

A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF THE SONGS' LYRIC IN *GYPSY HEART* ALBUM BY COLBIE CAILLAT

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Abstrak: Lagu adalah karya seni yang telah secara luas digunakan untuk dianalisis. Hal itu disebabkan karena lagu memiliki peran penting di masyarakat, baik untuk mengekspresikan ide, membagi informasi, menghibur, memberi motivasi atau mempengaruhi pikiran. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis aspek-aspek kritis pada tiga lagu dalam album *Gypsy Heart* karya Colbie Caillat. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif berdasarkan analisis wacana Van Dijk. Data dikumpulkan melalui observasi dan dokumentasi. Teknik analisis data adalah teknik dari Philip Mayring yang terdiri dari pemilihan, pengambilan sampel, analisis latar belakang informasi, dan transkripsi. Hasil dari penelitian ini adalah sebagai berikut: (1) setiap lirik lagu dapat dianalisis dengan aspek struktur makro yang menunjukkan arti secara keseluruhan; melalui aspek struktur makro, maksud penulis lagu menjadi mudah untuk ditangkap; (2) aspek struktur super pada lirik lagu menentukan bagian dari ide dan pesan dalam sebuah lagu; (3) aspek struktur mikro secara khusus mendeskripsikan lagu dengan menentukan aspek semantic, struktur kata dalam kalimat, stilistik, dan retorik. Jadi dapat disimpulkan bahwa pertama, setiap lirik lagu memiliki ciri-ciri khusus. Ciri-ciri itu dapat berupa bentuk struktur, skema, dan cara penyampaian pesan. Kedua, aspek-aspek kritis perlu dipahami untuk mendapatkan ide selaras dengan maksud penulis lagu.

Kata kunci: Analisis Wacana Kritis, Aspek-aspek Kritis, Lirik Lagu

Abstract: Song is the product of art that has been widely used to be analysed. It is caused that the song has an important role in society, whether to express an idea, share information, entertain, motivate or persuade people's thought. This research is aimed at analyzing the critical aspects of three songs' lyric in the *Gypsy Heart* album by Colbie Caillat. This research used qualitative approach that is specifically designed as *Critical Discourse Analysis* by Van Dijk. The data were collected through observation and documentation. The technique of analyzing data is Philip Mayring technique, which consisted of selection, sample, analysis of the context or background information, and transcription. The results of this research were as follows: (1) every song lyric could be analyzed by the macrostructure aspect that showed its general meaning; through the macrostructure aspect, the song writer intention is easy to be caught; (2) the superstructure aspect of the song lyric determined the part of idea and message in a song; (3) the microstructure aspect specifically described the song by determining the semantic, syntax, stylistic, and rhetoric aspects. So, it can be concluded that first, every song lyric has a specific trait. The trait can be in the form of structure, scheme, and way of delivering message. Second, the critical aspects need to be comprehended to get the idea of song as well as the song writer intention.

Keywords: Critical Aspect, Critical Discourse Analysis, Song Lyric

INTRODUCTION

Language is described as organized system of symbol that is used to express and receive meanings (Cropper, 2003). It means that language

and meaning are closed related. Language should be delivered by considering more about its meaning. There are many ways in delivering the meaning of language, whether by direct communication between the speaker and the hearer, the products

of entertainments, or by literary works. One of the works that has a widespread effect in society is a song. Many songs have been created for many purposes too. Some of them are created as the satire, entertainment and the motivation builder. They contain some aspects that are used to deliver the meaning of language or even to persuade the people as the listeners. The song writer's knowledge to convey the message is very important to determine the delivery of the songs meaning.

Nowadays, song lyrics have been widely analyzed. There are two main focuses of analysis. They are the representation of an issue within lyrics and the contained structures. Most of those studies analyzed identity, representation and ideology underlying the lyrics by using Critical Discourse Analysis as its analytical framework. According to Van Dijk, Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) is class of discourse analytical research that primary studies the way of social power abuse, dominance, and inequality are enacted, reproduced, and resisted by text and talk in the social and political context (2001:352).

