

Semiotic analysis in the lyrics of the song “Untungnya, Hidup Harus Tetap Berjalan” By Bernadya

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini menganalisis lirik lagu *Untungnya, Hidup Harus Terus Berjalan* karya Bernadya dengan menggunakan teori semiotika Charles Sanders Peirce. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mengidentifikasi ikon, indeks, dan simbol dalam lirik lagu tersebut serta mengungkap bagaimana tanda-tanda tersebut membangun makna. Metode yang digunakan adalah deskriptif kualitatif dengan lirik lagu sebagai sumber data utama. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa lirik lagu ini mengandung tiga ikon, tiga indeks, dan beberapa simbol yang menyampaikan ketabahan, penerimaan, dan harapan. Melalui unsur-

unsur semiotik tersebut, lagu ini merefleksikan tantangan hidup serta menekankan pentingnya ketekunan dan keyakinan pada rencana ilahi.

ABSTRACT

This study analyzes the song lyrics *Untungnya, Hidup Harus Terus Berjalan* by Bernadya using Charles Sanders Peirce's semiotic theory. The aim is to identify icons, indexes, and symbols in the lyrics and to reveal how these signs construct meaning. The method used is descriptive qualitative, with the lyrics serving as the primary data source. The findings show that the lyrics contain three icons, three indexes, and several symbols that convey resilience, acceptance, and hope. Through these semiotic elements, the song reflects life's challenges and emphasizes the importance of perseverance and belief in divine plans.

Introduction

One of the most enjoyed forms of literature is music, especially those related to poetic literature. Song lyrics are a form of literature widely favored by many people. Lyrics are an arrangement of words crafted in a way to form a song, usually consisting of several stanzas. Song lyrics can be considered a form of poetry because they share similar elements and structures. Like poetry, song lyrics represent personal expressions and are a composition of words in a musical format (Rahadian, 2022). Song lyrics often reflect the emotions of their creators and contain symbols embedded within their lines. Many people are drawn to music because of its lyrics, which often carry profound meanings.

The language used in song lyrics closely resembles the language used in poetry. This aligns with the opinion of Semi (1988: 106), who stated that "Lyrics are short poems that express emotions." This statement is further supported by the definition of song



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lyrics in the Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia (Great Dictionary of the Indonesian Language), which defines song lyrics as poems set to music.

According to Wellek and Warren (1989: 14-15), songs differ from everyday language due to their ambiguous and expressive nature, which makes their language capable of influencing, persuading, and ultimately changing the attitudes of their listeners. Songs are considered part of poetry because they consist of words carrying implicit meanings and intentions. Therefore, the lyrics of *Untungnya, Hidup Harus Terus Berjalan* by Bernadya will be analyzed using Charles Sanders Peirce's semiotic theory. This semiotic framework will be applied to the lyrics of *Untungnya, Hidup Harus Terus Berjalan*.

The lyrics contain moral signs or symbols that can serve as sources of learning and reflection for society, especially for students in literature programs. An example is the lyrics of "Bernadya," released on May 8, 2024, which has captured the attention of the Indonesian music industry. This song is written in Indonesian and has lyrics that sound like poetry or verses, with deep and broad meanings.

Song lyrics contain signs or moral symbols that can serve as learning resources and reflections for society and literature students. One example is the lyrics of the song *Untungnya, Hidup Harus Terus Berjalan* by Bernadya, released on June 24, 2024, which has captivated the Indonesian music industry. The song is written in the Indonesian language and features lyrics that resemble poetry or verses, carrying profound and broad meanings. Song lyrics contain signs or moral symbols that can serve as learning resources and reflections for society and literature students. One example is the lyrics of the song *Untungnya, Hidup Harus Terus Berjalan* by Bernadya, released on June 24, 2024, which has captivated the Indonesian music industry. The song is written in the Indonesian language and features lyrics that resemble poetry or verses, carrying profound and broad meanings.

Bernadya Ribka Jayakusuma, born on March 16, 2004, is a young Indonesian singer and songwriter. She began writing songs in junior high school and later pursued a career in the music industry after participating in *The Voice Kids Indonesia* in 2016. After several projects, she debuted as a solo artist with the single *Apa Mungkin* (2022) under Juni Records.

