

**AN ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE USED IN
THE ALBUM “VESSEL” BY TWENTY ONE PILOTS**

A THESIS



YULITA MAY LONGA

**ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM
TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FACULTY
ARTHA WACANA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
KUPANG
2025**

**AN ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE USED IN THE
ALBUM “VESSEL” BY TWENTY ONE PILOTS**

A THESIS



YULITA MAY LONGA

Registered Number: 21130012

**ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM
TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FACULTY
ARTHA WACANA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY**

KUPANG

2025

A THESIS

**This Thesis is Presented as Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree
of *Sarjana Pendidikan* in English Education Study Program**



YULITA MAY LONGA

Registered Number: 21130012

**ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM
TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FACULTY
ARTHA WACANA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
KUPANG
2025**


APPROVAL PAGE



This thesis entitled “*An Analysis of Figurative Language used in the album “Vessel” by Twenty One Pilots*” written by *Yulita May Longa* has been approved to be defended in a thesis examination.

First Supervisor

Second Supervisor


(Dr. Maniana Nimrod Benu, S.Pd., M.Hum)
NUPTK. 1456752653130093


(Zuyvati Aryani Tionaen, S.S., M.P)
NUPTK. 6449763664230202


Kupang, October 1st, 2025

Acknowledged by,

Dean of Teachers Training and Education

Head of English Education Study
Program


(Dra. Angerem D.N. R. Pudjara, M.Si., P.hD)
NUPTK. 7157746647230103


(Ifoni Ludji, S.Pd., M.Hum)
NUPTK. 9955764665230232

LEGITIMATION PAGE



This is to certify that this thesis entitled "*An Analysis of Figurative Language used in the album "Vessel" by Twenty One Pilots*" written by *Yulita May Longa* has been defended in a thesis examination and has been approved by the following Board of Examiners as the final requirement to be graduated as
Sarjana Pendidikan (S. Pd.) majoring in English Language Education.

Examination Date: November 15, 2025

The Board of Examiners:

	Name	Signature	Date
1 First Examiner	<u>Dethan Erniani Ortalisje, S.S., M.App.Ling</u> NUPTK. 5035758659130153		<u>10/12/2025</u>
2 Second Examiner	<u>Eltina Agustina Maromon, S.Pd., M.Pd</u> NUPTK. 5547759660237013		<u>11/12/2025</u>
3 Third Examiner	<u>Dr. Naniana N. Benu, S.Pd., M.Hum</u> NUPTK. 1456752653130093		<u>10/12/2025</u>
4 Fourth Examiner	<u>Zuivyati Aryani Tlonaen, S.S., M.P</u> NUPTK. 6449763664230202		<u>10/12/2025</u>

Legitimated by,

Dean of Teachers Training and Education
Faculty

(Dra. Angiremi D. N. Rospidara, M.Si., Ph.D)
NUPTK. 7151746647350100

Head of English Education
Study Program

(Ifoni Ludji, S.Pd., M.Hum)
NUPTK. 9955764665230232

PLAGIARISM FREE STATEMENT

The undersigned below:

Name : Yulita May Longa
Nim : 21130012
Semester : Nine (IX)
Faculty : Teacher Training and Education
Study Program : English Education
Thesis Title : An Analysis of Figurative Language used in the album
"Vessel" by Twenty One Pilots

I hereby declare that the thesis I am submitting to fulfill the requirements for a Bachelor of Education degree at Artha Wacana Christian University, Kupang, is original and free from plagiarism. If any discrepancies with this statement are found in the future, I am willing to be prosecuted and processed in accordance with the provisions of the Minister of National Education Regulation Number 17 of 2010.

This statement is made truthfully and is used for the benefit of humanity.

