

# THE STUDY ON METAPHORS FOUND IN THE BOOK SONG OF SONGS

## A THESIS

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements  
For the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in  
English Language Teaching



By :

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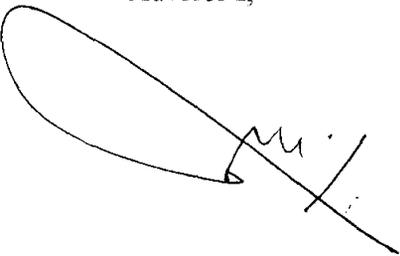
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FAKULTAS KEGURUAN DAN ILMU PENDIDIKAN  
JURUSAN PENDIDIKAN BAHASA DAN SENI  
PROGRAM STUDI PENDIDIKAN BAHASA INGGRIS  
NOVEMBER, 2000

## APPROVAL SHEET

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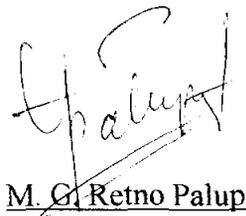
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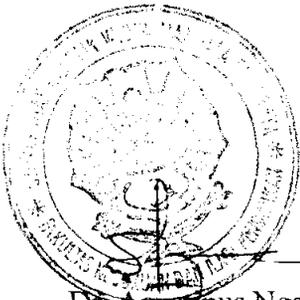
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## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

There is no other beautiful words, except praise and thank to the Lord for all the talents and blessing have been given to me during the arrangement of my thesis up to the final examination on this study. Thank you for giving me strength and ability to conduct this study.

I would like to dedicate this work to my university especially to the English Department from which I have grown up and become a mature person.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to my advisors, Bapak Prof. Dr. Abdul Wahab, M.A and Ibu M.G. Retno Palupi, S.Pd who have been extraordinary patient and helpful during the writing process of this thesis.

My sincere gratitude also goes to my academic advisor, Drs. B. Budiyo, M.Pd who has been such an encouraging father and friend. I am also grateful to all lectures I have ever had who have spread the spirit and attention to love teaching me during my study in this university.

I want to extend my appreciation to my technical director and colleagues at PT. TATA BUMI RAYA who have given me invaluable support and being so understanding to help me complete this thesis.

I wish to thank my beloved family ; Bapak and Ibu ; for their constant prayer and love, my brothers ; Mas Deddy and Mas Chandra, who have been constantly working and praying for me. I also thank to Mas Alex for his love, invaluable encouragement, persistent help and being so patient. I am eternally indebted to all of you.

My special thank, then, goes to Ria, who has been bringing up and sharing such a wonderful friendship with me since our first time at the university.

Finally, I wish to thank to my colleagues, friends, and those whose names cannot be mentioned one by one but have already given their meaningful support and help.

R.A.N.R.K.

as my special gift to ...  
those who have been working and praying for me

especially

My family -Bapak and Ibu,  
Mas Deddy, Mas Chandra who  
have been giving so much love and care to me

Mas Alex – thanks for sharing all  
the precious moments with me and  
being so understanding

Ria – thanks for helping me always  
and cheering up my world

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## ABSTRACT

Kusumawanti, Rarin A.N.R. The Study on Metaphors Found in the Book Song of Songs. Thesis. English Department, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education FKIP Widya Mandala Catholic University. Advisors :

- (I) Dr. Abdul Wahab, M.A
- (II) M.G. Retno Palupi, S.Pd

Key Terms : forms, metaphors

The book *Song of Songs* is one of the poetic books in the Old Testament in the Bible. There are five poetic books in the Bible namely *Job*, *Psalms*, *Proverbs*, *Ecclesiastes* and *Song of Songs*. The book *Song of Songs* is written by King Solomon when he was ruling Israel. In this book, King Solomon tells every aspects about a universal topic , love life. This topic is described beautifully through the poems. Since the book *Song of Songs* consists of eight chapters, he provides each chapter with different discussion in order to give information that love has stages to be passed before someone get married. On each chapter, the author imagines each stage in love life by describing it through the use of beautiful words. He believes that the readers will enjoy reading this book for his description about love may inspire people to create other topic of life beautifully. Usually, when someone falls in love, he or she can make up beautiful words to express his or her feeling too someone he or she falls in love with. The descriptions on love in this book are written metaphorically. The author uses metaphors in this book because using beautiful words in expressing something will be more enjoyable than using ordinary words (Koesnosoebroto, 1988:11).

Metaphor with its universality, recognized validity and general applicability, plays an important role that is 'magic words' by which men gain access to the concept of the ideal world (Wahab, 1986). In other words, human needs to communicate with his Almighty Creator in order to gain the concept of an ideal world. It is stated because sometimes people cannot communicate his feeling exactly to God by using ordinary words. He needs other medium which can express his feeling and thought. In such a case, the use of metaphor becomes an effective medium for conveying one's ideas. The use of metaphor helps to clarify abstract concepts to make them comprehensible to man (Wahab, 1986).

For ordinary people, understanding metaphors especially in religious context seems so difficult. Besides, there are still few persons who touch metaphor in religious context because of lack of interest. The writer of this study then is interested in investigating the use of metaphors found in the book *Song of Songs*. The writer conduct a research to seek the way the author, King Solomon, creates and imagines the beauty of love from the forms and metaphor they used. This study is descriptive and employs the qualitative research method. The technique used to collect the data is library research. This study investigates the forms used in metaphors like wise nominative metaphor (subjective and objective metaphors), predicative metaphor and

sentential metaphor. This study also investigates the orientational metaphors as it is manifested by Lakoff and Johnson in their book *Metaphor We Live By* (1980).

The study tries to find out the forms which are used by the author to describe the beauty of love life. Then it analyses to find out what spatial orientation is mostly used by the author in term of orientational metaphor. In this section, the information on physical and social bases are also given to give more information about how metaphor can be explained from cultural point of view. These findings are useful to provide us with information on the forms and metaphor which build better understanding on metaphor.

After making the analysis, the writer finds that the author has a tendency to admire love very much. He gives the description on love life from the content of beauty. First, he imagines someone's feeling when he is falling in love. In this stage, he tries to describe how love can make people happy and full of joy. The feeling of falling in love gives the power to create such beautiful poems. Both man and woman who are falling in love support their feeling by complementing their partner through beautiful words. After this stage, the wedding day event comes. At this time, the situation on the wedding day is described lively. How flowers blossom and fill the air with aroma of perfume. The author provides some poems by using ordinary words. Moreover, the situation of the wedding day becomes the most happiest moment for the couple even it is not described in term of metaphor.

King Solomon also uses beautiful words to imagine the beauty of a man and a woman appearance. He uses the words such as apple tree, a lily, a rose, purest gold, fountain, soldiers shield, etc. to show that appearance can be imagined as beautiful as they are. He gives some examples on the description of the perfect human body especially when it is seen from the person who is falling in love. In this stage, the woman compliments her boyfriend freely without being shy. She has the right to admire her partner through the words she uttered. The same thing also happen to a man. The author of this book tries to imagine that love can make everything beautiful on the time love appears.

Finally, the writer proposes three possible alternatives for further research as her suggestions in relation to this study. They are a study on ontological metaphor involved in the book *Song of Songs* and relate them with the structural point of view which might give more valuable knowledge and information, a study on the Semantic Field of Human Perception through the poetic book in the Bible and a study to compare the use of metaphor on other poetic books in the Bible, such as comparing the metaphor usage from the *Story of Job* with *Song of Songs*.