Her works, including the album *Sialnya, Hidup Harus Terus Berjalan* (2024), made her one of the most notable young singers in Indonesia. Her songs are known for their poetic lyrics, emotional depth, and reflections on life, love, and personal experiences.

Therefore, this study aims to answer the following research questions:

1. How can the meaning of the song lyrics *Untungnya, Hidup Harus Terus Berjalan* by Bernadya be deciphered through Charles Sanders Peirce's trichotomy (icon, index, symbol)?
2. How do the symbols in the lyrics contribute to the understanding of the emotions that the songwriter wants to convey?

Previous Study

This study focuses on the semiotic analysis of the song lyrics entitled *Untungnya, Harus Hidup Terus Berjalan* by Bernadya. Some earlier studies related to the topic of semiotics in song lyrics had been carried out. For instance, the study by Wulandari and Sentana (2023), entitled *Analisis Semiotika dalam Lirik Lagu Wijayakusuma Karya Ardhito Pramono*, applied Peirce's theory to analyze symbolic meanings in song lyrics. This approach is similar to the current study in examining icons, indexes, and symbols found in *Untungnya, Harus Hidup Terus Berjalan*.

Furthermore, Suparta et al. (2020) conducted the study *Analisis Semiotik Lirik Lagu Bungan Sandat*; using Barthes' theory to analyze denotation, connotation, and myth, focusing on symbolism but with different theoretical tools. These two studies are the relevant foundation to understand the symbolism in the song "*Untungnya, Hidup Harus Terus Berjalan*" by Bernadya because they highlight the meaning in a song lyric.

The research by Azzahra and Hartanto (2020), entitled *Semiotika Makna Pesan Motivasi Pada Lagu Secukupnya Karya Hindia*, conducted a semiotic analysis to reveal emotions and life values. However, their study focused more on the theme of simplicity in life, which contrasted with the emphasis on interpersonal relationships in this study. Agustina et al. (2024), in their work entitled *Analisis Semiotika Pada Lirik Lagu Bunga Matahari Karya Nadin*

Amizah, used a descriptive qualitative method, as also used in this study. However, Agustina's analysis centered on broader contexts and did not specifically explore emotional relationships.

Aryani et al. (2022), in their study *Analisis Stilistika dan Semiotika dalam Lagu Pop Bali yang Berjudul Angkikan Baan Nyilih*, focused on diction and stylistic analysis, which differs from this study's focus on icons, indexes, and symbols. Another study by Nugraha (2016), titled *Konstruksi Nilai-Nilai Nasionalisme dalam Lirik Lagu (Analisis Semiotika Ferdinand De Saussure pada Lirik Lagu Bendera)*, utilized semiotic analysis to explore nationalism through song lyrics, which significantly differs from this study's focus on emotional symbolism in personal relationships.

Furthermore, Agustina et al. (2024), in their study *Analisis Semiotika Makna Kerinduan Pada Lirik Lagu Gala Bunga Matahari Karya Sal Priadi*, highlighted the theme of longing, which is also relevant to this study's theme. However, their focus was more on profound meanings of longing in lyrics. Similarly, Indriyani et al. (2024), in *Analisis Semiotika dalam Lirik Lagu Amin Paling Serius Karya Sal Priadi dan Nadin Amizah*, examined signs of love, which align with this study's theme. However, their emphasis was more on personal meanings rather than emotions in romantic relationships, which is the focus of this analysis.

The research by Septiyana et al. (2022), in their study *Analisis Makna Lagu Di Atas Meja Karya Payung Teduh Menggunakan Pendekatan Semiotika*, used a similar approach but focused on social criticism. Meanwhile, Karmila and Abdurahman (2023), in *Analisis Majas dan Diksi pada Lagu Amin Paling Serius yang Dipopulerkan Sal Priadi dan Nadin Amizah*, employed a semiotic approach but concentrated on figurative

language and diction. This contrasts with the current study, which delves deeper into emotional connections in romantic relationships. Another relevant study by Ishar and Irawan (2023), titled Analisis Semiotika Denotatif Dan Konotatif: Makna Pada Lirik Lagu the Beatles, explored the denotative and connotative meanings in the lyrics of The Beatles, further illustrating the varied applications of semiotics in music analysis.

