

FIGURATIVE SPEECH IN CALUM SCOTT'S SONG

"YOU ARE THE REASON"

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Abstract: Figure of speech is an expression used for literacy needs both verbally and in writing. This study aims to identify the types of figurative speech and analyze the meaning of figurative speech found in the song lyric "You Are The Reason" by Calum Scott. This research uses descriptive-qualitative research approach. The research data are taken from Calum Scott's song You Are The Reason. The analysis used Kennedy's figurative speech theory. From the analysis of the song lyrics, the researcher identified 5 types of figurative speech with total of 8 data and meaning. The types of figurative speech are metaphor 2 data, similes 2 data, personification 1 data, hyperbole 1 data, and symbolism 2 data. The most dominant figurative speech found in this study are metaphor, similes, and symbolism. In conclusion, Calum Scott's "You Are the Reason" stands out for its effective use of figurative speech to convey deep emotional experiences. By applying Kennedy's figurative speech theory, we could learn how Scott's song transforms into a powerful narrative that deeply resonates with listeners, illustrating the enduring and universal nature of love.

Keywords: Figurative Speech, Calum Scott Song, Lyrics

INTRODUCTION

Language serves as a means of expressing thoughts with the purpose of communicating something to others. It plays a vital role in conveying information, interacting, expressing identity, and indicating social status (Chaer & Agustina, 1995). Language style, on the other hand, refers to how words are arranged to convey ideas, emotions, and experiences in a way that influences and appeals to the audience. It

reflects the writer's personality and enhances the beauty of works like songs. According to Ducrot and Todorov (1993), language style involves choosing different ways to express the same message depending on the context.

According to Rita Mae Brwon (2011), "she stated that language was the road map of a culture. English is a key global language used for international communication. According to (Liando, 2012) English is one of the many languages on earth. Language plays a vital role in human life by enabling the sharing of thoughts, knowledge, and emotions through speech and writing. As social beings, humans rely on communication, making language essential. Understanding language helps us better interpret others' messages and intentions, which is crucial for functioning in society.

Songs are a form of literature that communicate messages through lyrics and music. They are created to entertain and express the writer's emotions. As a creative expression, songs convey feelings and ideas using a specific language style to connect with listeners. According to Keraf (2010:115–129), language style can be analyzed from various perspectives. Language style can be examined in terms of both linguistic and non-linguistic elements. This study centers on the language aspect that differentiates language style through word choices, sentence structure, and based on direct and indirect meaning or figure of speech. As a result, the writer directs their attention to the use of figure of speech.

Emanuel (1842) A figure of speech, or rhetorical figure, is a word or phrase that intentionally deviates from ordinary language use to produce a rhetorical effect. Figures of speech are commonly divided into two categories: schemes, which alter the normal arrangement of words, and tropes, which involve using words in a way that conveys a meaning different from their usual definition. Perrine (1974) figurative speech as an essential literary tool that not only decorates language but also deepens meaning, evokes emotion, and sharpens understanding. For him, the use of figurative language is central to how poetry (and by extension, all literature) communicates complex human experiences.

Figures of speech in song lyrics can be varied and complex, depending on the listener's point of view and experience. They enhance the beauty of language and are commonly used in various literary forms like songs and poetry. Types include personification, hyperbole, metaphor, assonance, and idiom. Authors use these to make lyrics more engaging and expressive, both in spoken and written forms.

Calum Scott's emotional delivery and personal storytelling in his music challenge listeners, making his experiences relatable through his songwriting. His mix of pop and soft rock has solidified his standing in the music industry. Language is crucial for human interaction, serving social and emotional needs. Literature can be presented in various forms, including songs, and understanding song lyrics helps in grasping their meaning and purpose. The use of figurative language in "You Are The Reason" aids in understanding the deeper message and emotions intended by the singer. This research focuses on examining the figurative language and meanings in the song.

