

THE CONNOTATIVE MEANING OF SONG LYRICS OF "SERENADE" AND "ENKKAULAH YANG MEREBut HATIKU" BY EBIET G ADE

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Abstract

Song lyrics are one of the ways to express the songwriter's feelings. In writing lyric, the writer has to choose the right choice of diction. The purpose of this research is to reveal the meaning behind the lyrics of "Serenade" and "Engkaulah yang Merebut Hatiku" sung or composed by Ebiet G. Ade. The data of this research are compiled using observation methods from observing and listening to those songs from Youtube. The data consist of the song lyric's fragments which contain symbolic meaning within the lyric. Subsequently, this research analyses the data using semantic theory. The research's finding reveals that "Serenade" song lyric's meaning is about revealing someone's feeling when he is falling in love at the first sight and that feeling makes him losing focus. The lyrics are also depicting the desperation because of the imbalance with someone he loves. Unlike "Serenade", "Engkaulah yang Merebut Hatiku" lyrics are depicting someone who is falling in love, and brave enough to reveal his love then developing into a serious committed relationship. From the "Serenade" song, there are so many lingual unit which have symbolic meaning such as *tenggelam, jatuh hati, badai, menyerah, hanyut di asmara, terlalu tinggi untuk kuraih, and terlalu jauh untuk kurengkuh*. From the "Engkaulah yang Merebut Hatiku" song, there are lingual unit such as *merebut hatiku, aku simpan, takut terluka, bunga di mimpiku, engkau tersenyum wangi melati, and kupersembahkan setangkai kembang*.

Keywords: meaning, song lyric, "Serenade", and "Engkaulah yang Merebut Hatiku"

1. Introduction

The lyrics of songs represent one of the ways in which authors express their inner thoughts. The songs "Serenade" and "Engkaulah yang Merebut Hatiku" composed by Ebiet G. Ade, are featured in the album Serenade. The collection of works in the Serenade album is a tribute to the author's wife [1]. Both songs share a common theme of love. When writing song lyrics, the author selects precise diction. Typically, authors create songs with varying tones and diction. The diction used in song lyrics carries its own meanings. Song lyrics serve as a medium through which authors express their inner feelings or thoughts. The lyrics of Ebiet G. Ade's songs have profound meanings and

leave a lasting impression on listeners. The author expresses emotions through song lyrics implicitly and explicitly [2]. The profound choice of words contains figurative language closely related to connotative meanings. Furthermore, connotative meanings can be defined as the implied meanings within a word or group of words, used by the author to attract and be understood by the audience. The aim of this study is to reveal the connotative meanings embedded in the lyrics of "Serenade" and "Engkaulah yang Merebut Hatiku" by Ebiet G. Ade.

Previous studies include "Analisis Makna Denotasi dan Konotasi Pada Lirik Lagu 'Celengan Rindu' Karya Fiersa Besari." [2], "The Meaning of Connotations with Natural Symbols in Song Lyrics of "Api dan Lautan", "Bahtera Cinta", and "Senandung Rindu" by Rhoma Irama" [3], "Analysis Denotative and Connotative Meaning on Song Lyrics by Iwan Fals" [4], "Analisis Makna Konotasi dalam Lirik Lagu Bertaut Karya Nadin Amizah" [5], "Makna Konotatif Lagu Iwan Fals Album Sarjana Muda." [6], and "Analisis Makna Denotasi dan Konotasi Lirik Lagu "Gajah" Karya Muhammad Tulus" [7]. In contrast to existing research, this study focuses on the lyrics of "Serenade" and "Engkaulah yang Merebut Hatiku" by Ebiet G. Ade as the analytical subjects.

2. Research Methods

The research steps involve three stages: data collection, data analysis, and presentation of the data analysis results. Data for this study was obtained through the observation method, specifically by listening to the lyrics of the songs "Serenade" and "Engkaulah yang Merebut Hatiku" by Ebiet G. Ade on YouTube, and then transcribing them into written text in the form of song lyrics. Subsequently, the data was analyzed using semantic theory. The results of the data analysis are presented informally, using everyday language.

3. Result and Analysis

Based on the research findings, the connotative meanings reflected in the sentence structures used in the lyrics of "Serenade" and "Engkaulah yang Merebut Hatiku" by Ebiet G. Ade can be summarized as follows.

