

## **ANALYSIS ON THE LANGUAGE STYLES OF SONG LYRICS “NOVEMBER RAIN” IN THE ALBUM OF GUNS N’ ROSES**

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### **Abstrak**

Peneliti tertarik dengan lirik lagu “November Rain” karena maknanya berkaitan dengan kehidupan nyata. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan gaya bahasa dan mengetahui makna kandungan lagu dari lirik lagu “November Rain” pada album Guns N’ Roses. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukan bahwa peneliti telah ditemukan 45% gaya bahasa perbandingan dengan jenis metafora dan personifikasi. Gaya bahasa pertentangan 27% dengan jenis antithesis, litotes, dan paradox. Gaya bahasa perulangan 27% dengan jenis anaphora dan epistrophe. Penelitian ini lebih banyak ditemukan pada gaya bahasa perbandingan dengan jenis metafora dan personifikasi.

**Kata Kunci:** *Gaya bahasa, November rain, Guns N’ Roses,  
Makna gaya bahasa*

### **Abstract**

Researcher is interested in the lyrics of “November Rain” because the meaning relates to real life. This research aims to describe the style of language and understand the meaning of the lyrics of “November Rain” from the Guns N’ Roses album. This research uses a qualitative descriptive method. The results of this research indicate that researcher found 45% of comparative language styles, including metaphors and personification. Contradictory language style accounted for 27%, including antithesis, litotes, and paradox. Repetition language style accounted for 27%, including anaphora and epistrophe. This research found a higher prevalence of comparative language styles, particularly metaphors and personification.

**Keywords:** *language styles, November rain, Guns N’ Roses,  
Meaning of language style*

## INTRODUCTION

A song is a work of art that combines musical elements and lyrics to convey a message, emotion, or story. According to Dwivitasari (2019:111), the lyrics of a song must also be language that can provide aesthetic enjoyment for its listeners. Thus, song lyrics are words that convey meaning through a message and provide beautiful enjoyment for both readers and listeners. Lyrics play a crucial role as a medium for conveying meaning, carefully crafted to harmonize with the melody to make the lyrics more beautiful, engaging, and memorable. Songwriters often employ literary styles to achieve this.

Language style is a form of expression through ideas that can be conveyed through thoughts and feelings, both verbally and in writing. The style of language in this research is any form of expression conveyed by the author through the delivery of messages using beautiful, decorative words that have a specific purpose and meaning within the literary work. According to Lalanissa (2017:2), style of language is one of the supporting elements in a literary work and is closely related to other elements. Every writer has different ideas when writing.

The focus of this research is an analysis of the lyrics of the song "November Rain" from the Guns N' Roses album. Guns N' Roses is a legendary American rock band formed in Los Angeles, which created "November Rain" as one of its most iconic and popular songs, with lyrics that still relate to real life.

This research aims to describe the types of language styles found in the lyrics of the song November Rain from the Guns N' Roses album and to identify the messages contained in the lyrics of November Rain from the Guns N' Roses album. The researcher chose this song because he was interested in the lyrics of November Rain, which have a touching meaning and relate to life.

Language style is a way of expressing creative ideas in song lyrics. Style in song lyrics can add a lot of variety that has meaningful significance. According to Rama (2013:439), there are four types of language style: emphasis, comparison, contrast, and satire. Meanwhile, according to Tarigan (2013:5-6), language style is divided into four categories: comparative language style, contrasting language style, connecting language style, and repetitive language style.

In this research, the researcher focused only on four types of language style namely, comparative language style, contradictory language style, linking language style, and repetition language style. Through language styles, a song can become more meaningful and can touch the heart, evoke memories, and even convey social criticism or life values.

## RESEARCH METHOD

Qualitative descriptive research was used in this research. Qualitative descriptive exists a research method that collects qualitative data and then describes it through descriptive means. Sugiyono (2020:7) conveys that qualitative descriptive research is the collection of data in the form of words or images, so it does not emphasize numbers. Therefore, this research uses qualitative descriptive research, which means describing an event that has occurred to understand the message being conveyed. The research object in this research uses song lyrics found in the Guns N' Roses album.

Researcher describes the types of language styles found in Guns N' Roses lyrics. Based on the above description, the research design uses content analysis, which is a research method that explores

information in depth. As stated by Stemler (2001:1), content analysis is any technique used to draw objective and systematic conclusions to identify the characteristics of a message. Thus, content analysis involves identifying and understanding the characteristics of the context.

