

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background of study, statement of problem, research objective, research significance, conceptual framework, previous study and definition of key terms.

### 1.1 Research Background

Every text has a communicative purpose, including words, phrases or sentences. In everyday language, people are always surrounded by words and languages that have a certain meaning. The transfer of meaning, image, or the quality of an expression to another phrase is called a metaphor. According to Keraf (15), metaphors are included in the style of figurative language. Figurative language is a poet's expression of his imagination. According to Perrine in Hasanah, figurative language is broadly defined as anyway of saying something other than ordinary way (Hasanah, 2018). Figurative language involves comparison or simile, metaphor, allegory, parable, fable, personification, allusion, eponym, synecdoche, metonym, antonomasia, hypalase, epitate, irony, synism, and sarcasm, satire, innuendo, antiphrasis, and paronomasia. From many figurative languages, the writer analyzed the specific that includes in figurative language is metaphor.

Metaphors have two meaning that are metaphor in narrow sense and broad sense. Metaphor in narrow sense was defined as a form of figurative language that

implicit without using like, as for, as etc for example source of science. While metaphor in broad sense is all kind broad sense is any kind of semantic extension figurative forms such as allegory, synecdoche, metonymy, simile, personification. According to Lakoff & Johnson (2003), our ordinary conceptual system, in terms of which we both think and act is fundamentally metaphorical in nature. And the big things all this time is master of metaphor. Metaphor cannot be separated by the other. It is a sign of genius.

Lakoff and Johnson state the use of metaphor is not only in the literary works but in a conceptual systems. Metaphors are presented in everyday life, such as times, circumstances, actions, causes and effects (Lakoff & Johnson, 4). Metaphoric language depends not only on the choice of words, but also on particular grammatical constructions. Metaphors are powerful tools that allow us to unleash our creativity, expose our inner worlds, and stand out in our writing and speech. Simply put, a metaphor is a figure of speech that states that one thing *is* another thing. It's used to make a comparison between two objects or concepts that aren't alike but have something in common. Metaphors commonly used, and often clinche metaphors reveal just how prevalent this figurative device is in our everyday lives, such: "Life is a highway", "Her eyes were diamonds", "The snow is a white blanket", and "She is an early bird".

The poem that the writer would like to analyze is literary works by William Blake. Blake is a uniquely imaginative and even eccentric figure which created in several mediums, such illuminates prints, paintings, sketches, poems, prose, and more. As a child Blake voraciously read the Bible and viewed its poetry,

prophecies, and parables as a worthy goal for his own art, ultimately producing his own holy works (Eric Wilson, *My Business Is to Create: Blakes Infinite Writing*. Iowa City, University of Iowa Press. 2011). Blake has a sense of the “interconnectedness of art and spirituality” which is prevalent throughout his work. Like many of his romantic contemporaries, Blake advocated for the importance of everyone’s unique thoughts extending even to interpretations of Christianity.

The selected poems by William Blake, explores many themes, symbols, and ideas. As of the romantic poems, Blake’s selected poem has several elements, which is every romantic poem must contain these certain elements as its identity. Imagination, nature, myth, emotion, spirituality, and individuality are the elements in a romantic poetry. Thus, the writer would like to find out the metaphor of spirituality in it. Describing the idea of spirituality, the meaning embodies various kinds of interpretation as it is believed as an important aspect of human life which fetches a significant function and power in the life process, therefore, everyone entails this aspect in order to develop a better life. Traditionally, spirituality referred to a religious process of reformation which aims to recover the original shape of man, oriented at “the image of God” as exemplified by the founders and sacred texts of the religions of the world.

The writer chooses William Blake’s poems because he is a famous Romantic Poet who wrote many poems which tells about spirituality. These poems are “*Ah Sunflower, I Heard an Angel Singing, Laughing Song, A Divine Image, Introduction to The Songs of Innocence, Earth’ Answer, A War Song of*

*Englismen, Mad Song, Now Art Has Lost its Mental Charms and The Divine Image*. He is one of the Romantic Poets in the Romantic Period because he spent his life in 1757 until 1827. The writer assumes that this poetry tells the readers about spirituality on his own experience and also the words used is always remembered when reading it, the writer are always amazed by this work. Blake's poetry always has beautiful metaphor which can always make he writer imagine and feel what the author feels. Besides, this poem has strong attraction for readers because the author used interesting expression that was able to make readers feel spirituality.

### **1.2 Statement of Problem**

Based on the background written above, the present writer tries to identify some questions related to the object. In short, the romantic analysis on William Blake's selected poems can be formulated as follows:

1. What forms of metaphor are found in William Blake's selected poems?
2. How do such metaphors represent spirituality in William Blake's selected poems?

### **1.3 Research Objective**

In this research, identification of spiritual of metaphor in William Blake's poems directly has several objectives, namely:

1. To find out the form of metaphor in William Blake's selected poems.
2. To analyze such metaphors that represent spirituality in William Blake's selected poems.

#### **1.4 Research Significance**

The significance of this research is to make explanation and give information for the students and who want to study same object, and also can be additional knowledge for everyone, especially to the student of English and Literature Departement. With this study it is expected that the results can be increase the knowledge about the forms of metaphor in William Blake's selected poems even though he is not one of then poets of Romantic Era.