Learning to understand figurative speech in songs is important for expressing deeper meanings. Figurative language allows poets to communicate indirectly, making their work more engaging. The purpose of figurative speech is to convey meaning while creating an aesthetic experience in writing and music. Songs often contain moral messages wrapped in beautifully crafted lyrics with profound meanings. By analyzing figurative speech in lyrics, we can grasp what the song's creator intends to express, enhancing our understanding of ourselves and the world through music. The researcher will focus on the figurative speech in Calum Scott's song "You Are The Reason. "

The researcher is interested in this study because analyzing song lyrics helps uncover the hidden meanings within them. "You Are The Reason" was chosen due to common challenges in understanding its figurative speech. The research questions include identifying the types of figurative speech in "You Are The Reason" and determining their meanings. The study aims to identify and analyze the figurative speech in the song's lyrics. The focus will be specifically on "You Are The Reason" by Calum Scott. The researcher hopes the findings will enhance understanding of figurative speech among English Literature students and aid future research in this area.

RESEARCH METHOD

In this study, the researcher employed a descriptive-qualitative research method. According to Moleong (2019:6), qualitative research produces descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from the subjects being observed. The purpose of this research is to describe the types of figurative language and their meanings found in the lyrics of *You Are The Reason* by Calum Scott.

Data Collection

The data of this research were obtained from the song lyrics entitled “You are The Reason” by Calum Scott. The techniques that researchers use in collecting data are:

1. Selecting The Calum Scott Song You Are The Reason and download.
2. Listening to Calum Scott’s Song You Are The Reason repeatedly.
3. Looking for the lyrics To Calum Scott’s Song You Are The Reason on the Internet.
4. Identifying the figurative speech and meaning contained in Calum Scott’s Song You Are The Reason.

Data Analysis

Miles and Huberman (2014) state that qualitative data analysis is an ongoing process until no new information emerges, indicating data saturation. Their method includes four stages: Data Presentation – Organizing data into categories using text, visuals, or tables. The researcher applied this to the song *You Are The Reason*. Data Reduction – Simplifying and refining data by removing irrelevant parts and adding missing information. The lyrics were analyzed line by line to identify figurative language. Data Verification – Interpreting the meaning behind the data, not just its literal content. The researcher identified 2 metaphors, 2 similes, 1 personification, 1 hyperbole, and 2 instances of symbolism. Drawing Conclusions – Summarizing findings clearly and ensuring they align with the research objectives are discussed below.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This part showed the data analysis of the figurative speech and meaning of the song lyric “You Are The Reason” By Calum Scott. The Researcher used Miles and

Huberman's theory analyze the data consisting of data display, data reduction, data interpretation, and drawing conclusion, with using Kennedy's figurative speech theory as our analytical lens. Kennedy's theory posits that figurative language is essential in literature and music as it enhances meaning, evokes emotions, and provides a deeper understanding of the text. This theory highlights the role of metaphors, similes, personification, hyperbole, and symbolism in transforming simple statements into rich, emotionally charged expressions. By applying Kennedy's theory to the lyrics of "You Are the Reason," we will uncover how these figurative elements contribute to the song's emotional depth and resonance.

Data Display

Subsequent to implementing the aforementioned data collection methods, the researcher proceeded to analyze the acquired data. The researcher identified metaphor, similes, personification, hyperbole and symbolism within the lyrics of songs.

Data Reduction

In this passage, the researcher analyzes the lyrics using the both listening and reading methods in order to concise and identify specific sentences from the song You Are The Reason for analyzes metaphor, similes, personification, hyperbole and symbolism. The outcomes will be showcased in the table below.

•What kinds of figurative speech found in the song lyrics "You Are The Reason" Calum Scott?

No	Song Lyrics	Met	Sim	Pers	Hyp	Sym
1	There goes my heart beating, cause you are the reason	•				
2	And if I could turn back the clock, I'd make sure the light defeated the dark	•				
3	I'd climb every mountain and swim every ocean , just to be with you and fix what I've broken		•			
4	I'd spend every hour of every day keeping you safe		•			

5	There goes my hands shaking, and you are the reason	•
6	I'd climb every mountain and swim every ocean, just to be with you	•
7	There goes my heart beating, cause you are the reason	•
8	And if I could turn back the clock, I'd make sure the light defeated the dark	•

Table notes

Met : Metaphor

Sim : Similes

Pers : Personification

Hyp : Hyperbole

Sym : Symbolism

• What is the meaning of figurative speech found in the song lyrics "You Are The Reason" Calum Scott?