10000 r 15, 2025
METERAN
TEMPEL
F20ANX158892196
Yulita May Longa
ID. 21130012

MOTTO

"The Lord Himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged"

-Deuteronomy 31:8-

"I find over the course of our human existence, one thing consists of consistence, and it's that we're all battling fear"

““Car Radio” Twenty One Pilots”

DEDICATION

This writing is dedicated to the:

1. Almighty God
2. Writer's beloved late father Nathan Wunu and mother Yumima Yustina Hali
3. Writer's beloved brother Ave and sister Inne
4. Writer's beloved friends
5. Writer's beloved almamater, Artha Wacana Christian University.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all, the writer expresses deep gratitude to the Jesus Christ for the blessings, abundance of love, guidance and strength that are always given so that the author can complete the preparation of this thesis well.

Furthermore, the writer would like to express profound gratitude and appreciation to all parties who have provided support, guidance, and contributions throughout the process of completing this thesis, particularly to:

1. Dr. Naniana Nimrod Benu, S.Pd., M.Hum as the first supervisor, for the unwavering guidance, constructive feedback, continuous encouragement, and patience extended throughout the research and the writing of this thesis.
2. Zuvyati Aryani Tlonaen, S.S., M.Pd as the second supervisor, or the valuable guidance, insightful suggestions, continuous support, and patience generously provided during the process of conducting this research and completing this thesis.
3. The writer's examiners for their insightful feedback and suggestions that greatly helped improve the quality of this thesis.
4. The Head of English Department Study Program Ifoni Ludji S.Pd., M.Hum., and all lecturers at Artha Wacana Christian University, for the knowledge and academic support given during the writer's study.
5. The writer's beloved parents and family, for their endless love, support, motivation, and prayers throughout the writer's life and academic journey.
6. The writer's beloved friends, Ayu, Angel, Emi, Mariam, Linda, and Yuni for the support and prayers from the first year of college until completion the writer's college.

7. Friends and classmates in the English Education Study Program, especially class of 2021, for their friendship, support, and unforgettable memories during the years of study.

God Bless.

Kupang,

Yulita May Longa

AN ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE USED IN THE ALBUM “VESSEL” BY TWENTY ONE PILOTS

ABSTRACT

Yulita May Longa¹

Naniana Nimrod Benu²

Zuvyati Aryani Tlonan³

This study analyzed the figurative language in Vessel, an album by Twenty One Pilots consisting of 12 songs, with the aim of identifying the types of figurative language used in the album and to find out which are the most often used. The analysis was based on Perrine’s (1969) theory as cited in Khairunissa & Iskandar (2022), which categorizes figurative language into 12 types: allegory, metaphor, simile, apostrophe, synecdoche, hyperbole, metonymy, symbol, irony, personification, understatement, and paradox. The findings show that metaphor and symbol are the most dominant types (50 occurrences), followed by allegory (45), hyperbole (40), personification (33), paradox (22), metonymy (21), synecdoche (18), apostrophe and irony (14 each), understatement (11), while simile is the least used (2). These results indicate that the album relies heavily on metaphorical and symbolic expressions to convey complex psychological and emotional themes. The study also provides useful implications: for students and future researchers, it can serve as a reference for comparative studies on figurative language in other albums, artists, or genres; for English teachers, the lyrics of Vessel can be applied as authentic materials in teaching semantics to make learning more engaging and relatable; and for music listeners or the general public, this research promotes deeper appreciation of songs by uncovering figurative expressions that enrich artistic value while delivering reflection, comfort, and motivation in everyday life. In conclusion, figurative language plays a central role in shaping the themes of Vessel, making it a valuable source of both academic insight and personal reflection.