Critical discourse analysis (CDA) is a type of discourse analytical research that primarily studies the way social power abuse, dominance, and inequality are enacted, reproduced, and resisted by text and talk in the social and political context. With such dissident research, critical discourse analysts take explicit position, and thus want to understand, expose, and ultimately resist social inequality (Van Dijk, 1993:352).

According to Van Dijk (in Eriyanto, 2001: 227-229; Sobur, 2001:73-84) spark off structure discourse those are macrostructure, superstructure, and microstructure. Macrostructure is the general meaning of the text which can be caught by seeing the topic of the text. Superstructure is the scheme analysis of the text. It describes how the parts of the text are schemed. While microstructure is the analysis of the text based on intrinsic element.

The term discourse may be defined in different ways and its meaning will vary according to the context where it is used. Van Dijk (1997: 17) mentions that discourse is usually identified as a form of spoken language, what is said in public

speeches for example, or it could also refer to the ideas of certain schools of thoughts, for instance the discourse of contemporary philosophies. In other words, discourse constitutes social practice and is at the same time constituted by it (Wodak, 1999: 8). Some examples of the discourse products are: interviews, conversations, meetings, letters, diaries, propaganda, discussions, laws, contracts, political discourses, songs, poetry, and news, just to mention a few (Van Dijk, 1981).

The analysis of the song lyrics as the discourse is conducted to make sure that the meaning of the song can be understood properly, because a song not only used for entertaining, but also expressing feeling, message delivering, and character building. One of the figures of song writer and singer who has composed and published some inspired songs is Colbie Caillat. She has produced five albums. The newest album is released in 2014 entitled *Gypsy Heart*, and each song in the album convey the certain meaning that need to be analyzed. One of the songs or single of the album which is entitled "Try" is released in June 2014. The song "Try" contains the inspiring knowledge which is specially delivered for the women. It also reaches the highest-charting single in five years in Australia and Canada. It means that the song got the great attention of from the people as the listener and as the receiver of the lyrics meaning. The high appreciation of the song also should be balanced with the right understanding of the meaning and the structure of the song, so it can create the positive future effect, whether it can entertain, build motivation or even can build a certain good character.

One of some albums made by the Colbie Caillat is released on September 30th 2014. This album worked on recorded in USA. There are twelve songs that consist in this album. Colbie Caillat is an American singer-song writer. She debuted in 2007 with the album entitled "Coco". In 2008, she recorded a duet with Jason Mraz, "Lucky", which won a Grammy. She released her second album entitled "Breakthrough", in August 2009. Breakthrough album is nominated for Best Pop Vocal Album at the 2010 Grammy Awards. Caillat has sold over 6 million albums worldwide and

over 10 million singles. She has released 5 albums, included the Gypsy Heart album in 2014. Thus, this article is aimed at describing macrostructure, superstructure, and microstructure aspects within song lyrics in Gypsy Heart album.

METHOD

The researcher employs the Critical Discours Analysis (CDA) as the framework of the research. The type of CDA that has been used is based on the Van Dijk theory. The theory is formulated in three stages, which were text, socio cognition and context. The stage of text itself is divided into three, namely macrostructure, superstructure and microstructure. The steps of research is begun by collecting all song lyrics by Colbie Caillat from her fifth entitled Gypsy heart. Further, the next step is choosing the song lyrics needed for research. The writer decide to use five lyrics from the album. The lyrics are classified by two main concerns, they are the analysis of the structure aspects and the meaning.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Analysis of “Blaze”

At the first, macrostructure aspect was used in analysing the general meaning of the text. The second, superstructure aspect was used in analysing the parts or schemes of each text. The third, microstructure aspect was used in analysing the text by its intrinsic elements. In this part the analysis began with the analysis of the song lyrics entitled “Blaze”, and then continued by “Try”, “Land Called far Away”, “Floodgates”, and “Break Free”. Here were the findings and discussions of the research:

Table 3.1: The findings in song lyric of “Blaze”

Analysis	Aspect	Findings
Macrostructure	General Meaning	The theme is about change and challenge in life
Superstructure	Opening Scheme	Introduction of problem
	Middle Scheme	Detail background of problem

	Closing Scheme	Emphasis of the message from the problem
Microstructure	Semantics	The song lyric contains the meaning and advices that a person has to keep spirit of change and be brave to take the challenge
	Syntaxis	The song lyric consists of phrases, simple sentences, and sentence fragment
	Stylistics	The song lyric use easy understanding dictions
	Rethorics	There are some figure of speech, such as parallelism, assonance, metaphor, synecdoche, simile, and superlative.

Macrostructure

The theme that could be caught from the first song lyric was about the “Change and Challenge” in life. It showed someone who had bored with the rules that happen during the lifetime. In the figure of singer, she wanted to move and change everything that had become her routinity. She believed to the existence of a better life called “Blaze”, where she could leave her daily life, got a brave to bend the rules, and tried something new as a challenge without any fear.

Superstructure

In line with macrostructure analysis, this part described the theme of the song lyrics which told about “Change and Challenge”. The opening scheme showed the background as the “Reason of Change”. There was an introduction of some problems in this part. It could be found in some lyrics, such as “*We’re boarding the night train*”, “*We’re bored sunlight*”. Then it was continued with the hope or some willingness such as “*We want moon rays and nitrate*”, “*We want silver and fire*”. All of the feelings as the background and reason of change were shown on the opening scheme as the acknowledgment to the next scheme.

On the middle scheme, there was the most stressed part as the “Action of Change”. There was some expressions that described the continued action from the previous scheme, such as “*If the*

cops were all coming", *"We stay and not running"*, *"We'll be raging like crazy"*. This part also repeated until the last of closing scheme that showed the "Goal of Change". It was shown by the expression *"Go out in Blaze"* which became the main point of this song.

Microstructure

In order to make analyze in detail, findings of microstructure then is broken down into semantics, syntaxis, stylistics, and rethorics. In case of semantics, the title of the song was the first part of the song which could be analysed by semantics analysis. "Blaze" meant a situation of the good life. The first was started by some expressions that could be meant as the problems in life. The expression such as, *"We want silver and fire"*, *"Cause every day that we spend overthinking"*, *"Makes me wanna spend the night over drinking"* had a meaning as the feeling of disgust and the willingness of getting something that did not exist in the present life, they were image of problems in life.

The next expression such as, *"If the cops were all coming"*, *"We stay and not running"*, *"We'll be raging like crazy"* showed the meaning of action that had to be done. The message that could be taken was an advice of life; we should do something when getting problem, then had an action to change situation and solve problem or even to fulfill the willingness. The last was the most stressed meaning which be the advice for the listener, *"Go out in blaze"* emphasized the invitation to be brave and keep moving to the better place and situation for good life.

In terms of syntaxis, the song lyric was composed in the list of phrases such as *"Up in a blaze"*, *"Shine like the stars"*, *"Burn like a flame"*. There were also simple sentences. They were sentences that contain single independent clause, such as *"We're boarding the night train"*, *"It's gonna be the best night of our lives"*, *"We light the sky"*. The next was about sentence fragment or unfinished sentences that could be found in the song lyrics, such as *"Flipping cups, drifting up to the ceiling"*, *"If we're gonna go down in flames"*.

The texts of song lyric were ordered into the part of opening, middle, and closing that related each other and showed coherence. The expressions such as *"We want moon rays and nitrate"*, *"We want*

silver and fire" and *"We stay and not running"*, *"We'll be raging like crazy"* showed that each sentence explained each other to give further supporting detail. The second was the coherence that showed the cause-effect sentences, such as *"Cause every day that we spend overthinking"*, *"Makes me wanna spend the night over drinking"* and *"If insane's the new sane"*, *"Then you're lost and gone wild"*. The next expression showed the result or effect that was caused by the previous expression.