Finding

1. Metaphor

Metaphor plays a crucial role in the song, allowing the songwriter to convey complex emotions and ideas through implicit comparisons. According to Kennedy, metaphors serve as a bridge between the familiar and the unfamiliar, enabling listeners to grasp abstract concepts more easily. In "You Are the Reason," metaphors are used to express the profound impact of the beloved on the narrator's life.

One of the most poignant metaphors is:

"There goes my heart beating, 'cause you are the reason."

In this line, the metaphor "you are the reason" equates the beloved with the cause of the narrator's heart beating. This metaphor suggests that the beloved is essential to the narrator's very existence, emphasizing the depth of their emotional

connection. Kennedy's theory elucidates that such metaphors create a vivid image in the listener's mind, making the emotion more palpable.

Another metaphor in the song is:

"And if I could turn back the clock, I'd make sure the light defeated the dark."

Here, "light" and "dark" are metaphors for positive and negative experiences or emotions. The narrator's desire to turn back time and ensure that "light defeated the dark" symbolizes a wish to change past events to favor positive outcomes. Kennedy's theory explains that metaphors like these enable listeners to connect with the narrator's regret and longing on a deeper level.

2. Similes

Similes, which compare two different things using "like" or "as," are employed in the song to create striking imagery and enhance emotional expression. Kennedy asserts that similes make abstract ideas more tangible by drawing direct comparisons to familiar experiences. In "You Are the Reason," similes help convey the narrator's dedication and love.

The chorus provides an implicit simile:

"I'd climb every mountain and swim every ocean, just to be with you and fix what I've broken."

While the word "like" is not explicitly used, the comparison is evident. The imagery of climbing mountains and swimming oceans illustrates the narrator's willingness to overcome immense challenges to be with the beloved. Kennedy's theory posits that such similes evoke a sense of determination and sacrifice, making the listener feel the intensity of the narrator's commitment.

Another simile appears in:

"I'd spend every hour of every day keeping you safe."

Here, the comparison of dedicating every hour of every day to ensuring the beloved's safety underscores the narrator's unwavering devotion. According to Kennedy, similes like this one provide clarity and emphasis, helping listeners visualize the extent of the narrator's love and protection.

3. Personification

Personification, which attributes human characteristics to non-human entities, is used in the song to convey the physical and emotional impact of the beloved on the narrator. Kennedy's theory highlights that personification makes emotions and abstract ideas more relatable by giving them human traits.

An example of personification is found in the line:

"There goes my hands shaking, and you are the reason."

In this instance, the narrator's hands are described as "shaking" due to the presence of the beloved. This personification illustrates the physical manifestation of the narrator's emotions, making the feeling of nervousness and excitement more relatable to the listener. According to Kennedy, personification helps listeners connect with the song on a personal level by humanizing the emotions described.

4. Hyperbole

Hyperbole, or exaggerated statements not meant to be taken literally, is employed in the song to emphasize the narrator's emotions and actions. Kennedy's theory explains that hyperbole amplifies the intensity of the message, creating a dramatic effect that resonates with the audience.

One of the most prominent examples of hyperbole is:

"I'd climb every mountain and swim every ocean, just to be with you."

The exaggeration of climbing every mountain and swimming every ocean highlights the extreme lengths the narrator is willing to go to be with the beloved. This hyperbolic statement underscores the narrator's desperation and passion, making their emotions feel larger-than-life. Kennedy's theory suggests that hyperbole can make emotions more impactful, leaving a lasting impression on the listener.

5. Symbolism

Symbolism is a key aspect of the song's lyrical composition, with various symbols representing broader themes and emotions. According to Kennedy, symbolism allows for multiple layers of meaning, enriching the text and engaging the audience on a deeper level.