3.1 Analysis of Connotative Meaning in the Song "Serenade" by Ebiet G. Ade

Below is the connotative meaning analysis of the song "Serenade" by Ebiet G. Ade, explained verse by verse:

<i>Apakah ini nyata</i>	'is this real'
<i>Atau hanya bayangan</i>	'or just a shadow'
<i>Ketika kau turun menemuiku</i>	'when you come down to meet me'

The lyrics of this song begin with a question asking *apakah ini nyata atau hanya bayangan*. In this verse, antonyms are used for the words *nyata* and *bayangan*. The word *nyata* means 'truly existing' and *bayangan* means 'something that appears to be there but

actually is not' [8]. The word *bayangan* emphasizes the narrator's doubt about what he is experiencing, seeing the girl coming down to meet him. This doubt implies that the narrator never expected the person he loves to come and meet him.

Kau kibaskan basah rambutmu 'you shake off your wet hair'
Engkaulah gadis yang hadir di mimpiku 'you are the girl who appears in my dreams'
Lidahku kelu tercekak 'my tongue is tied, choked up'

This stanza conveys that the girl met is the one whom the narrator has dreamed of, appearing in his dreams. The word *kibaskan* means 'to move as if waving' [8]. This indicates the captivating gracefulness of the girl. In the following sentence, the word *kelu* means 'unable to speak suddenly due to being very surprised' [8]. Therefore, this stanza depicts a very memorable first encounter between the narrator and the girl. In that meeting, the narrator is suddenly awkward and speechless due to being deeply captivated.

Kuhela nafas dalam 'i draw in a breath'
Mengatur debar jantungku 'trying to steady my heartbeat'
Hanya sepeinggal kata yang kutangkap 'only bits of word i grasp'
Ketika kau bicara panjang 'when you speak at length'
Aku hanyut di arus asmara 'i drift in the current of romance'
Rasanya aku tenggelam 'i feels like i'm drowning'

In this stanza, the phrase *kuhela nafas dalam/mengatur debar jantungku* describes the nervous condition of the narrator meeting his beloved girl. *Hanya sepeinggal kata yang kutangkap/ketika kau bicara panjang* indicating that during this meeting, the narrator is so captivated by the girl that he is not focused on what she is saying. This is emphasized in the next sentence *aku hanyut di arus asmara/rasanya aku tenggelam* indicating that the narrator can no longer control his feelings of love and is 'drowning' in his own emotions.

Semakin jauh bayang senyummu 'The further away your smile seems'
Tak mampu kubuang 'I can't discard it'
Aku jatuh hati 'I am falling in love'
Saat pertama menatapmu 'From the moment I first saw you'

This stanza describes that the narrator cannot forget the smile of his lover even though they are no longer together. This is evident in the line *Semakin jauh bayang senyummu/tak mampu kubuang*. In this stanza, the narrator also expresses deep feelings of love at first sight. This is conveyed in the line *Aku jatuh hati/saat pertama menatapmu*

Mungkinkah samudra 'Could the ocean'
Dapat menolong aku 'Help me'
Mengungkapkan rasa 'Express the feelings'
Cintaku yang membara 'Of my burning love'
Tetapi badai mengingatkanku 'But the storm reminds me'
Untuk menyerah 'To give up'
Sebab engkau terlalu tinggi untuk kuraih 'Because you are too high for me to reach'

Sebab engkau terlalu jauh untuk kurengkuh 'Because you are too far for me to embrace'
 This stanza is repeated twice because it holds significant meaning in the song "Serenade." It depicts the narrator's hesitation to express his feelings of love to his beloved, hence he seeks help from the ocean, symbolizing the vast power of nature. This is expressed in the line *Mungkinkah samudra/dapat menolong aku/mengungkapkan rasa/cintaku yang membara*. In the following line *tetapi badai mengingatkanku/untuk menyerah*, the word *badai* means obstacles to expressing his love. The phrase *sebab engkau terlalu tinggi untuk kuraih/sebab engkau terlalu jauh untuk kurengkuh* indicating the narrator's feelings of inadequacy towards his beloved, whom he considers out of his league.

3.2 Analysis of Connotative Meaning in the Song "Engkaulah yang Merebut Hatiku" by Ebiet G. Ade

Below is the connotative meaning analysis of the song "Engkaulah yang Merebut Hatiku" by Ebiet G. Ade explained verse by verse:

<i>Engkaulah satu-satunya</i>	'You are the only one'
<i>Yang merebut hatiku</i>	'Who captures my heart'
<i>Meskipun aku tak berani</i>	'Though I dare not'
<i>Karena aku takut terluka</i>	'For fear of getting hurt'

In this stanza, the phrase *merebut hati* is used. The word *merebut* means 'to take something forcefully' [8]. In this context, *merebut hati* signifies that the narrator is captivated by the girl. This is evident in the line *engkaulah satu-satunya/ yang merebut hatiku*. In the following line *meskipun aku tak berani/karena aku takut terluka* the narrator expresses that he does not dare to express his love because he fears rejection, which could ultimately hurt him.

