

Non-literal Meaning Analysis in the Novel "On the Bright Side, I'm Now the Girlfriend of a Sex God"

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ABSTRACT

Since meaning is categorized into literal and non-literal ones, semantics scholars have been agreeing that the focus of language research should be more of the non-literal ones. Non-literal meaning analysis is pivotal since the meaning cannot be interpreted literally. This study concerns about the analysis of non-literal meaning consisting of metaphors, connotative meaning, idioms, and figurative meaning in the novel "On the Bright Side, I'm now the Girlfriend of a Sex God". Using a library research under the umbrella of descriptive qualitative research paradigm, the researcher sampled 60 pages of the novel. The sample calculation itself was in accordance with Wilumila's proposition of systematic sampling (2002:7). The discussion suggests that non-literal meaning found in the novel is used to hide speakers' innuendos behind the curtain, for example the humor element contained in the novel can be revealed without showing the intention to joke. Thus, it can be concluded that the use of non-literal meaning in the novel simply serves as hyperbolic and poetic functions.

Keywords: Non-literal Meaning, Novel, Poetic

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INTRODUCTION

Discussion about meaning is spread in real life contexts. The meaning plays a role as a tool to convey the experience of the soul, mind, and purpose. The study of the word meaning is discussed in semantic study. The semantic field is limited to efforts to examine the process of transposition of word meanings in language use. Ullman (1972:88) explains that "when someone thinks of something said, at the same time he thinks about his point of reference or vice versa." Relationship, two things, between intention and words, delivers meaning, even though the reference is permanent, but meaning and speech can be different.

In semantic there are discussions about non-literal meaning of lingual expressions. Furthermore, the discussion of non-literal meaning about lingual expression will appear in the studies of metaphor, connotative meaning, use of idioms, and figurative meaning (Weiland, Bambini, and Schumacher, 2014:583). Metaphor is the direct expression in the form of analogical comparisons. In metaphor, the use of word or words is without the actual meaning. It is seen as a painting based on equality or comparison instead.

Meanwhile, connotative meaning in *A Glossary of Literary Term* is "a meaning that is not real. It is generally satirical and is a denotation meaning that has been modified". In English, metaphor and connotation are also called figurative meaning. Furthermore, idiom is a language expression in the form of word combination (phrases) which contains one fixed meaning which cannot be interpreted with the meaning of words that construct them up. Moreover, figurative meaning is the meaning of a word that is not the true meaning, but rather something, and has aesthetic goals. This analysis of non-literal meaning is considered important because its meaning requires deeper understanding from the readers to interpret. In addition, non-literal meaning also has the potential to create multi-meanings and ambiguity. Therefore, readers need more effort to understand non-literal meaning, especially if the expressive meaning is read by readers with different language and cultural backgrounds (Gibbs, 1980, 1983, 1984).

In this study, the researcher uses the novel *On the Bright Side, I'm now the Girlfriend of a Sex God* which is one of the stories written by Louise Rennison. This story is Rennison's second writing about Georgia and his family's life. His first writing, *Angus, Thongs and Full-Frontal Snogging* has been made into a film. *On the Bright Side, I'm now the Girlfriend of a Sex God* tells about the life of a 14-year-old girl named Georgia who lives in England. This novel tells the story of a teenager's up and down who has begun to experience other types of relationships, family relationship, and relationship with their friends. This novel which is written by Rennison is in the form of a diary writing that tells the daily life of Georgia and is composed in time order. The novel aimed for teenager reader market is chosen because the language style for teenager's novel is different from the novel in general. Linguistically, there are many uses of non-literal meaning and other styles of non-formal language. It makes teenage novels become a highly complex reading (Tagliamonte and D'Arcy, 2004; Tagliamonte and Denis, 2008).