The previous studies indicate similarities in the semiotic analysis approach using Peirce's and Barthes' theories, particularly regarding icons, indexes, and symbols. However, the main difference lies in the research object focus, where this study emphasizes the analysis of signs that reveal personal emotions and interpersonal relationships, while several previous studies focused on social, cultural, and nationalism meanings.

Methodology

This research employs the semiotic theory developed by Charles Sanders Peirce. This theory divides signs into three main categories: Icon, Index, and Symbol. An icon is a sign that resembles the object it represents, thus providing meaning visually or in form. An index is a sign that has a causal relationship with the object, providing indications or clues that point to a specific meaning. A symbol is a sign whose meaning is determined by social conventions or agreements, without a physical relationship to the object it represents.

Using this trichotomy, the researcher analyzes the lyrics of Untungnya, Hidup Harus Terus Berjalan by Bernadya to identify how the signs in the lyrics convey meanings and emotions, as well as how these symbols function to deliver moral messages and experiences intended by the songwriter.

This research is classified as library research, which is processed descriptively. The aim of this study is to describe the object as it exists. The first step in conducting the research is to find and understand research results relevant to the title. To ensure that the research runs smoothly, the researcher conducts a literature review to identify the selection and formulation of research problems and to compile and define necessary terms.

The primary data source for this research is the lyrics of the song Untungnya, Hidup

Harus Terus Berjalan by Bernadya, released on June 24, 2024. According to Lofland (in Moleong, as cited in Usman 12:31), the primary data sources in qualitative research are words and actions, while additional data may include documents and other sources. Therefore, the main data source in this study is the lyrics of Untungnya, Harus Hidup Terus Berjalan.

This study uses a descriptive-analytical method, which serves as a procedure for investigating problems by describing the state of the subject or object of research based on existing facts. The researcher will collect data by deeply analyzing the song lyrics to identify the symbols and meanings contained within them.

The analysis technique used in this study comprises three components: data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions Miles & Huberman., (2007). The results of the analysis are presented descriptively and analytically, addressing the semiotics found in the lyrics of Untungnya, Hidup Harus Terus Berjalan by Bernadya using the collected data as it is. Through this approach, the research is expected to provide in-depth insights into the meanings and symbolism in the song's lyrics, as well as their contribution to understanding the emotions and moral messages conveyed by the songwriter.

Discussion

This paper discusses the semiotic system according to Charles Sanders Peirce found in the lyrics of the song entitled Untungnya, Hidup Harus Terus Berjalan by Bernadya. The analysis is limited to discussing the denotatum aspect, which consists of icons, indexes, and symbols, an important part of Peirce's semiotics triangle. Based on the explanation of each category above, some lines from the song Untungnya, Hidup Harus Terus Berjalan are analyzed to show the meanings hidden in the song and how it sends its messages to the listeners.

Untungnya, Hidup Harus Terus Berjalan

Persis setahun yang lalu
 Ku dijauhkan dari yang tak ditakdirkan untukku
 Yang kuingat saat itu
 Yang kulakukan hanya menggerutu angkuh
 Lebih percaya cara-caraku
 Pilih ragukan rencana Sang Maha Penentu
 Untungnya, bumi masih berputar
 Untungnya, ku tak pilih menyerah
 Untungnya, ku bisa rasa
 Hal-hal baik yang datangnya belakangan
 Ada waktu-waktu
 Hal buruk datang berturut-turut
 Semua yang tinggal, juga yang hilang
 Seberapa pun absurdnya pasti ada makna
 Untungnya, bumi masih berputar
 Untungnya, ku tak pilih menyerah
 Itu memang paling mudah
 Untungnya, kupilih yang lebih susah

Untungnya, kupakai akal sehat
 Untungnya, hidup terus berjalan
 Untungnya, ku bisa rasa
 Hal-hal baik yang datangnya belakangan
 Untungnya, untungnya
 Hidup harus tetap berjalan

The analysis of this study focuses on word choices in the lyrics of Untungnya, Harus Hidup Terus Berjalan by Bernadya. Generally, the songs Bernadya has created reflect emotions, feelings, and life experiences which usually happen to teenagers or even those who have understood the meaning of love, compassion, and relationships with others and their surroundings.

The analysis of the lyrics' meanings uses Peirce's trichotomy approach, consisting of three main components: icon, index, and symbol. This study aims to delve deeper into the meanings contained in the lyrics, focusing on how the signs within the song convey life messages full of emotions and self-reflection.