<i>Aku ingin sibakkan rambutmu</i>	'I want to run my fingers through your hair'
<i>Dan kubisikkan cinta</i>	'And whisper my love'
<i>Terpaksa hanya aku simpan</i>	'But reluctantly I keep it'
<i>Menjadi bunga di mimpiku</i>	'As a flower in my dreams'

In this stanza, the narrator wants to express his love, but for some reason, his feelings remain unspoken. The next line states *terpaksa hanya aku simpan/ menjadi bunga di mimpiku*. The word *simpan* means 'kept' or 'unexpressed'. *Bunga di mimpiku* symbolizing feelings of love that only exist in fantasies.

<i>Engkau tersenyum wangi melati</i>	'You smile, fragrant like jasmine'
<i>Aku pun tergetar inikah pertanda</i>	'I tremble, is this a sign?'
<i>Engkau tertawa aku percaya</i>	'You laugh, I believe'
<i>Tuhan mengirimkan engkau utukku</i>	'That God sent you to me'

This verse of the song depicts the narrator being captivated by the girl's smile, which is seen as a sign of interest or love. This is evident in the line *Engkau tersenyum wangi*

melati/Aku pun tergetar inikah pertanda. Senyuman wangi melati refers to 'a captivating smile'. *Tergetar* in the lyrics means the narrator feels there is a sign. The next line *Engkau tertawa aku percaya/Tuhan mengirimkan engkau untukku* means the narrator is sure the girl is destined to be with her.

<i>Aku beranikan diri</i>	'I gather courage'
<i>Kupersembahkan setangkai kembang</i>	'I offer you a bouquet of flowers'
<i>Aku yakin takdir menolongku</i>	'I believe destiny is helping me'
<i>Dan engkau jadi kekasihku</i>	'And you become my lover'

In this stanza, there is a positive and romantic connotation. The narrator begins to gather courage to express his love. *Setangkai kembang* in the line *Kupersembahkan setangkai kembang* symbolizing sincere love given to his beloved girl. The next line *Aku yakin takdir menolongku/dan engkau jadi kekasihku* means the narrator is confident that fate is on his side and has brought him together with his beloved girl to be his life partner.

<i>Engkaulah satu – satunya</i>	'You are the only one'
<i>Yang merebut hatiku</i>	'Who captures my heart'
<i>Dan kini engkau satu – satunya</i>	'And now you are the only one'
<i>Yang jadi kekasihku</i>	'Who is my lover'

In this stanza, *Engkaulah satu-satunya/yang merebut hatiku* signifies that the narrator is only attracted to his one and only desired girl. This is reinforced in the following line *dan kini engkau satu-satunya/yang jadi kekasihku* indicating that now she is the only one who is his lover. Therefore, this stanza depicts an unshakeable bond of love that develops into a committed relationship.

The linguistic units that contain connotative meanings in the two song lyrics above are easily understood by the listener. As in other song lyrics, *merebut hati* in "Engkaulah yang Merebut Hatiku" means 'to captivate someone.' However, in the lyrics of "Serenade," the captivated person is symbolized by the linguistic unit *hanyut di arus asmara*. Additionally, the word *tenggelam* in the lyrics symbolizes the speaker's difficulty or helplessness in expressing their love.

4. Conclusion

The meaning of the lyrics of the song "Serenade" expresses someone's feelings of falling in love at first sight, which makes them lose focus. The lyrics also depict the author's despair due to the inequality between the author and the person they love. In contrast, the lyrics of the song "Engkaulah yang Merebut Hatiku" express the author's feelings of falling in love. The author dares to express their feelings and eventually develops into a committed relationship. Connotative linguistic units used in the lyrics of "Serenade" include: *tenggelam, jatuh hati, badai, menyerah, hanyut di arus asmara, terlalu tinggi*

untuk kuraih, and terlalu jauh untuk kurengkuh. Meanwhile, connotative linguistic units used in the lyrics of "Engkaulah yang Merebut Hatiku" include: merebut hatiku, aku simpan, takut terluka, bunga di mimpiku, engkau tersenyum wangi melati, and kupersembahkan setangkai kembang.

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