Research on the analysis of non-literal meaning has been carried out by several researchers, such as by Nugroho (2010), Samuelsson (2013), Kokkinakis (2013), Holmqvist (2014), and André (2017). The research conducted by Nugroho (2010) discussed about non-literal meaning of address term. His research examined the functions and objectives of the address terms which have the purpose as non-literal symbols. Unfortunately the research is only limited to address term units, not in sentence units. Samuelsson (2013) discussed the use of metaphors and idiomatic expressions found in various schools in Sweden. His research examined how metaphor and idiomatic expressions are taught in schools. Although the researcher took natural data sources in his study, his research did not discuss connotation and figurative meaning. In fact, connotation and figurative meaning also have the potential to cause ambiguity and multi-meanings. Furthermore, a study conducted by Kokkinakis (2013) discussed figurative meaning in clinical texts in Sweden. In this study, Kokkinakis found the fact that there were several examples of figurative

meaning in clinical texts, such as "emotional slide" or "go through black holes". Unfortunately, he only examined figurative meaning and his analysis also did not include the role of context as an explanatory element of figurative meaning. Further relevant research is carried out by Holmqvist (2014). His research discussed about idiomatic expressions and idioms contained in *The Secret History* by Donna Tartt. Holmqvist managed to find facts about the form and purpose of idiomatic expressions and idioms contained in the novel. The results are then verified by the reader of the novel. Unfortunately, the research did not discuss connotation, metaphors, and figurative meaning which can lead to the complexity to understand meaning, because of its ambiguous nature. The latest research discussed was conducted by André (2017). The study examined figurative meaning found in Buchi Emecheta's novel, *The Rape of Shavi*. André found the fact that the novel uses a lot of figurative speeches that symbolize something. The symbolization arises from the socio-cultural influence of the writer who lived in two different cultures. Unluckily, this research only discusses figurative meaning, even though connotations, idioms, and metaphors are also elements which are influenced by socio-cultural factors.

Through this article, the researcher analyzes metaphors, connotative meaning, the use of idioms, and figurative meaning contained in the novel written by Rennison entitled *On the Bright Side, I'm now the Girlfriend of a Sex God*. Then, the purpose of this paper is to find out the metaphor, connotative meaning, the use of idioms, and figurative meaning found in *On the Bright Side, I'm now the Girlfriend of a Sex God*. This novel is chosen because novel, as a literary work, has never been separated from the reflection of the real world. By reading a literary work, humans can expand their knowledge of all the problems which might occur in their lives. As revealed by Wellek and Warren (1990:78), literature represents life and lives in large measurement, a social reality. Fiction is one genre of literatures that presents variety and development of interesting topics.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Semantics

The word "semantic" actually comes from the Greek adjective *semantickos* which means "important". Semantics, in summary, can be explained as a field of science which examines the meaning of words and sentences in language. Semantics in language, generally, can be examined from various points of views. Likewise, the semantics in Indonesian can be examined from several aspects such as and references, words, sentences, types of meanings, changes in meaning, proverbs (including language conclusions), semantic elements in grammar, and non-literal elements in a language.

Chomsky (1965) states that semantics is one of grammar components (two other components are syntax and phonology) and the sentence meaning is determined by semantic components. Semantics, with its object, that is meaning, is in all or at all levels of

constructing. Then, meaning is in the phonological, morphological, and syntactic level. Structural linguists, in fact, are not very concerned with this meaning issue, because it is considered not included or becomes an equivalent level with the constructive and interrelated level.

Hockett (1954), for example, is one of the structural experts who states that language is a complex system of habits. Hockett then added that the language system consisted of 5 subsystems, namely the grammatical subsystem, phonological subsystem, morpho-phonemic subsystem, semantic subsystem, and phonetic subsystem. Since Chomsky expressed the importance of semantics in linguistics, semantic study as part of linguistic studies became lively. Semantics is no longer peripheral object, but it becomes object which is equivalent to other fields of linguistic studies.

Metaphor

Metaphor is an expression to understand a concept in comparison with other concepts where between the two concepts there are similarities or correlations in certain things. Similarities or correlations between two things which are compared are not all needed, but only a few parts. Metaphors are often used to understand the concept of an entity by understanding other entities and to describe things beautifully because they contain a certain value. In the following example we can feel the sense of value implied in the metaphorical cycle of the sun, backbone and rat. The metaphorical domain uses implicit comparison between two different things, so that it does not use comparative words such as "like", "as", "as if", "alike", "as though", "be like", and others.

