

Romanticism in James Horner's Songs: *If We Hold On Together, Somewhere out There, I Want to Spend My Lifetime Loving You*: Expressive Approach

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ABSTRACT

The topic of this study is about Romanticism of James Horner's songs that entitled *If We Hold On Together, Somewhere Out There, I Want To Spend My Lifetime Loving You*. The purpose of this study is to find out how James Horner expressed romanticism in his literary works. The theories used to analyze the data are expressive theory made by M.H Abrams and poetry theory from Persy Bysshe Shelly. The research design used is quantitative research. Data collection and analysis techniques by conducting intense readings and conducting content analysis. The research findings show that the romanticism in James Horner's song utilizes parallelism, hyperbole, personification, symbol, imagery, and antitheses. The romanticism expressed by James Horner in his song entitled *If We Hold On Together, Somewhere Out There* and *I Want To Spend My Lifetime Loving You* is to tell about the beauty of nature, emotions, feelings and intuitions that are poured out of the author through a message songs lyrics inspired by stories of movie imagination.

Keywords : Romanticism.

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

Music has a powerful influence for human beings and their lives. People can express their emotion and feeling better through music. It means that people can express their emotion and feeling either by listening to the music, play music instrument or singing. Listening to the music and understanding the song lyric can make people express their feeling or event make their feeling better.

Dealing with the term music it can also be said that song can be consider as part of literary works, in this case song is one of the forms of poetry.

In *A Defense of Poetry*, Shelley (1904: 34) wrote,

A man, to be greatly good, must imagine intensely and comprehensively; he must put himself in the place of another and of many others; the pains and the pleasures of his species must become his own. The great instrument of moral good is imagination.

What Percy Bysshe Shelley was trying to say, in thesis writer's opinion, is that literature, by making use of the author's or poet's imagination, teaches readers how to live. A poet's principal tools of design are the conventions of versification, otherwise known as prosody. These tools bind and arrange language, creating a more charged quality or greater density of meaning than is otherwise possible.

The thesis writer is interested in analyzing song lyrics because of several reasons. The first reason is based on the thesis writer's personal interest in music. Secondly, it is because song as well as song lyrics play a

huge role within everyday society, from the advertising campaigns of corporate, to live performances. Many songs interest the thesis writer to conduct a research on their song lyrics, but the thesis writer has made up his decision to make the song lyrics of three songs written by James Roy Horner as the source of the main data. The reasons for choosing James Horner's works are basically based on the thesis writer's personal interest on him as a well-known composer and lyricist. Firstly, James Horner is the thesis writer's favorite composer and lyricist.

Secondly, James Horner was a reputable composer and lyricist. He was one of the most successful and admired composers of film soundtracks in Hollywood.

James Horner had written more than 50 song lyrics. Among those song lyrics, the thesis writer intends to analyze three of them. The three song lyrics the thesis writer chooses as the source of main data are 'Somewhere Out There', 'If We Hold on Together', and 'I Want to Spend My Lifetime Loving You'. The thesis writer chooses those three song lyrics firstly because, after reading and comprehending the song lyrics, the thesis writer catches the idea of research topic that interests him, romanticism. The second reason for choosing those song lyrics is that they are among the most famous song lyrics written by James Horner.

The thesis writer's interest in describing romanticism is due to several reasons. The first reason is that romanticism, as one of literary movements, is believed to be an influential movement in the development of literary works. This movement had affected the way people think and act. Bernbaum (1949: 3) stated that,

The Romantic Movement was one of the most powerful influences in

literary history that formed our civilization. It affected how people thought and acted in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries through theories such as nationalism, socialism, and realism. We must know the Romantics if we are to understand our cultural heritage.

The second reason why the thesis writer is interested in romanticism is due to its general characteristics. Romanticism. Romanticism gives importance to the emotions of an individual and get inspired by the nature. Romanticism turns to the emotional directness of personal experience and to the boundlessness of individual imagination and aspiration. (Susilo, 2014) Bateson (1970: 142) wrote that “Romanticism can be complex to define as it is not tied down to one certain single idea, but it can be seen as having three keywords: Nature, Symbolism and Imagination”.

The Romanticism changes the perspective from the concern with the audience and the effects of literature on its receiver to the concern with the author and his relation to the creative act. In line with this characteristic of Romanticism, the thesis writer chooses to use expressive approach as his critical theory in conducting his research on James Horner’s song lyrics. Therefore, the approach used in this research is expressive approach proposed by M.H. Abrams.