A central symbol in the song is the "heart," mentioned in the line:

"There goes my heart beating, 'cause you are the reason."

The "heart" symbolizes love and life, indicating that the beloved is the source of the narrator's emotional and existential vitality. This symbol reinforces the theme of love as a driving force in the narrator's life, aligning with Kennedy's view that symbolism adds depth and complexity to the text.

Another symbol is the "clock" in the line:

"And if I could turn back the clock, I'd make sure the light defeated the dark."

The "clock" symbolizes time and the desire to change the past. This symbol reflects the narrator's regret and longing for a different outcome, adding an element of wistfulness to the song. According to Kennedy, symbols like these invite listeners to explore the deeper meanings behind the lyrics, enhancing their engagement with the song.

Data Interpretation

After analyzing the data reduction and data display, the researcher found eight figurative speech data used in the song lyric "You Are The Reason", namely metaphor, similes, personification, hyperbole and symbolism. The most dominant figurative speech found in this study is metaphor, similes, and symbolism and researcher will sort the most dominant data to the least data.

Metaphor is a variety of analogy that compares two things directly, but in a short pattern. It means that the subject and object have the same attributes, and the writer use them to compare them to each other. For the example: the lyric *"There goes my heart beating, cause you are the reason."* In this line, the metaphor "you are the reason" equates the beloved with the cause of the narrator's heart beating. This metaphor suggests that the beloved is essential to the narrator's very existence, emphasizing the depth of their emotional connection.

Similes is a compare two different things using "like" or "as," are employed in the song to create striking imagery and enhance emotional expression. *"I'd climb every mountain and swim every ocean, just to be with you and fix what I've broken"*. While

the word "like" is not explicitly used, the comparison is evident. The imagery of climbing mountains and swimming oceans illustrates the narrator's willingness to overcome immense challenges to be with the beloved.

Symbolism is a key aspect of the song's lyrical composition, with various symbols representing broader themes and emotions. *"There goes my heart beating, 'cause you are the reason."* The "heart" symbolizes love and life, indicating that the beloved is the source of the narrator's emotional and existential vitality.

◀ The meaning, story behind and the reason for the song "You Are The Reason" according to Calum Scott is, the reason Calum Scott made the song "You Are The Reason" he was inspired by his grandmother, Calum Scott explained: his grandmother is a figure who raised him until he became what he is now, and Calum Scott revealed that he really missed his grandmother because his grandmother had died. So, in this song stories about his grandmother.

◀ Calum Scott also said that the song "You Are The Reason" can be dedicated to family, friends and the person who your loved.

◀ Calum Scott also shared the meaning of the song "You Are The Reason" on duet with Leona Lewis, the song "You Are The Reason" is no longer about Calum Scott's grandmother but about people who want to marry their partner.

For the meaning, the researcher's focus was on the meaning of the lyrics of the second song vs Leon Lewis.

◀ In my opinion the meaning of this song is about the regret of a person who wants to get back together with his partner, he feels hopeless after a breakup. He hopes to turn back time and fix all his mistakes and he is even willing to do various kinds of ways so that he can be together again with his lover.

Conclusion

Based on the research findings from analysis the figurative speech in Calum Scott's song "You Are The Reason" the researcher found 5 kinds of figurative speech, they are metaphor, similes, personification, hyperbole, symbolism, and the researcher found 8 data there are, metaphor 2 data, similes 2 data, personification 1 data, hyperbole 1 data, symbolism 2 data. The most dominant figurative speech found in this study is metaphor, similes, and symbolism.