Key words: *figurative language, song lyrics, twenty one pilots, vessel*

AN ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE USED IN THE ALBUM “VESSEL” BY TWENTY ONE PILOTS

ABSTRAK

Yulita May Longa¹

Naniana Nimrod Benu²

Zuvyati Aryani Tlonaen³

Penelitian ini menganalisis penggunaan bahasa figuratif dalam *Vessel*, sebuah album Twenty One Pilots yang terdiri dari 12 lagu, dengan tujuan untuk mengidentifikasi jenis-jenis bahasa figuratif yang digunakan serta mengetahui jenis yang paling sering muncul. Analisis dilakukan berdasarkan teori Perrine (1969) yang dikutip dalam Khairunissa & Iskandar (2022), yang mengklasifikasikan bahasa figuratif menjadi 12 jenis: alegori, metafora, simile, apostrof, sinekdoke, hiperbola, metonimi, simbol, ironi, personifikasi, litotes, dan paradoks. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa metafora dan simbol merupakan jenis yang paling dominan (50 kali kemunculan), diikuti oleh alegori (45), hiperbola (40), personifikasi (33), paradoks (22), metonimi (21), sinekdoke (18), apostrof dan ironi (masing-masing 14), litotes (11), sedangkan simile merupakan yang paling sedikit digunakan (2). Temuan ini mengindikasikan bahwa album *Vessel* sangat bergantung pada ekspresi metaforis dan simbolis untuk menyampaikan tema psikologis dan emosional yang kompleks. Penelitian ini juga memberikan beberapa implikasi bermanfaat: bagi mahasiswa dan peneliti, hasil ini dapat dijadikan referensi untuk studi komparatif mengenai bahasa figuratif pada album, artis, atau genre lain; bagi guru bahasa Inggris, lirik dalam *Vessel* dapat dijadikan materi otentik dalam pengajaran semantik agar pembelajaran lebih menarik dan relevan dengan minat siswa; dan bagi pendengar musik atau masyarakat umum, penelitian ini mendorong apresiasi yang lebih mendalam terhadap lagu dengan mengungkap ekspresi figuratif yang memperkaya nilai artistik sekaligus menghadirkan refleksi, hiburan, dan motivasi dalam kehidupan sehari-hari. Kesimpulannya, bahasa figuratif memegang peranan penting dalam membentuk tema album *Vessel*, sehingga menjadi sumber berharga baik untuk wawasan akademik maupun refleksi pribadi.

Kata Kunci: *bahasa kiasan, lirik lagu, twenty one pilots, vessel*

AUTHOR'S BIO



A. Identity

1. Name : Yulita May Longa
2. Place and date of birth : Tanarara, March 23, 2003
3. Address : Tanarara, Lewa district, East Sumba, East
Nusa Tenggara Province
4. Religion : Christian
5. Cell phone number : +6282337997739
6. Email address : longaalita@gmail.com
7. Father's name : Nathan Djenga Pabondu (Alm)
8. Mother's name : Yumima Yustina Hali

B. Educational Background

1. SD Negeri Ndulaluri (2008-2014)
2. SMP Negeri 1 Lewa (2014-2017)
3. SMA Negeri 1 Lewa (2017-2020)
4. Universitas Kristen Artha Wacana (2021-2025)

TABLE OF CONTENT

COVER	i
APPROVAL PAGE	iv
LEGITIMATION PAGE	v
PLAGIARISM FREE STATEMENT	vi
MOTTO	vii
DEDICATION	viii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	ix
ABSTRACT	xi
ABSTRAK	xii
AUTHOR’S BIO	xiii
CHAPTER I	1
INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background.....	1
1.2 Research Questions.....	2
1.4 Significance of Study.....	3
1.4.1 Implication	3
1.4.2 Application.....	3
CHAPTER II	4
LITERATURE REVIEW	4
2.1 Review of Related Studies.....	4
2.2 Concept.....	6
2.2.1 Figurative Language	6
2.2.2 Lyrics	6
2.3 Theoretical Framework.....	7
2.3.1 Types of Figurative Language	7
CHAPTER III	20
RESEARCH METODOLOGY	20
3.1 Research Design	20
3.2 Type and Data Resource	20
3.3 Data Analysis.....	20
3.4 Research Procedures	21
CHAPTER IV	22

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION	22
4.1 Findings	22
4.2 Discussion.....	23
CHAPTER V.....	53
CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS.....	54
5.1 Conclusion	54
5.2 Suggestions	54
BIBLIOGRAPHY	55
APPENDICES	59
Appendix 1. Research Instrument	59
Appendix 2. Song Lyrics from Vessel Album	63

LIST OF TABLE

Table. 1 Allegory	22
-------------------------	----