In terms of stylistics, the assumption of listener generally determined by the diction used. This song used the easy caught words and dictions which also easy to be understood. The message could be delivered through some dictions, such as *"blaze"*, *"bored sunlight"* which gave the possibility of many interpretation. The other diction, such as *"stay"*, *"running"* and *"everyday"* did not give the possibility of many interpretation and preferred to give the same understanding for the listener.

There were many ways and styles in the form of expressing language and text, include rethorics. There were some proverbs and figure of speech that used in composing this song lyric. The first, to show the meaning of certain thing, the singer used the proverb which show the unreal meaning of thing in the expression, for instance: *"We want moon rays and nitrate"*, moon rays and nitrates had the unreal meaning in this song, they meant as the good life and wealth. *"We want silver and fire"*, silver and fire had unreal meaning in this song, they could mean as money and the spirit.

The next was about the discussion of the figurative language in this song lyrics. They were parallelism, synecdoche, simile, and superlative. The descriptions were as follows: (a) parallelism: the used of similar structure in two or more clause. It could be found in the sentences:

We want moon rays and nitrate

We want silver and fire

These two sentences had the similar structure of present tense that use "we" as subject, "want" as verb and then followed by objects.

We're dancing on tables

We're kicking off shoes

These two sentences had the similar structures of present continuous tense that used “we” as subject, “are” as to be, “kicking” and “dancing” as verb + ing and then followed by object. Besides that, the result showed the use of synecdoche, simile, and superlative. Synecdoche refers to the used of particular name to represent a class of people. It could be found in the sentence “*Cut the Camus and the Jameson in the blue dream.*” The words “*Camus and the Jameson*” were the particular name to represent a class of people. Simile refers to the comparison between two unlike things, containing the word *like, as, or as if*. It could be found in these sentence “*So we’re singing like fools.*” The sentence uses the word “*like*” to show the comparison of “*we*” and “*fools*”. While superlative refers to the use of expression to declare something in the highest or best level. It could be found in the sentence “*It’s gonna be the best night of our lives*”

Analysis of “Try”

Table 3.2: The findings in song lyric of “Try”

Analysis	Aspect	Findings
Macrostructure	General Meaning	The theme of the song lyric above was about how to “Be Yourself”
Superstructure	Opening Scheme	Background of the problem
	Middle Scheme	Answered of the previous scheme
	Closing Scheme	Reminder of the message
Microstructure	Semantics	The song meant advice for woman to appreciate herself and did not do so much effort just because the other people sight
	Syntaxis	The song lyric consisted of phrase, sentence fragment, and simple sentence
	Stylistics	The diction that used were familiar and close related with daily conversation
	Rethorics	There were some figurative language and sound devices, such as mataphor, parallelism, and repetition.

Macrostructure

The theme of the song lyric above was about how to “Be Yourself”. It was an advice especially for women to be confident with everything that they had. A woman should be brave to show herself no matter what the people thought. She had to admit and appreciate herself just the way she was. A woman should not force herself to change just to be admired by the other people. The most important message was about how woman should be herself and build her confidence honestly.

Superstructure

The opening scheme was composed by the repetition of the same expressions of “*You don’t have to try*” which directly showed the idea of this song. The listener could catch the background message from the sentence, then it was continued by some statements in the opening schemes that described the complete background, such as “*Put your make up on, Get your nails done, Curl your hair, Run the extra mile, Keep it slim, So they like you. Do they like you?*”. They were about the women problem and the hard effort that they should do to be someone who were adored by the other people. “*Get your sexy on, Don’t be shy, girl, Take it off, This is what you want, to belong, So they like you. Do you like you?*” were also the sentences that included in the opening scheme and had some function as the previous sentences.

