

CHAPTER I

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1.1 Background of the Study

Literature, an art created by man to express feelings, emotions, and thoughts, is a means of the moral education to its readers especially its devotee due to the fact that literature functions to interest, entertain, stimulate, and ennoble the readers for changing into a better life. Literature helps the readers to be mature intellectually and mentally. It provides objective bases for the readers' knowledge and understanding. Moreover, literature connects its readers to the broader cultural, philosophic, and religious world. Perrine (1969:6) states that literature is also one of the means in communication. He claims that literature exists to communicate significant experiences. Then, its function is not only to tell the readers about experiences, but also imaginatively to allow them to participate even to experience by themselves.

The writer devotes all his attention and energy to study literature since there are deep meanings inside the literary works and it seeks for truth. Mayhead (1984:12) clarifies that reading a good literature can bring man closer into contacting with the "real world" than he could ever have been brought without a degree of personal experience. To know whether the literary works have good quality to read, Little (1966:2) informs that there are two qualities of a good literature. First of all, it says something worth saying. It embodies thought and

feeling on matters of human importance, such as: love, hate, and peace. Second, it is something well said.

Among various forms of literature, such as: novel, song, poem, and drama, the writer chose poem as the subject matter of this study. To be more specific in studying poems, the writer focuses on a specific type of poems that is taken from The Bible as his major source of ideas. In fact, The Bible itself does not only contain priceless and countless amazing stories but also books of great poems like: The Book of Psalms, The Book of Job, The Book of Proverbs, The Book of Ecclesiastes, and The Song of Songs (some people also call The Song of Solomon).

The writer is interested in studying this kind of poems since he used to be a seminary student in a middle seminary, St. Vincent Senior High School in Garum-Blitar. At that time, in line with the people's hope, the writer was supposed to be a priest; and in the process to be a priest, he had to, among others, study The Bible concerning the history of a Book, the writer of a Book, and the meaning of a Book in religious point of view, and so forth. Since the hope was not accomplished, now the writer would like to study The Bible through literature point of view. Moreover, the most principle point is that the poems are very beautiful within the language and the way they describe things.

In this study, the writer chooses The Song of Songs since this Book was written in poetic language. A reader who reads this Book will find no difference in a way s/he reads a poem. Moreover, The Song of Songs pictures what the poet experienced by expressing his feeling through his words.

The Song of Songs is a collection of love poems, for the most part in the form of songs addressed by a man to a woman, and by the woman to the man. The Songs have often been interpreted by Jews as a picture of the relationship between God and His people, and by Christians as a picture of the relationship between Christ and the Church (Good News Bible; 1978: 659). Nevertheless, The Songs are basically, purely, and simply literature manuscripts (Fr. Antonius Eko Pr.; 2002). The writer found the beauty of praising one another in turns. How a man praises his woman and the woman praises her man seem that no one has ever written the similar songs. This means that the author was full of very great imaginations and passions.

Knowing that there are many versions in the translation of The Bible, the writer chooses the King James Version. The reason on which the writer bases his choice is simply because the original version or translation of King James Version is without any additional interpretation.

After deciding The Song of Songs in King James Version to be analysed, the writer focuses this study on imagery and figure of speech. He chooses these two types due to the fact that they are the keys to understanding certain literary works. In studying poetry, those types are mostly used. Perrine (1973:55) declares that imagery is the first thing that the readers have to consider in analysing poetry because it represents the imaginations of sense experience. In a poem, words can express more than a dictionary and grammar can afford since they force readers to use imaginations. Without imagery, a poem will be abstract and, therefore, lack its qualities and logical expression.

Figure of speech is also important in studying the language of poetry. It is a way of telling one thing by referring to its synonym (Perrine, 1973:65). In other words, figure of speech is also imagery, but in specific ways. By using figure of speech, one can express something unknown through the known.

At last, using the data of imagery and figure of speech that are found, the writer would like to deepen his research to analyse the author's view on LOVE.

1.2 Statements of the Problems

In the study of imagery and figure of speech found in The Book of Song of Songs in King James Version as Found in The First Song and The Sixth Song, the writer would like to draw attention to some problems that may be formulated as follows:

1. What imageries are found in The Song of Songs in The King James Version as Found in The First Song and The Sixth Song?
2. What figures of speech are found in The Song of Songs in The King James Version as found in The First Song and The Sixth Song?
3. What are the author's views about love as expressed through the use of figure of speech and imagery that are found in The Song of Songs in The King James Version as found in The First Song and The Sixth Song?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

This study aims at finding out the following points:

1. The imageries in The Song of Songs in The King James Version as found in The First Song and The Sixth Song
2. The figures of speech in The Song of Songs in The King James Version as found in The First Song and The Sixth Song
3. The author's views about love as expressed through the use of figures of speech and imagery that are found in The Song of Songs in The King James Version as Found in The First Song and The Sixth Song.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study is expected to give contribution to the English Department of the Teacher Training Faculty of Widya Mandala Catholic University students who are interested in studying literary works, especially the study of poetry. Moreover, the result of this study is hopefully able to give an explanation about the use of language of poetry as found in The Song of Songs in The King James Version as found in The First Song and The Sixth Song.

1.5 The Scope and Limitation

This study was limited to poetry, one of the literary forms. Since it talks about many poems, then, the focus of this study is on The Song of Songs, one of The Book of The Old Testament, in The King James Version. The Song of Songs

consists of eight chapters. Some experts divided The Song of Songs into many divisions.

Pareira (1980: 65) divides the Book into: 5 (five) Songs, 1 (one) Climax, and Appendix.

