CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1   Background of the Study

One of the literary works that society loves the most is songs. Universally, songs are also a means of expressing personal or everyday feelings or experiences. For songwriters and singers, it is also a way for them to communicate or exchange emotions, narratives, and reflections with listeners. Many songs use figurative expressions, which play an essential role in proving the harmony of the lyrics. Songwriters and singers can create clear images and convey their emotions to listeners through metaphors, personification, similes, and other figurative expression devices. In this case, figurative expressions can also make songs seem more artistic in their creation.

Niki Zefanya is an Indonesian musician who began her music career in the United States. She joined the US agency 88rising and released her first single in 2017. Niki released her first album in 2020, and her second album, Nicole, was released two years later (Billboard, 2022). Her third album, Buzz, was released in 2024. Niki's second album has a different theme, although it still revolves around love. However, the song lyrics were written at a different time. Nicole's album was written by Niki when she was 17. She admitted that when she was a child, she was childish and wanted to look more attractive. The theme of Nicole's album itself is love, heartbreak, and nostalgia. Another thing about Buzz album is that she wrote it as an adult, at 23 years old. The lyrics of the song were written in a mature state, where this album explores the intensity of both directions, uncertainty and full

acceptance of hope. Themes of the album are love, relationships, and social problems (Tempo, 2024). This difference in age and life experience naturally shaped not only the quantity of figurative expressions that appear in the lyrics but also the themes each album emphasizes.

The figurative expressions in Niki's two albums reflect different phases of her journey. "Nicole" can be said to embody poetic energy and describes an overflow of personal emotions from personal experiences. Meanwhile, in "Buzz", signaling Niki's evolution into a mature and thoughtful artist (Lam, 2024). In this research, I compare figurative expressions in the albums "Nicole" and "Buzz" by focusing on frequences, variations, and meanings. This study fills the gap by comparing Nicole (2022) and Buzz (2024) not only in terms of frequency and variety of figurative expressions, but also how their meanings reflect two different phases of her journey. The novelty lies in connecting these figurative choices with Niki's personal growth, demonstrating that her lyrics mirror both her emotions and her journey.

1.2 Research Problem

To address the issues above, this research focuses on analyzing the types, meanings, and influencing factors of figurative expressions in Niki Zefanya's Nicole and Buzz albums.

1. What are the figurative expressions observed in NIKI's albums?

2. What are the actual factors that influence of figurative expression in Niki's album?

1.3   Objectives of the Study

Based on the research problems stated above, this study is aims to achieve the following objective.

1. To identify and compare the frequency of figurative expressions employed in NIKI's two albums.

2. To analyze the relationship between figurative expressions and the themes in NIKI's albums and to identify the factors, such as age, personal experience, and social environment, that influence the use of figurative language.

1.4   Previous Studies

Many previous studies have examined figurative expression in various works, including song albums. Arifah (2016) found that hyperbole was the most common type in five selected songs by John Legend. Isa et al. (2017), Taufik and Cahyati (2022), and Santika et al. (2023) studied Taylor Swift's albums as their research objects. They analyzed various albums, including "1989," "Folklore," and "Midnights." Both Isa et al. (2017) and Santika et al. (2023) identified eight types of figurative language, whereas Taufik and Cahyati (2022) identified nine types. Their research identified metaphors as the most commonly used figurative language. Gadis (2023), she identified nine types of figurative language in Troye Sivan's Blue Neighbourhood album. The result shows that metaphor and personification are the figurative expressions that the songwriter commonly uses. Furthermore, metonymy is the least used in the album.

Poetry has also served as a subject for analysis of figurative expression. Syafitri et al. (2018) examined Edgar Allan Poe's poems and found that personification and metaphor were the most frequently used types of figurative language. Sandy et al. (2021) identified nine types of figurative language in selected poems by Hardy, employing a qualitative descriptive approach. Syahrianda (2024) analyzed the poem "Mother and Poet" using similar qualitative methods and reported that metaphors and hyperboles were the dominant literary devices. This research identified seven types of figurative language, with hyperbole being the most prevalent, while simile and allusion were relatively uncommon.

Research has also focused on Niki Zefanya's music as a subject for figurative language analysis. Alfiyani (2021) investigated the types and meanings of figurative language in three selected tracks: "Lose", "Indigo", and "La La Lost You". The study identified 41 figurative expressions, with metaphor being the most prevalent, followed by hyperbole. Paradox and allegory were the least common. Kusuma et al. (2023) examined the "Moonchild" album and found eight types of figurative expression, with metaphor being the most frequently used.

This research will focus on examining the figurative expressions found in the second albums "Nicole" (2022) and "Buzz" (2024), as well as analyzing the differences and similarities in their use across the two albums. This research will also explore the factors influencing the use of figurative expressions between the two albums.

1.5   Scope of the Study

The limitation of this study is to analyzing what are the types of figurative expression can be found in two albums. To identifies the similarities and differences of figurative expression between Nicole (2022) and Buzz (2024) albums and the factors that influence the use of figurative expressions. This study applies Leech (1983) semantic theory as the main framework, since it provides a classification of figurative expressions. In addition, supporting theories there are Lakoff and Johnson (2004) theory and Halliday and Matthiesen (2004) to explain specific influencing factors of the use of figurative expressions.

1.6 Writing Organization

The researcher elaborates on the organization of this study in this section. This research consists of chapter I for the introduction, II for the theory and methods, III for the results and discussion, and IV for the conclusion.

CHAPTER 1 : INTRODUCTION

Chapter 1 provides the context for the research, where the researcher outlines the disparities and shortcomings in prior studies; the research problem, which details the research enquiries; the study's objectives, which clarify the intent of this research; the scope of the study, which confines the research to prevent the topic from becoming overly lengthy, and the writing structure to explain how the researcher arranged this research.

CHAPTER II :THEORY AND METHOD

Chapter 2 contains theoretical frameworks of figurative

language and nine types of figurative language. It also contains the type of research data, population, sample, sampling technique, method of collecting data, and method of analyzing data.

CHAPTER III   :RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In Chapter 3, the researcher presents the analyzed data results by providing a table of both albums and another two tables of each album interpret the meaning of the eight types that appear in both albums. Nicole and Buzz also explain factors that influence figurative expressions related to themes of each albums.

CHAPTER IV   :CONCLUSION

In the last chapter, the researcher concludes the results and discussions where the data has been analyzed, then writes goals and closure.