This research instrument uses observational field notes. According to Morissan (2017:143), observation is a daily human activity that uses the five senses as its main tools. Meanwhile, researcher use linguistic context to understand the meaning contained in song lyrics. Language context is the language within a word or text that can help readers understand the content of what they are reading. Thus, this research uses research instruments that serve as measuring tools during data collection, and researcher use these instruments by observing the research being studied through the lyrics of Guns N' Roses songs.

The researcher employed methods for collecting qualitative data. Sekaran and Bougie (2016:111) emphasize that data collection methods are a crucial component of research design. The researcher's data collection techniques were as follows: (a.) The researcher played the lyrics of the song "November Rain" on youtube. (b.) The



researcher listened to the music three times a day individually. (c.) The researcher checked the language style in the lyrics of the song “November Rain” in the analysis table. (d.) Then, researcher analyzed the language style found in the song “November Rain.” (e.) Finally, researcher used the indicator table.

Data analysis involves processing data to obtain accurate information based on the data obtained. Researcher use the data analysis method proposed by Miles, Huberman, and Saldana (2014: 12). The components of data analysis, as described by Miles, Huberman, and Saldana (2014: 12), include: Data condensation. Data condensation involves the selection of written documents by the researcher. Data display is the presentation of summarized information. Presenting data helps readers understand the text more deeply through analysis. Drawing conclusions to gain an understanding of the analysis of information.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In this section, the researcher will present all the data found in the analysis on the language styles of song lyrics of “November Rain” in the album of Guns N' Roses. Based on the analysis results, the

song lyrics studied contain various types of language styles, such as comparative language style, contradictory language style, linking language style, and repetition language style. The use of these linguistic styles serves to reinforce the meaning in the song lyrics, which can evoke an emotional response in the listener.

Language style is a statement conveyed through ideas in the form of figurative groups of words that can be expressed through speech and writing. Language style can be found in various literary works such as poetry, prose, short stories, and song lyrics. Song lyrics are a series of words that have meaning in each verse. This research delves into the analysis of the song lyrics "November Rain" from the Guns N' Roses album. This research examines the types of literary style and the meanings contained in the song lyrics under investigation. Tarigan's theory (2013:4), language style is defined as beautiful language used to enhance the effect by introducing and comparing a specific object or thing with another more common object or thing. The research was conducted multiple times, with the researcher collecting data through field notes.

The relationship between this research and the theory used is that it has continuity with everyday life, and in this research, it was conducted by comparing a specific object or item with the lyrics of a song and making readers and listeners want to know and learn the meaning contained in the lyrics. This research employs a descriptive qualitative method and content analysis through song lyrics. The researcher identified three types of language styles: comparative language style, contradictory language style, and repetitive language style. The presentation is outlined in the following table.

**Types of language styles in song lyrics  
 “november rain”**

Types of language style	Frequency	Percentage
Comparative language style 1	5	45%
Contradictory language style 2	3	27%
Linking language style 3	0	0%
Repetition language style 4	3	27%

**Table code :**

Comparative language style : CPLS 1  
 Contradictory language style : CTLS 2  
 Linking language style : LLS 3  
 Repetition language style : RLS 4

This research did not find the use of linking language style in the lyrics of “November Rain.” The researcher chose these lyrics for research because of their relevance to everyday life. This research was conducted three times to identify and understand the language style used in the lyrics of “November Rain” on the Guns N' Roses album. This research used a field research method by the researcher and used appropriate tools for data collection.

Furthermore, when researcher the lyrics of the song “November Rain” from the Guns N' Roses album, researcher found several types of language that are often used in the lyrics of “November Rain” and several other song titles. The types that are often used are comparative language styles consisting of metaphors and personification. A metaphor is an expression that compares two different things to convey something more imaginative and implicitly communicated. According to Nurgiyantoro (2017: 224), similes and metaphors are both

comparative language styles. Thus, the comparison between the two is implicit.

The lyrics contain a comparative style of language in the form of metaphors:

The first lyric song of metaphor:

***When I look into your eyes***

***I can see a love restrained***

These lyrics compare two imaginative things: the eyes and different feelings of love. The controlled part of love expresses limited or uncontrollable feelings of love. The lyrics describe hidden love.

