

## METAPHORICAL CONCEPTUAL OF SADNESS EMOTION IN BRUNO MARS' SONG

Corenia Sagista<sup>1)\*</sup>, Michelle Andrea Mursalim<sup>2)</sup>, Siti Rohany<sup>3)</sup>  
and Sonya Ayu Kumala<sup>4)</sup>

<sup>1)</sup> Corenia Sagista (English Literature, Faculty of Social and Humaniora, Buddhi Dharma University, Tangerang)

<sup>2)</sup> Michelle Andrea Mursalim (English Literature, Faculty of Social and Humaniora, Buddhi Dharma University, Tangerang)

<sup>3)</sup> Siti Rohany (English Literature, Faculty of Social and Humaniora, Buddhi Dharma University, Tangerang)

<sup>4)</sup> Sonya Ayu Kumala (Lecturer, Faculty of Social and Humaniora, Buddhi Dharma University)

[coreniasagista@gmail.com](mailto:coreniasagista@gmail.com)

[michelleandrea086@gmail.com](mailto:michelleandrea086@gmail.com)

[srohany74@gmail.com](mailto:srohany74@gmail.com)

[sonyaa.ayuu@gmail.com](mailto:sonyaa.ayuu@gmail.com)

### ABSTRACT

This research is about the sadness metaphor that found in Bruno Mars' song. Bruno Mars is one of the famous singer from USA. As a singer also song writer Bruno Mars not only depending on one theme of the songs but variety. From all his songs, the most popular is some sad songs theme. According (Lakoff,G & Johnson,M, 2003 ), conceptual metaphor is an understanding and expressing one kind of thing in terms of another.

Based on the theory of (Barcelona, 1986 )Metaphors of sadness were analyzed from a cognitive linguistic perspective. He identified there are 14 sources domains in sadness metaphor. The writer would like to observes sadness metaphor used the lyrics of the songs. Bruno Mars' songs were chosen as the data sources because there are many of his songs have lyrics that contains sad feeling. This research used qualitative research approach. As a result, the researcher found there are some fragments of the lyrics in Bruno Mars' songs which categorized into 5 types of source domains in sadness metaphor, which are: SAD IS DOWN, SAD IS DARK, SADNESS IS A NATURAL FORCE, SADNESS IS A BURDEN and SADNESS IS INSANITY. The most dominant sources domains of sadness metaphor that is found in Bruno Mars' song is sadness is a burden.

**Keywords:** Sadness Metaphor, Lyrics, Song

## ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini berisi tentang sadness metafor yang ditemukan di lagu-lagu Bruno Mars. Bruno Mars adalah salah satu penyanyi terkenal dari Amerika. Sebagai penyanyi yang juga menulis lagu, Bruno Mars tidak bergantung hanya pada satu tema lagu saja akan tetapi beragam. Dari semua lagu-lagu yang dia miliki, lagu yang paling terkenal adalah beberapa yang bertemakan kesedihan. Menurut (Lakoff,G & Johnson,M, 2003 )metafor konseptual adalah memahami dan mengekspresikan satu jenis hal dalam hal lain. Berdasarkan teori (Barcelona, 1986 ), metaphor of sadness dianalisis dari sudut pandang kognitif linguistik. Barcelona mengidentifikasikan bahwa ada 14 sumber domain di *sadness metaphor*. Peneliti ingin meneliti penggunaan sadness metaphor di dalam lirik lagu. Lagu-lagu yang ditulis Bruno Mars dipilih oleh peneliti sebagai sumber data dari penelitian ini karena ada banyak dari lagunya yang memiliki lirik menggambarkan atau mengekspresikan perasaan sedih. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan peneltian kualitatif. Sebagai hasilnya, peneliti menemukan ada beberapa penggalan lirik lagu Bruno Mars yang dikategorikan ke dalam 5 dari 14 tipe sumber domain dalam sadness metaphor, yaitu: *SAD IS DOWN*, *SAD IS DARK*, *SADNESS IS A NATURAL FORCE*, *SADNESS IS A BURDEN*, dan, *SADNESS IS INSANITY*. Sumber domain yang mendominasi dari sadness metaphor yang ditemukan di lagu Bruno Mars adalah *SADNESS IS A BURDEN*.