A. Statements of the Problem

The thesis writer has formulated the problem statements of this research as follows:

1. How does James Horner express romanticism in, ‘If We Hold on Together’, ‘Somewhere Out There’ and ‘I Want to

Spend My Lifetime Loving You’?

2. What characteristics of Romanticism are found in, ‘If We Hold on Together’, ‘Somewhere Out There’ and ‘I Want to Spend My Lifetime Loving You’?

C. Objectives of the Study

Based on the statements of the problem, the formulated objectives of the study are:

1. to describe how James Horner expresses romanticism in, ‘If We Hold on Together’, ‘Somewhere Out There’ and ‘I Want to Spend My Lifetime Loving You and ’.
2. to identify and explain characteristics of Romanticism found in, ‘If We Hold on Together’, ‘Somewhere Out There’, and ‘I Want to Spend My Lifetime Loving You’.

THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

Those theories deal with Critical Approach,

Theory of Poetry, and Romanticism.

1. Critical Approach

As with the classification systems of genres and text types, a number of divergent methodologies characterizes the approaches to literary texts. Dealing with author-oriented approach, Klarer (2004: 90) explained as follows,

This author-oriented approach established a direct link between the literary text and the biography of the author. Dates, facts, and events in an author’s life are juxtaposed with literary elements of his or her works in order to find aspects which connect the biography of the author with the text.

Based on Klerer’s explanation, the thesis writer concludes that author-oriented approach puts the main emphasis on the author, trying to establish connections between the work of art and the biography of its creator.

Another expert proposed the divisions of critical approach is Abrams (1971: 6) presented deep explanation of critical approach as follows:

Four elements in the total situation of a work of art are discriminated and made salient, by one or another synonym, in almost all theories which aim to be comprehensive. First, there is the *work*, the artistic product itself. And since this is a human product an artifact, the second common element is the artificer, the *artist*. Third, the work is taken to have a subject which, directly or deviously is derived from existing things—to be about, or signify, or reflect something which is either is, or bears some relation to, an objective state of affairs. This third element, whether held to consist of people and actions, ideas and feelings, material things and events, or super-sensible essences, has frequently been denoted by that word-of-all-work, ‘nature’; but let us use the more neutral and comprehensive term, *universe*, instead. For the final element, we have the *audience*: the listeners, spectators, or readers to whom the work is addressed, or to whose attention, at any rate, it becomes available.

Based on thorough explanation presented by Abrams, the thesis writer may say that any critical theory consists of four elements with the help of which they comprehend literary works.

The thesis writer chooses Percy Bysshe Shelley among others romantic poets because he is regarded as great lyricist. William J. Long (2014: 68) stated, “As a lyric poet, Shelley is one of the supreme geniuses of our literature”. There are many forms of poem belonging to the genre of lyric poetry and one of them is song. Turner (1998: 91) explained, “*The song is a lyric form that derives from Grecian times when the term denoted a poem accompanied by the music of the lyre. Today our song sheets use the word lyrics to distinguish the words from the music*”. Figurative language is used in any form of communication, such as in daily conversation, article in newspaper, advertisement, novels, poems and song. There are many types of figurative

language, among others are as follows:

1. Hyperbole
2. Simile
3. Personification
4. Metaphor

a. Background of Romanticism

Literary movements throughout history have been many and varied. When it comes to literature, art, and culture, the Romantic period is of particular interest, as it brought about a certain awakening of consciousness concerning freedom and human rights in the western world. According to Bernbaum (1949: 3), the Romantic movement was one of the most powerful influences in literary history that formed our civilization.

b. Definition and Characteristics of Romanticism

Romanticism can be complex to define as it is not tied down to one certain single idea, but it can be seen as having three keywords: Nature, Symbolism and Imagination (Bateson, 1970: 142). According to the Oxford Dictionary, the definition of Romanticism is its “chief emphasis upon freedom of individual self-expression: sincerity, spontaneity, and originality. Rejecting the ordered rationality of the Enlightenment as mechanical, impersonal, and artificial, the Romantics turned to the emotional directness of personal experience and to the boundlessness of individual imagination and aspiration” (Baldick, 2004: 222-223).