Connotative Meaning

Zgusta (1971:38) argues that connotative meaning is the meaning of all components in a word plus some fundamental values which usually have function to mark. According to Harimurti (1982:91) connotative meaning is the "aspects of the word or group of words meaning which are based on feelings or thoughts that arise or are caused by the speaker (writer) and listener (reader)". A word is called to have connotative meaning if the word has "sense value", both positive and negative. If it does not have a sense of value, it will not be said to have connotation. However, it can also be called as neutral connotation. Positive and negative sense values of a word often also occur as a result of using the word referent as a symbol. If it is used as a symbol of something positive, it will have a positive sense; and if it is used as a symbol of something negative, it will have a negative feeling. The example is the word 'eagle'. Because it is used as a symbol of the Indonesian republic, the word 'eagle' has become a positive sense of value. Unlike the word 'eagle', the word 'crocodile' has connotative meaning that is a negative feeling, which is a symbol of crime.

The connotative meaning of a word can differ from one community to another, in accordance with the views of life and assessing norms in the community. Like the word pig, in areas where the majority of the populations are Moslem, it has a negative connotation because the animal according to Islamic law is unclean and prohibited. Whereas in the area where the majority of the population is not Islamic, such as on the island of Bali or the remote area of Irian Jaya, the word pig does not have a negative connotation. The connotative meaning can also change from time to time. For example, the word "lecture" first has a negative connotation because it means "talkative" but now the connotation is positive. On the contrary, the word "woman" had a neutral connotation before the Japanese era, but it has a negative connotation now.

Idioms

Idioms are expressions (such as terms or phrases) whose meanings cannot be derived from direct definitions and compilation of their parts, but are indirect meaning known only through general use. In linguistics, idioms are generally considered to be a style of language that is contrary to the principle of compositionality, although there is still a debate about this. Idioms can confuse people who are not familiar with them. People who learn a new language must learn the idioms of the language as they learn other vocabularies in that language. In fact, many words in natural languages are formed as idioms but they have been well assimilated so that they lose their former meanings. There are two kinds of idioms, namely full idioms and partial idioms.

Full idioms are idioms that all elements have merged into one unit, so that the meaning which is owned reveals from the whole unit. The word "toiling" and "green tables" are the examples of full idioms. Partial idioms are idioms in which one element still has its own lexical meaning. For example, the words "a white book" means 'a book containing official information about a case'; the words "a blacklist" means "a list that contains the names of people suspected of committing a crime".

Figurative Meaning

Figures are formed based on comparison or equation. In <http://wikipedia.org/wiki/kiasan>, it is explained that "figures of speech are flowery words, not in the actual sense of the word". The figure of speech is used to give a sense of beauty and emphasis on the importance of what is conveyed ". Figurative language style compares something to something else. It means trying to find traits that show similarities between the two things (Keraf, 2006:136).

This figurative language style is first formed based on comparisons or equations. Comparing something with another thing actually means trying to find characters that show similarities between those two things (Keraf, 2006:136). Figurative or associative

meaning is the meaning of words or lexis based on feeling or thought that arise in the word 'greeter (*penyapa*)' and '*pesapa*'.¹ This meaning appears as a result of the associative feeling of language speaker towards lexemes that are recited or heard. The figurative meaning covers the whole relation of meaning with the external world of language. This meaning relates to the language user, personal, feeling and values. The figure of speech is different from the direct meaning in several ways, including:

1. Figurative meaning is not only limited to language but also to other communication systems such as music;
2. Figurative meaning is unstable and it changes according to the taste value of the speaker; and
3. Figurative meaning is unlimited and it continues to grow and develop.

Based on the description above, figurative meaning can be summed up as a linguistic entity which has intention to impress the beauty by comparing things to other things for aesthetic purposes.