**Kata kunci:** Sadness Metaphor, Lirik, Lagu

## INTRODUCTION

**S**ong has become a big part of our life because everyone listens to music. Many people write a song to deliver their emotion, feeling, and thought through the lyrics. Many people listen to music to relief stress, looking for inspiration, and etc. One of the reason people loves music is because they feel relate with the lyrics or the meaning of that song, also they can express their emotion freely.

Emotion is not only anger or happy, it's bigger than that, such as sadness is also an emotion. Sadness is a feeling of unhappiness or not in a good mood. Many song writer make lyrics of the song to pour out their sadness, and not a few singer were famous because of their sad song. One of that famous singer is Bruno Mars from USA, he has many songs with different theme, start from

happy song, love song, and sad song. However, mostly the popular songs by him are his sad song. Many song writer including Bruno Mars write the lyrics using metaphors to emphasizes the meaning of the lyrics.

Semantics is the study of the meaning of the words, phrases, sentence. In semantics there are cognitive semantic and metaphors. (Ricoeur, 1977) reveals the processes by which linguistic imagination creates and recreates meaning through metaphor. Cognitive semantics is the study of linguistic meaning and mind which emphasis lexical meaning rather than on the meaning of the sentences.

Metaphor is a style of language used to express something in a more imaginative. According to (Lakoff,G & Johnson,M, 2003 ), conceptual metaphor

is an understanding and expressing one kind of thing in terms of another. Metaphor is an essential element in our categorization of the world and our thinking process (Lakoff, G., & Johnson, M, 1980), (Lakoff, 1987) and (Johnson, 1987) In metaphor, there is two kind related fundamental which are mental space is the feeling that language speakers want to expressed by borrowing other expression, but it's abstract and image schema is the perception or experiences from the language speakers to describe the mental space.

Based on Lakoff and the metaphorical expressions are manifestations of conceptual metaphors. Conceptual metaphor bring two domains or concepts into correspondence with each other. One of the domain is source domain (concrete) which is a borrowed concept to explain the context in a sentence or word. The other domain is target domain which is the content context that would like to reach by the source domain. For example "I am boiling with anger", as we can see in this sentence the source domain is "boiling water" and the target domain is "anger".

Not a first time found the research about the use of metaphors in song lyrics. The research topic comparative study of the use of love and sadness metaphor High off her love – love is a drug (Shona, 2017). This two research uses songs as the data sources. However, in previous research, the researcher analyze two types of metaphor which are love and sadness in order to compare between those 2 types of metaphors of emotion. Meanwhile in the research this time, the researcher only focuses analyzing on one

type which is sadness metaphors in order to found which one is the most dominant.

Based on Language and Emotion Concept article, Metaphor emotion have 5 concepts which are anger metaphor, sadness metaphor, fear metaphor, joy metaphor, and love metaphor. So, metaphor can be used or applied in all emotions. In this article, the researcher want to observes or investigate the metaphor of sadness emotion and contextual meaning found in Bruno Mars' songs. The reason researcers used his songs because there are many implied meanings from the words or sentences that are metaphorized in his songs. This article were formulated to found:

1. The concept of Bruno Mars' songs.
2. Sadness metaphor which found on Bruno Mars' song.

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

**T**his analysis method using qualitative research approach because the information is presented as words rather than numbers. Qualitative research approach enable comprehensive and further probing or a target audience's behavior and perceptions in relation to a specific topic. The researchers used theory from (Barcelona, 1986 ) studied sadness metaphor and found that is the conceptual metaphor. This study data sources are primarily qualitative research data in the form of word, sentence, and spoken word. The writers collect the data from Bruno Mars' song. Every line of the lyrics that contains sadness metaphor is marked. The sources the data are from 2 of Bruno Mars' songs which entitled It Will Rain and Grenade that more than 800 millions times played on youtube.

## FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The concept of Bruno Mars' songs have more deep meaning because of the creative and vivid ways in which these metaphors are used to express feelings and experiences.

In this study, metaphors of sadness were examined from a cognitive linguistic standpoint, and a lot of source domains were found and discussed in below. Barcelona (1986) examined sadness metaphors from a cognitive linguistic perspective. He pointed out the following source, which is modified here:

### 1. SADNESS IS DOWN

Data 1: "There's no religion that could save me, *no matter how long my knees are on the floor*"

This lyrics explain no matter how often this guy prays, she will leave this guy. The target domain is "pray" and the source domain is "knees are on the floor" refers to describe someone praying while kneeling. "Knees are on the floor" also describes how sad the guy because when someone is sad usually has no power to stand upright. So, the lyrics above are classified into sadness is down.