The third song lyric of metaphor:

***And it's hard to hold a candle in the cold November rain***

These lyrics mean that it is difficult to hold a candle, and in the cold month of November, rain is something that is difficult to endure in the november rain.

Lyric seventh of song

***Or I'll just end up walkin' in the cold November rain***

These lyrics describe walking in the cold november rain, expressing deep sadness when one's love is lost and rejected.

Next, The song lyric tenth of personification :

***I know that you can love me when there's no one left to blame***

This lyrics of living objects becoming inanimate as in the world love which ability to express something.

The song lyric eleventh of personification :

***So never mind the darkness, we still can find a way, cause nothing lasts forever even cold November rain***

This lyrics inanimate objects can have properties like living objects to act and have meaning struggle in november rain.

Then, the lyrics of the song "November Rain" contain contradictory language style in the form of antithesis, litotes, and paradox:

The second lyric include a type of contradictory language style in litotes :

***Nothin' lasts forever and we both know hearts can change***

This lyrics show the contrasting or opposing ideas between a world where nothing lasts forever and the feelings of someone whose heart we both know can change, which is about understanding the nature and changes of the heart in life. In addition, the lyrics have a meaning of the limitations of time that affect relationships with someone.

The lyrics sixth of song include a type of contradictory language style in litotes :



***So if you want to love me then darlin'  
don't refrain***

This lyrics describe a negative statement without indicating the truth in a sentence that does not hold back, stating to love when saying love. In addition, the lyrics mean that love should not be held back and can be loved freely.

The lyrics of the eighth song include a type of language style known as contradiction in paradox:

***I know it's hard to keep an open heart  
When even friends seem out to harm  
you***

These lyrics explain that someone wants to open their heart to their partner, but among their friends, there are those who support them and those who want to hurt them. Thus, in these lyrics, not all friends want to support someone's romantic relationship.

Next, the lyrics of "November Rain" contain repetition in the form of anaphora and epistrophe :

The lyric fourth contains repetition in the form of anaphora :

***Love is always coming, love is always  
going***

These lyrics contain the repetition of the word "love" at the beginning of each sentence. The lyrics are followed by the

verbs 'come' and "go," which mean that love is continuous and unending.

The lyrics ninth of the song include the stylistic device of repetition in the form of anaphora:

***Sometimes I need some time on my  
own, Sometimes I need some time all  
alone***

The lyrics are repeated at the beginning of each sentence in sequence. The lyrics convey the meaning that a person needs time to be alone.

The lyrics of the fifth song include a type of repetition in the epistrophe:

***I could rest my head just knowin' that  
you were mine. All mine***

All of mine belong to me includes the epistrophe style of language, in which my words are repeated sequentially at the end of the sentence. The lyrics emphasize the strong sense of ownership of someone who is deeply loved.

This research found many comparative styles of language, especially in the form of metaphors. A metaphor is a style of language that expresses something by comparing two different things in a way that is more imaginative and implied. In this research, the messages conveyed revolve around themes of sadness, complex love, and doubt. As a result, comparative

language styles are frequently found in the lyrics of the song “November Rain” from the Guns N' Roses album.

## CONCLUSION

Language style is an expression used to convey meaning. There are various types of style, such as comparative language style, contradictory language style, linking language style, and repetition language style. Song lyrics are a series of words that have meaning, and each verse has a rhythm. This research examines the style in the lyrics of the song November Rain from the Guns N' Roses album.

In this research using Tarigan's theory (2013:4), style is defined as beautiful language used to enhance effect by introducing and comparing a particular object or thing with another more general object or thing. The researcher found three types of style: comparative language style, contradictory language style, and repetitive language style. Comparative style was found in 45% of cases.

Then, contradictory language styles were found in 27% of the lyrics. Meanwhile, repetitive language styles were found in 27% of the lyrics. In addition, the researcher did not find the use of connecting language styles in the lyrics of

November Rain. The researcher chose these lyrics for research because of their connection to everyday life. This research employed a descriptive qualitative method and was conducted independently during the data collection process. This love story conveys deep sadness and the hardships of life in the midst of a very cold November rain. In the analysis of the lyrics of the song “November Rain” from the Guns N' Roses album, the most frequently found language style is the comparative language style, which includes metaphors and personification. Contradictory language styles such as antithesis, litotes, and paradox are also present. Additionally, there are repetitive language styles such as anaphora and epistrophe. This research has been conducted in a sequential manner.



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