Theoretically, the writer expects this research has far-reaching to help the other writer to analyze literary works. And also to help analyze metaphor as figure of speech in a poem. This research wants to give more information and knowledge about the forms of metaphor and such metaphors that represent spirituality in Blake`s poem. More precisely through the nature theory proposed by Lakoff and Johnson.

#### **1.5 Previous Study**

Previous studies are identified as all previous research that have discussed the topic in which the writer is wrestling with these topics in this research. Research on William Blake's poems has previously studied by Irnawati Tarihoran (2016), Sri Mulayati (2019), Mustafa Canli (2020), Braghwati Prasad (2020). However, there ias a very interesting difference between this study and the previous one, that they did not analyzed the metaphor of spirituality, and also the representation of William Blake's poetry. The selected poem of William Blake is full of meaning and history of spirituality in the romantic era. Where the concept of spirituality

will present another meaning that can make people aware of the greatness of God, who has created in this universe. There are some previous researches which are related with this research such as the topic, problem, methodology and theory.

The first research is a thesis by Ade Puadah (2017). The title is *An Analysis of a Metaphor in Edgar Allan Poe's Poems*. Ade focuses on type the metaphor in Edgar Allan Poe's poems. She uses qualitative content analysis approach to analyze this research. She aims to find the result of this research based on selected poems of Edgar Allan Poe. The results of this research were ten types of metaphor that found in Edgar Allan Poe's poems. The types of metaphor that found in this research are conceptual metaphor, ontological metaphor, orientational metaphor, synesthetic metaphor, standard metaphor, extended metaphor, animating metaphor, active metaphor, submerged metaphor, and implicit metaphor. The types of metaphor that often found in this research were ontological metaphor. The meaning of each metaphor is different depends on the types that used in the poem.

The second research is titled *An Analysis of Spiritual Symbols in William Blake's Poems* by Irnawati Tarihoran (2016). She focuses on analysis of spiritual symbols in the seven poems of William Blake, such as *The Angel*, *The Lamb*, *The Tyger*, *Hear the voice*, *A poison tree*, *The divine image*, and *Jerusalem*. The research uses hermeneutic theory and focuses on analyzing and interpreting data. The result shows that based on the seven poems of William Blake, the spiritual symbols are very obvious, where there are the elements of divinity that descended

to humans through the symbols. it consists of conventional symbols and personal symbols.

The third research, is a thesis by Habib Syarwani (2017). The title is *An Analysis of Metaphor in Emily Dickinson's*. This study focuses on metaphor analysis uses the theory of Lakoff and Johnson, which divide poetry into three types, structural metaphor, ontological metaphor, and orientational metaphor. The result shows that there are 36 metaphorical expressions divided into three types of metaphor. Based on the data, structural metaphor was dominant in The Poem of Emily Dickinson. Then Habib Syarwani concluded that the author mostly used implicit meaning of metaphor in her poems.

The fourth research is a thesis by Tutut Maria Ulfa (2016). The title is *The Metaphor Used in Anne Bradstreet's Poem*. She focuses on metaphor analysis and the goal of this research are to find out the kinds and meaning of metaphor in *To My Dear and Loving Husband, A Letter to Her Husband*, and for the restoration of *My Dear Husband* from a burning Ague, June 1661 by Anne Bradstreet using structural approach. The result shows that there are 27 lines in their poems by Anne Bradstreet that included metaphor. 17 lines belong to abstract to concrete metaphor, 18 lines belong to anthropomorphic metaphor and 2 lines belong to synaesthetic metaphor.

The last research is a thesis by Tasyaa Zulfadhlina (2021). The title is *Conceptual Metaphor in The Selected Poems of Atticus*. She focused of types of conceptual metaphor and describe the meanings of metaphorical expression. The

result shows that they are 21 metaphorical expressions, 5 classified into structural metaphor, 2 classified into orientational metaphor, 14 classified into ontological metaphor.

From those previous studies, the writer found that the gap between this study and them lies in the number of poems analyzed, the theory and approach that used. In addition, this study analyzes how metaphor is shown in the selected poems as well as how William Blake expresses spirituality in his poems.

### **1.6 Definition of Key Term**

There are some key terms that should be understood related to the research to avoid and missundersatnding to the readers.

#### **Spirituality:**

The term spirituality used in this study is identified as life-itself, the agency which sustains life, spirituality is found within the depths of subjective-life, our most valued experiences of what it is to be alive. In all its forms, spiritualities of life can be contrasted with those varieties of spirituality which operate from beyond whatever life in this world has to offer, thereby serving as spiritualities for life (Heelas, 2009).

#### **Metaphor:**

This study used the term metaphor to show a kind of analogy that compares two things directly, but in a short form. Metaphor as a comparison does not use

like and as (Lakoff, George; Johnsen, 2003).  
Example: in Indonesian language “*Dia adalah seorang buaya darat*”.

**Structural Metaphor:** The use of the term structural metaphor in this study refers to one concept which metaphorically structured within another terms (Lakoff, George; Johnsen, 2003).

**Oriental Metaphor:** This study used the term orientational metaphor to refer to organizing a whole system of concept which has relation with one another, and it also deals with spatial orientation such as up-down, in-out, etc (Lakoff, George; Johnsen, 2003).

**Ontological Metaphor:** The term ontological metaphor is used in this study as a metaphor that based on how human views events, activities, emotions, and ideas as something concrete, such as an object, substance, container, or person (Lakoff, George; Johnsen, 2003).