### 2. SAD IS DARK

Data 1: "Cause *there'll be no sunlight*, if I lose you baby, *there'll be no clear skies*, if I lose baby"

This lyrics explain that his life will be so dark, no direction, unhappy if he loses this girl. The target domain is to describe "unhappy" and the source domain is "no sunlight" and "no clear skies" these words are borrowed to describe how dark the situation is as the world without the sun, there is no light. The sentence "no

sunlight" and "no clear skies" are classified into sad is dark.

### 3. SADNESS IS A NATURAL FORCE

Data 1: "Just like the clouds, my eyes will do the same if you walk away, everyday it will rain"

This lyrics explain he will cry everyday if she leaves just like the clouds raining. The target domain is "cry" which represents unbearable natural reaction when feeling so sad and the source domain is "rain" which is borrowed because it represents the water fall (tears) from the eyes when crying as the water falls from the clouds when raining. So, the lyrics above are classified into sadness is a natural force.

### 4. SADNESS IS A BURDEN

Data 1: "I'll pick up these broken pieces 'till I'm bleeding, if that'll make it right"

The lyrics above are classified into sadness is a burden, it is because this lyrics explain this guy will endure the pain feeling alone to make the situation right. The target domain is "feeling of pain" or "heartbroken" and the source domain is a feeling of burden to "pick up these broken pieces till bleeding". "broken pieces" refers to the things that make this guy in pain, and "till bleeding" refers to this guy will hold those things until it hurts.

Data 2: "*Take a bullet straight through my brain*. Yes, I would die for you baby"

This lyrics explain this guy is willing to do anything even die for this girl. The target domain is "die" and the source domain is "a bullet straight through the brain". The sentence "take a bullet straight through my brain" is borrowed to explain that he will shoot himself for her in other words he will die for her. Shoot in this context means die or sacrifice. The sentence "I

would die for you baby” shows that this lyrics classified into sadness is a burden.

Data 3: “*If my body was on fire, you’d watch me burn down in flames*”

The meaning of the lyrics is that this guy so in love with the girl until he lets himself to take all the pain. The target domain is pain because of love and the source domain is if my body was on fire, burn down in flames.

*Body was on fire* and *burn down in flames* were borrowed to describe the pain because in real life if our body was in fire, and burning in flames it will causes so much pain. So, this lyrics classified into sadness is a burden.

#### 5. SADNESS IS INSANITY

Data 1: “Throw my hand on a blade for you, I’d jump in front of a train for you”

The lyrics above classified into sadness in insanity, it is because this lyrics shows the meaning that he already lost his insanity because so in love with this girl, he will do anything such as blade his own hand and jump in front of a train, in another words he willing to die for this girl. The target domain is “harmful things” and the source domain is throw a hand on a blade and jump in front of the train.

In real life, throw our hand and jump in front of train definetely we will die, so the lyrics were borrowed to describe that this guy will die for her.

#### CONCLUSION

In this research analysis and findings presented, the researcher found there are some types of sadness metaphor in Bruno Mars’ songs. The researcher found 5 of 14 types based on Barcelona (1986) theory. There are sadness is down, sadness is dark, sadness natural force, sadness is a burden, and sadness is insanity.

From some songs of Bruno Mars with sad theme, the most frequent found is sadness is a burden. Due to it is only uses a few songs, the sadness metaphor is not widely found. As an advice for future research who would like to analyze metaphors of emotion in songs, it may be worth consider using many songs in order to found a lot of data.

#### REFERENCES

- Barcelona, A. (1986 ). *The concept of depression in American*. Cognitive Psychopathology, 2(3), 13-32.
- Johnson, M. (1987). *The Body in the Mind. The Bodily Basis of Meaning, Imagination, and Reason*. Chicago: Chicago University Press
- Lakoff, G. (1987). *Women, Fire and Dangerous Things. What Categories reveal about the Mind*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press
- Lakoff, G., , & Johnson, M. (1980). *Metaphors we live by* chicago. hicago: University of Chicago Press,
- Lakoff,G, & Johnson,M. (2003 ). *Metaphors we live by. london* . London: The university of Chicago press
- Ricoeur, P. (1977). *The rule of metaphor: Multidisciplinary*. Outledge and Kegan.
- Shona, I. (2017). *LOVE IS A DRUG : A comparative study of the use of love and sadness metaphors and their meaning in country and rap song lyrics*. UMEA University