The middle scheme became the continued part of the opening scheme. This scheme presented the answer of the worried in the opening scheme. The statement was like an answer toward the demand that had been figured out in the previous scheme. There was an important part of scheme where many messages and advice delivered through some sentences, such as “*You don’t have to try so hard, You don’t have to bend until you break, You just have to get up, get up, get up, You don’t have to change a single thing*”. The sentences were ordered to be the calming down of the worried in the previous scheme.

The closing scheme flew smoothly with the series of advice that reminded of the whole message. The sentences such as “*Take your make up off, Let your hair down, Take a breath, Look into the mirror, at yourself, Don’t you like you?, Cause I like you*”

were used as the end part of this song and made sure that the message remembered by the listener.

Microstructure

The analysis of microstructure covers semantics, syntaxis, stylistics, and rethorics. The word "Try" as the title of this song was like a mysterious box which actually had the different shape inside. The title was not the point of the message from the song that would be delivered. The description of the further meaning explained in the lyrics inside the song. At the beginning part of the song, some sentences were shown, such as "Put your make up on, Get your nails done, Curl your hair, Run the extra mile, Keep it slim". These sentences had meaning as the demand of woman life nowadays. The problem of how woman should have a good looking at the other people sight. Then continued by some sentences, such as "Put your make up on, Get your nails done, Curl your hair, Run the extra mile, Keep it slim" which meant as the commands for woman to do something so they could have a good looking. All of the statements being asked by the sentence "Do you like you?".

The meaning of the next part of the song is a calming down of the worried and pressure of woman life. It was figured out by the sentences, such as "You don't have to try so hard, You don't have to give it all away, You just have to get up, get up, get up, get up, You don't have to change a single thing". The sentences meant that woman did not had to do hard effort just to look good at the other people sight. Woman should be confident with herself and neglect the other people thought. It was supported by some sentences, such as "Wait a second, Why should you care, what they think of you, When you're all alone, by yourself, Do you like you? Do you like you?" that had meaning as the commands to take care of herself and her own feeling.

The sentence "You don't have to try" became the resume of all the commands and statements and also reminded about the point of this song message. The meaning was how to be confident for every woman, without doing hard effort or just to be appreciate by the other.

In case of syntaxis, there were two matters that could be analyzed in this part. They were about

the sentence form and coherence. The first was about the sentence form. The song lyric above was composed by using phrases, such as "Curl your hair", "Run the extra mile", "Keep it slim" and sentence fragment, such as "So they like you". The lyrics also consisted of simple sentences that majority in the form of command, such as "You don't have to try so hard", "You don't have to give it all away", "You don't have to change a single thing". The sentences' structures were easy to be understood. Then the coherence of the sentences was continued as a coherence like a questions and answers part, but they were understandable and make the proper unity.

The use of stylistics in every sentence of this song was easy to be understood. The sentences were arranged by using the familiar dictions. It helped the listener to get the easier understanding and perceived the message of them. The expressions such as "Got your shopping on, At the mall, Max your credit cards" also very closely related to the reality and just like a conversation. While in case of rethorics, there were some figurative language and sound device used in composing this song lyric. The figurative language in the song lyric were metaphor and parallelism. Metaphor refers to the comparison between two unlike things without the word *like* or *as*. It could be found in the expression: "Look into the mirror, at yourself." It showed the comparison between "mirror" and "yourself". Parallelism refers to the use of similar structures in two or more clause. It could be found in these sentences:

You don't had to try so hard

You don't had to give it all away

You don't had to change a single thing

These three sentences had the similar structures of present tense that use "you" as subject, "don't have to" as negative auxiliary verb and then followed by verb and object.

