes the words of each novel interesting and can be easily liked by readers.

#### 5. Conclusion

Finally the writer can draw the conclusion and give the suggestion that hopefully will be useful for other writer. After analyzing the types of figurative

languages in Suhunan Situmorang's 'Sordam' Novel, the writer would like to conclude that the type of figurative language in Suhunan Situmorang's 'Sordam' Novel are Simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, synecdoche, paradox and symbol, the most dominant type of figurative language in Suhunan Situmorang's 'Sordam' Novel is Simile with the total (53).

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