ANALYSIS

Based on the Expressive Approach above, the thesis writer found figurative languages in outpouring and utterances of the way James Horner’s expressed the romanticism.

1. ‘If We Hold on Together’

In this song lyric the thesis writer found seven proofs how does James Horner's expressed romanticism in *if we hold on together*.

Proof 1: Faith, hope and glory

Description.

James Horner utterances in faith, hope and glory indicates the use of figurative language. Figurative language which use is parallelism structure who similar part of speech.

Proof 2: i know our dream will never die.

Description.

In this stanza romanticism that call as like a intuition sentences. That is the ability to acquire knowledge without proof, evidence, or conscious reasoning or without understanding, how the knowledge acquired.

Proof 3: cloud roll by for you and

i.

Description.

In this stanza, Horner's expressed about romanticism that used the sentence dreams and clouds as the object of nature.

Proof 4: soul in the winds must learn how to bend.

Description.

Hyperbole usage can also be found on this stanza. For romanticism expression, Horner exaggerates the reality by saying that there is soul in the wind.

Proof 5: seek out a star, hold on to the end.

Description.

Horner writes the word 'Star' can be consider as symbol. The star may symbolize hope or purpose.

Proof 6: valley, mountain there is a fountain washes out tears.

Description.

Valley, Mountain and fountain that are a parallelism, because there are use of similar parts of speech. For romanticism, valley, mountain and fountain as the object of nature.

Proof 7: in the dark we'll dream about sun ... warm our hearts.

Description.

In romanticism this sentence as like imagination. James Horner uses Hyperbole and Antithesis in figurative language to expression romanticism.

2. 'Somewhere Out There'

In this Song lyric the thesis writer found four proof how does James Horner's expressed romanticism in Somewhere out there.

Proof 1: somewhere out there, beneath a pale moonlight.

Description.

In romanticism this sentence as like imagination that believe about a place, even though no one knows where the place is. James Horner uses personification in figurative language of moonlight as living entity having pale skin as romanticism expression.

Proof 2: it helps to think we might be wishing ... star.

Description.

In this case James Horner uses symbols and imagery in figurative language for romanticism expression.

Proof 3: when the night wind stars to sing a...big sky

Description.

The night wind sleeping underneath the same big sky, those are romanticism expressions that arise a feeling associated with the strong emotion person feels in front of intense nature phenomena.

Proof 4: if love can see us through.

Description.

The word love is truly romanticism expression. It is because Romantic era puts its emphasis on love and emotion. Romantic era emphasizes more theme on love and emotion of the author.

2. I want to spend my lifetime loving you.

In this song lyric the thesis writer found eight proofs how does James Horner expression romanticism.

Proof 1: moon so bright... catch the wind

Description.

the words moon, night and the wind are the romanticism expression of the awe of nature.

Proof 2: ride the night to the end.

Description.

in this lyric James Horner uses 'night' that refers to the nature is being romanticism expression.

Proof 3: heroe rise heroes fall... our pain

Description.

In this stanza James Horner uses Antithesis in figurative language to express the romanticism.

Proof 4: we can move worlds again.

Description.

Moving the worlds is part of the author imagination in line with his feeling or spirit.

Proof 5: i want to spend my lifetime loving you... ever do.

Description.

To express everything with the full emotion of the soul, without think about it logically.

Proof 6: though we know we....

Life begins.

Description.

To express everything with the full emotion of the soul, without thinking about it logically.

Proof 7: though we know we will never come again... life begins.

Description.

In this case to express romanticism James Horner also does with the full emotion of soul, without thinking about logically.

Proof 8: over and over again... what may.

Description.

In romanticism this sentence is like intuition that we want something we can get it. In figurative language Horner uses Repetition for repeats the words over and save.

Proof 9: Love is worth everything, we pay.

Description.

In romanticism love is the beauty of symbol which express our feel.

A. Characteristic of Romanticism in

James Horner's Songs

Romanticism Characteristic and Description

Romanticism Characteristic	Description of Characteristic
Interest in the common man and childhood	Romantics believed in the natural goodness of humans which is hindered by the urban life of civilization. They believed that the savage is noble, childhood is good and the emotions inspired by both beliefs causes the heart to soar.
Strong senses, emotions, and feelings	Romantics believed that knowledge is gained through intuition rather than deduction. This is best summed up by Wordsworth who stated that "all good poetry is the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings."
Awe of nature	Romantics stressed the awe of nature in art and language and the

	experience of sublimity through a connection with nature. Romantics rejected the rationalization of nature by the previous thinkers of the Enlightenment period.
Celebration of the Individual	Romantics often elevated the achievements of the misunderstood, heroic individual outcast
Importance of Imagination	Romantics legitimized the individual imagination as a critical authority.