Analysis of “Land Called far Away”

Table 3.3: The findings in song lyric of “Land Called far Away”

Analysis	Aspect	Findings
Macrostructure	General Meaning	The general meaning or the theme of the song lyric above was about the “Hope for Future”
Superstructure	Opening Scheme	Introduction of the idea
	Middle Scheme	Goal or objective of the idea
	Closing Scheme	Clarity of the idea
Microstructure	Semantics	The song lyric meant that a person should had a passion and believe to the happiness in the future
	Syntaxis	The song lyric consisted of sentence fragment, simple sentences, and complex sentences
	Stylistics	The dictions were familiar and easy understanding
	Rethorics	There were some figurative language and sound devices, such as parallelism, hyperbole, consonance, and repetition.

Macrostructure

The general meaning or the theme of the song lyric above was about the “Hope for Future”. It told about the girl who was willing to had special life and different from the other. She wanted to keep the distance from having ordinary life and felt the peace of herself by learning many experience for her future.

Superstructure

The opening scheme was an introduction of the subject in the song by using the sentences, such as “*When I was a little girl I never was a princess type, I didn’t do fairy tales or wish on stars at night, All the other girls were living in make believe.*” They described that she was a girl who different from the other. She did not do the ordinary way of life. The next sentences such as “*Everywhere I go see a trail of broken hearts, And one by one I watch them fall apart, I told myself I won’t let that*

be me” were the continued part of opening scheme, which described the subject experience in her life.

The middle scheme as the center of part told about the goal and willingness of a girl which were expressed by some sentences, such as “*I’ll save my love for love in a land called far away, Until then well, love, your heart’s gonna had to wait, When I find my love that I will love every day*”. This part was also repeated at the end part or the closing scheme in order to make sure and emphadize message.

Microstructure

The first aspect in analyzing microstructure is semantics. The phrase “*Land Called far Away*” was a figurative place that used to describe the goal of life. It meant a place or situatioan that someone wanted to belong. In the beginning of song there were some sentences, such as “*When I is a little girl, I never is a princess type*”, “*I didn’t do fairy tales or wish on stars at night*”. They explained about a person who had different way in life. She was not an ordinary girl. She did not had the ordinary life like the other. Then, the reason for her difference was because the thing that expressed in the sentences, such as “*Everywhere I go see a trail of broken hearts, And one by one I watch them fall apart*”. They were about her experience about the bitter of life. She wanted to avoid that kind of life, which expressed in the sentences, such as “*I told myself I won’t let that be me, I’ll take my time for ever after happily.*”

Some sentences, such as “*I’ll save my love for love in a land called far away, Until then well, love, your heart’s gonna had to wait, When I find my love that I will love every day*” had meaning as the description of how the future that she wanted to be. She wanted the peace in her way of life.

In case of syntaxis, this song lyric was composed by simple sentence, complex sentence, and sentence fragment. The used of simple sentence, such as “*All the other girls were living in make believe*”, “*I’ll take my time for ever after happily*”, “*I’ll save my love for love in a land called far away*”. The used of complex sentence, such as “*When I was a little girl I never was a princess type*”. Then the existence of sentence fragment, such as “*Searching for the one boy of their dreams*”, “*When I find my love that I will love everyday*”. The sentences were rather to be longer

than the other lyric in the same album. Every sentence was in the form of full statement. The series of sentence were united like the series of descriptive paragraph in coherence. The first part was the introduction, second was the explanator, and third was the objective.

The title "Land Called Far Away" used familiar dictions that easy to be caught by the listener, but the perceive of the meaning were back to the listener, because the sentence had figurative meaning. The lyrics of this song also used the common words, such as "make believe", "dream", "broken heart", and "appreciate" which had been used in daily life and closely related to the reality.

Besides that, there were some rethorics that applied in the composition of song lyrics, such as in the title "*Land Called Far Away*" and some part of the beginning lyrics such as "*When I is a little girl I never is a princess type, I didn't do fairy tales or wish on stars at night, All the other girls were living in make believe*". They were beautify and did not deliver the meaning directly as the statements in the daily life. Then, it was about the repetition of some expressions, such as "*I'll save my love for love in a land called far away then well, love, your heart's gonna had to wait, When I find my love that I will love every day*" in order to tell about the future and goal of achieving willingness.

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