Metaphor *"There goes my heart beating, 'cause you are the reason."* In this lyric, the metaphor "you are the reason" equates the beloved with the cause of the narrator's heart beating. This metaphor suggests that the beloved is essential to the narrator's very existence, emphasizing the depth of their emotional connection. *"And if I could turn back the clock, I'd make sure the light defeated the dark."* Here, "light" and "dark" are metaphors for positive and negative experiences or emotions. The narrator's desire to turn back time and ensure that "light defeated the dark" symbolizes a wish to change past events to favor positive outcomes. Simile *"I'd climb every mountain and swim every ocean, just to be with you and fix what I've broken."* While the word "like" is not explicitly used, the comparison is evident. The imagery of climbing mountains and swimming oceans illustrates the narrator's willingness to overcome immense challenges to be with the beloved. *"I'd spend every hour of every day keeping you safe."* Here, the comparison of dedicating every hour of every day to ensuring the beloved's safety underscores the narrator's unwavering devotion. Personification *"There goes my hands shaking, and you are the reason."* In this instance, the narrator's hands are described as "shaking" due to the presence of the beloved. This personification illustrates the physical manifestation of the narrator's emotions, making the feeling of nervousness and excitement more relatable to the listener. Hyperbole *"I'd climb every mountain and swim every ocean, just to be with you."* The exaggeration of climbing every mountain and swimming every ocean highlights the extreme lengths the narrator is willing to go to be with the beloved. This hyperbolic statement underscores the narrator's

desperation and passion, making their emotions feel larger-than-life. Symbolism *"There goes my heart beating, 'cause you are the reason."* The "heart" symbolizes love and life, indicating that the beloved is the source of the narrator's emotional and existential vitality. This symbol reinforces the theme of love as a driving force in the narrator's life. *"And if I could turn back the clock, I'd make sure the light defeated the dark."* The "clock" symbolizes time and the desire to change the past. This symbol reflects the narrator's regret and longing for a different outcome, adding an element of wistfulness to the song.

In conclusion, Calum Scott's "You Are the Reason" stands out for its effective use of figurative speech to convey deep emotional experiences. Through metaphors like the heart beating because of the beloved, the song illustrates how love can be a life-sustaining force. The use of hyperbole, as seen in promises to climb mountains and swim oceans, dramatizes the speaker's devotion and highlights the extremes of his feelings. Similes and vivid imagery, such as comparing efforts to overcoming monumental natural obstacles, help listeners visualize the magnitude of the speaker's love and longing. Personification, like the mind racing, emphasizes the profound impact of the beloved on the speaker's mental state.

Kennedy's theory underscores the importance of these figurative elements in making abstract emotions concrete and relatable. The repetitive use of phrases creates a rhythmic emphasis on loss and yearning, drawing listeners into the speaker's emotional turmoil. This intricate use of language not only enhances the poetic quality of the lyrics but also amplifies the emotional resonance, making "You Are the Reason" a compelling exploration of love, loss, and the desire to repair and reconnect. By applying Kennedy's figurative speech theory, we see how Scott's song transforms into a powerful narrative that deeply resonates with listeners, illustrating the enduring and universal nature of love.

Future research could expand on the analysis of figurative speech in popular music by examining other contemporary songs to understand how modern artists use language to convey complex emotions and themes. Conducting comparative analyses

between "You Are the Reason" and other love ballads by different artists or from different eras can reveal how the use of metaphors, similes, personification, hyperbole, and symbolism has evolved over time and across genres. Investigating the impact of figurative speech on listeners' emotional responses and engagement with the song through surveys or experimental studies could measure how language affects audience interpretation and connection with the song's themes. Incorporating insights from psychology, particularly emotional and cognitive psychology, could deepen the understanding of how figurative speech influences emotional responses, providing a more comprehensive analysis of the power of language in music.

Educationally, the findings from this analysis can be used to teach students about the use of figurative language, making abstract literary concepts more tangible and accessible through relatable and engaging music. Applying Kennedy's figurative speech theory to other forms of media, such as film or literature, could test its versatility and relevance, potentially leading to the development of a more robust theoretical framework. Additionally, examining how figurative speech is used in love songs across different cultures can uncover universal themes and culturally specific expressions of love, enriching the understanding of figurative language in diverse contexts. Finally, utilizing digital tools and software to analyze large datasets of song lyrics for figurative speech patterns can provide a broader and more systematic understanding of how figurative language is employed across a wide array of songs and genres. By pursuing these suggestions, researchers can deepen their understanding of figurative speech in music and its broader implications in artistic expression and audience reception.

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