Base on the table above Romanticism can be complex to define as it is not tied down to one certain single idea, but it can be seen as having three keywords: Nature, Imagination, and symbols (Bateson, 1970: 142).

1. *If We Hold On Together*

In this song lyric the thesis writer found six characteristic of romanticism.

Proof 1: faith, hope and glory.

In romanticism characteristic it is Focus on the inner-self and the expression of emotion.

Proof 2: i know our dream will never

die

In the lyrics 'I know our dream will never die' has a characteristic of romanticism that is hold on to intuition.

Proof 3. dreams see us through.... for you and i

In this case the characteristic of romanticism is always connection to the nature as like object to revealed something.

Proof 4: souls in the winds much learn how to bend.

In the song lyric, characteristic of romanticism always revealed

everything by imagination, different with rationalism.

Proof 5: seek out a starhome to stay

In this stanza the characteristic of romanticism also always connection to the nature as like object to revealed something.

Proof 6: in the dark will dream aboutour heart

The characteristic of Romanticism always revealed everything by imagination different with rationalism.

2. *Somewhere Out There*

In this song lyric the thesis writer found two characteristic of romanticism.

Proof 1: somewhere out there....bright star.

In the first stanza the thesis writer found characteristic of romanticism from Somewhere Out there, beneath a pale moonlight that characteristic is always revealed everything by imagination different with rationalism.

Proof 2: and when the night wind stars to.... big sky

On this stanza the thesis writer still finds the same characteristic of romanticism that are strong senses, emotions, and feelings.

3. *I want To Spend My life time loving you*

Proof 1: moon so brightthe wind.

In this stanza the thesis writer found two characteristic that are awe of nature and strong sense emotion and feelings.

Proof 2: ride the night to the end ...our pain

In this stanza the thesis writer found three characteristic of romanticism that are awe of nature that showing the feeling of being impressed to the

nature and celebration of individual.

Proof 3: we can movewe pay

In this stanza the thesis writer found four characteristic of romanticism, that are strong sense, a focus on inner self, and awe of nature.

CONCLUSION

The first deals that James Horner's expresses Romanticism in *If we hold on together, Some Where Out There*, *I want To Spend My Life Time Loving You* by emotion, feeling, intuition, and imagination. The second the thesis writer deals that characteristic of romanticism in *If We Hold On Together*, the characteristic found about to 'a focus on inner-self', 'hold on intuition', 'always connection to the nature', revealed everything by imagination or reject to rational'. in *Somewhere Out There* is the characteristic found about to, 'reject to rational', 'awe of nature', 'strong sense', 'emotion', and 'feelings'. In *I Want To Spend My Life Time Loving You*, the characteristic found about to 'awe of nature', 'strong senses', 'emotion and feelings', 'celebration of individual', 'a focus on the inner self', and 'reject to rational'. There are five proofs : in some words lyric as like somewhere out there, Beneath a pale moonlight, Someone's thinking of me, and loving me tonight, Someone's saying a prayer. That we'll find one another, and even though I know how very far apart we are. It helps to think we might be wishing on the same bright star, and when the night wind starts to sing a lonesome lullaby. It helps to think we're sleeping underneath the same big sky. James Horner expresses romanticism by making use of romanticism expression and figurative language. Firstly on the song lyric entitle *If We Hold O Together*, Horner writes the words

dreams, faith, hope, glory, cloud, wind, star, valley, mountain, fountain, sun as the romanticism expression. Secondly, on the song lyrics entitled 'Somewhere Out There, the romanticism expression used by Horner mostly the expressions expressing the awe of nature. On the third song lyrics entitled 'I Want to Spend My Lifetime Loving You', Horner writes the words moon, night, wind, heroes, love as the romanticism expression. The figurative language used by Horner are parallelism, hyperbole, metaphor, personification, and repetition. The characteristics of romanticism fulfilled by Horner are awe of nature and focus on the inner-self and the expression of emotions.

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