1:1	The Title
1:2 - 4	The Introduction
1:5 - 2:7	The First Song
2:8 – 3:5	The Second Song
3:6 – 5:1	The Third Song
5:2 – 6:3	The Fourth Song
6:4 – 8:4	The Fifth Song
8:5 – 7	The Climax of The Songs
8:8 – 14	The Appendixes

Besides, Maloney (1985:14), Saydon (1975: 522-530), The Jerusalem Bible (1986), Kitab Kudus Perjanjian Lama (1973), and also Good News Bible (1978) divide The Book into:

1:1	The Title
1:2 - 2:7	The First Song
2:8 – 3:5	The Second Song
3:6 – 5:1	The Third Song
5:2 – 6:3	The Fourth Song
6:4 – 8:4	The Fifth Song
8:5 – 7	The Sixth Song

8:8 – 14 The Appendixes

In this thesis, the writer would use the division according to the second division. Since there are many aspects to discuss, the writer limits the discussion merely to The First Song and The Sixth Song, in the literary point of view.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

The topic chosen by the writer in this study - The Analysis of Imageries and Figures of Speech in The Song of Songs in The King James Version As Found in The First Song And The Sixth Song - might not be familiar to non-Christian readers especially because the data are taken from Christians' Holy Bible. Therefore, this particular subject might bring confusion, and might make them unwillingly go on reading. To anticipate that phenomenon, the writer, then, defines the following terms that are used throughout his thesis.

a. Poetry

Poetry is the most intensely emotive literary form. In a sense, it does all that prose can do, in developing its theme in a carefully ordered sequence of statement. It displays that almost indefinable quality of emotional and imaginative impact that earns it the name of poetry. It occurs when the language is more imaginative and more emotionally telling. (Little, 1966:162)

b. Biblical literature

In Pagalan's "Introduction to The Bible" (1989), biblical literature is defined as a literary work that is based on the biblical stories. In addition, it has the literary nature.

c. *Old Testament*

Unger (1988:939) says that The Old Testament is the part of The Bible extending from Genesis to Malachi. Thompson (1983:1510) adds: The Old Testament constitutes of five Books of Pentateuch, twelve Historical Books, five Poetical Books; among which The Song of Songs is included; seventeen Prophetic Books divided into five Major Prophets and twelve Minor Prophets.

d. *The Song of Songs*

The Song of Songs is a collection of love poems, for the most part in the form of songs addressed by a man to a woman, and by the women to the man. In some translation, The Book is called The Song of Solomon because it is attributed to Solomon in the Hebrew. It consists of eight chapters that are grouped into six songs (Good News Bible; 1978: 659).

e. *Imagery*

According to Knickerbockers (1960:308-309), the function of imagery in poetry is identical with its function in everyday speech. It presents to the readers the poet's concrete world of things, and recalls the sight and sound and feels them. He (1960:359) also states that imagery refers to a way of thinking or of translating abstractions through concrete experience.

f. *Figures of Speech*

Figure of speech is a kind of language used to describe an expression that conforms to a particular pattern of form, and this pattern, each of which has a special name, has become the tool of rhetoric and poetry (Roberts & Jacobs; 1989:590).

1.7 Theoretical Framework

In line with the title and the domain of this study, there are five major theories on which the writer based his analysis. They are language function, pragmatics, speech act theory, content analysis, imagery and figures of speech.

The first theory is language function. According to Nababan (1991:38), the general function of language is the communication. Moreover, Cook mentions that there are seven functions of language (1989: 26). By considering the language function, the writer finds it easier to make the study more specific in dealing with the objectives.

The second theory that is used to answer the question dealing with the relationship of the signs found in the data is Pragmatics. According to Brown, in the studying of language in use, the researcher should take a pragmatic approach. Pragmatics itself is the study of context in a whole. Moreover, to get the maximum result, there are two principles required because this kind of approach deals with question of how discourse is produced and interpreted in a specific situation; they are: the principle of analogy and the principle of local interpretation (1983: 25 – 27; 58 – 59)

The third theory is speech act. This theory is to make a clearance of language and give the interpretation of the words used in the data. In the speech act theory, language is seen as a form of acting. In his book, Cook (1989: 38) says that speech act theory uses three technical terms of intention and interpretation; they are: locution, illocution, and perlocution.

The fourth theory is content analysis that includes a large part of the work in literary criticism in which the close reading of texts is followed by summary and interpretation of what appears therein (Berelson; 1971:114).

The writer uses discourse analysis in this study to maximize the interpretation of the text. Coulthard (1985: viii) states that discourse analysis is involved in the assessment of the communicative function of momentary message, drawing upon general and specific background knowledge in the process of making inference. One of the objectives of discourse analysis is the capturing of illocutionary force, drawing upon general pragmatic principle, an understanding of how information may generally be structured, and procedures of natural analogy.

The fifth theory is imagery and figures of speech. Perrine (1973:55) says that imagery is the first thing that the readers have to consider in analysing poetry because it represents the imaginations of sense experience. Meanwhile, figures of speech are also important in studying the language of poetry. It is a way of telling one thing by referring to its synonym (Perrine; 1973:65).

1.8 Organization of the Thesis

This thesis – entitled *The Study of Imagery and Figures of Speech in the Song of Songs in King James Version as Found in The First Song and The Sixth Song* – consists of five chapters. The first chapter deals with the background of the study, the statement of the problem, the objective of the study, the significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, definition of key terms, theoretical

framework, and the organization of the thesis. Chapter II explains the review of related literature. Chapter III describes the research methodology. Chapter IV is the analysis of the data, the findings, and the summary of the findings. At last, Chapter V states the conclusion and suggestions.