A. **ICON:** An icon is a sign that resembles its object and conveys meaning through visual or structural similarity.

1. Yang kuingat saat itu

Yang kulakukan hanya menggerutu angkuh

Explanation: "Menggerutu angkuh" is an icon because the word "menggerutu" physically depicts an expression of dissatisfaction or anger, which can be observed in real life. "Angkuh" describes an attitude of arrogance or feeling superior to others. These actions collectively serve as an icon representing the visible or expressive form of negative emotions, such as anger or disappointment.

2. Untungnya, bumi masih berputar

Explanation: "Bumi masih berputar" is an icon that depicts a very tangible physical phenomenon. The Earth's rotation is a natural occurrence that can be directly observed. This lyric utilizes this phenomenon to illustrate the continuity of life. In this context, "Bumi berputar" symbolizes the persistence of time and the inevitability of life continuing despite challenges.

3. Hidup harus tetap berjalan

Explanation: "Hidup berjalan" is an icon because it directly represents the continuation of life despite various occurrences. Life moving forward reflects the reality of time's progression and life's persistence, which parallels the movement we experience daily. It underscores the fact that life does not stop, no matter what happens.

B. **INDEX:** An index is a sign that has a causal relationship with its object, providing indications or clues that lead to specific meanings.

1. Persis setahun yang lalu

Ku dijauhkan dari yang tak ditakdirkan untukku

Explanation: "Ku dijauhkan dari yang tak ditakdirkan untukku" is an index as it shows a cause-and-effect relationship stemming from fate. This lyric describes an event that occurred for a greater reason (fate). The word "dijauhkan" implies that the event was not a coincidence but the result of a higher power (fate) influencing someone's life.

2. Hal-hal baik yang datangnya belakangan

Explanation: "Yang datangnya belakangan" is an index that highlights the relationship between time and events. This lyric suggests that good things arrive only after a certain period, indicating a cause-and-effect relationship tied to the passage of time. It reflects the idea that good things require patience and process.

3. Ada waktu-waktu

Hal buruk datang berturut-turut

Explanation: "Hal buruk datang berturut-turut" is an index that indicates a sequence of events over time. This lyric depicts challenging situations arriving consecutively, akin to a domino effect. It signifies recurring negative events in life, illustrating the continuity of such occurrences in certain circumstances.

C. **SYMBOL:** A symbol is a sign whose meaning is determined by social conventions or agreements, without a physical relationship to its object.

1. Lebih percaya cara-caraku

Pilih ragukan rencana Sang Maha Penentu

Explanation: "Rencana Sang Maha Penentu" is a symbol because "Sang Maha Penentu" refers to a higher power, usually understood as God or destiny. The word "rencana" symbolizes a greater life plan preordained by the higher power. As a symbol, it carries meanings which are abstract and bound to belief systems and philosophical views agreed upon in society.

2. Untungnya, ku tak pilih menyerah

Explanation: "Menyerah" is a symbol representing life choices. It signifies a decision to cease trying, often associated with despair or failure. In this song, "menyerah" becomes a symbol of a passive life approach, contrasting with the proactive philosophy of perseverance advocated in the lyrics.

3. Semua yang tinggal, juga yang hilang Seberapa pun absurdnya pasti ada makna

Explanation: "Makna" is a symbol as it relates to abstract values or philosophies. The word "makna" refers to something intangible, interpreted individually or culturally. In the context of the song, "makna" symbolizes the

perspective that even absurd or illogical experiences have a purpose or meaning, even if not immediately apparent.

Conclusion

Based on the analysis, in this song entitled *Untungnya, Hidup Harus Terus Berjalan*, there are a lot of semiotic elements according to Charles Sanders Peirce's theory presented by Bernadya. In the song, 3 data were icons, 3 were indexes, and the rest were symbols. The lyrics did not only tell a story but carry deep meanings. Icons are those things that represent tangible things; for example, actions or natural phenomena. Indexes show cause-and-effect relationships, such as fate or time that brings change. Meanwhile, symbols convey abstract messages, such as faith in divine plans or how to face life's challenges.

This song successfully conveys emotions in a simple yet meaningful way. Its message is clear: life is indeed full of challenges, but there is always a lesson and hope behind every event. Through its lyrics, Bernadya reminds us to keep moving forward even when things are difficult, as life must continue.

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