METHOD

In accordance with the type of research corpus, the lingual unit in a Louis Rennison novel is entitled *On the Bright Side, I'm now the Girlfriend of a Sex God*. This research is categorized into qualitative research which is in form of library research. Qualitative research method was chosen because of its ability to unfold hidden information, so as to provide detailed information. Taylor and Bodgan (1998:23) stated that qualitative methods as research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or oral words in the novel which will be analyzed using content analysis methods. Whereas, according to Semi (1993:8) library research is research carried out in the research room or library where researcher obtains data and information about the object of research through books or other audiovisual tools. The object of the research was taken purposively because the researcher did not aim to generalize the research findings, the researcher would only take samples based on an explanation from Wilumila (2002:7) where Ns (the number of pages of this novel) were divided by the aspects to be explored. In this study, $N = 24$ and there are 4 aspects to be discussed, so $24:4 = 60.75$. The researcher observed about 60 pages of this novel to explore these four aspects. According to Wilumila (ibid.) Sampling is included in systematic sampling.

¹ Pesapa is derived from the word 'pe' and 'sapa'. Pe means doer. Sapa means greet. Both words are combined without changing the first consonant of the verb 'sapa'. However, as the rule, it must be changed to 'penyapa'.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

In this section, the researcher presents the findings and analyzes the findings related to metaphors, connotative meaning, idioms, and figurative meaning found in the novel *On the Bright Side, I'm now the Girlfriend of a Sex God* by Rennison (2001). The following are research findings on the non-literal meaning in the novel completed by explanatory samples based on the types of non-literal meaning.

Table 1. *Amount of Non-literal Meaning*

Type	Metaphors	Connotative Meaning	Idioms	Figurative Meaning
Number of data	29	19	26	17

Source: Findings from a 60-page sample

Metaphors in *On the Bright Side, I'm now the Girlfriend of a Sex God*

The metaphorical term is an expression of understanding about a concept in comparison with other concepts in which between the two concepts there are similarities or correlations in certain criteria. In *On the Bright Side, I'm now the Girlfriend of a Sex God*, there are metaphorical references as the following:

(1) *I just looked ironically at **his chewed trousers***

The context of situation in sentence (1) was when Georgia was talking to the police who came to his house to give Angus, a Georgian cat. The police was angry to Georgia and her cat because Angus had bit his trousers. Georgia assumed that the incident was not Angus' fault as the police trousers were torn apart.

In sentence (1) there is the phrase *his chewed trousers*. The word *chewed* which means chewing will usually be associated or collocate with noun which means food, for example *I chewed meatball / gum*. However, in the sentence (1) the word *chewed* is paired with object, namely trousers to refer the torn trousers. This phrase has a metaphorical meaning in it because it matches the verb for food with trousers that cannot be eaten. In this context of situation, the phrase “torn trousers” isn’t preferred because the trousers had been bitten by a cat. The phrase “chewed trousers” is used instead of using shredded trousers. The phrase *chewed trousers* is used because of the similarity in semantic feature. That is the result of chewing or chewing action that ends in something or objects that are torn and messy. Furthermore, the metaphor that appears in sentence (1) is related to the similarity of human perception to an untidy form, which in this context relates to messy trousers, being torn apart.

(2) *You can't just leave **sex gods**, you know they have to be kept under constant surveillance*

The context of situation in sentence (2) is when Georgia explained that she could not leave Robbie, her boyfriend because he is very handsome and perfect. Georgia described Robbie as *sex gods* or the god of sex in literal meaning.

The term *sex gods* for Robbie is a metaphorical form in which there is a picture or equation given by Georgia to Robbie. Robbie's figure, according to Georgia, is a physically perfect man. Based on this description, Georgia gave the nickname the god of sex. The description of the god figure that is described as a perfect human being who has strength is the right comparison for the Robbie's figure.

The god of sex label is given because Georgia thought that Robbie is someone who is very perfect because of his good physical appearance. So the description of sex gods given by Georgia to Robbie is to illustrate that Robbie has the power to attract the attention of the opposite sex by using his physical appearance. Furthermore, *sex god* metaphor in sentence (2) shows the similar character between Robbie and '*god of sex*' or in other words Georgia wanted to show that Robbie is a sex symbol reflected in his physical character and behavior.

(3) *You would think that **Hawk Eye** (Headmistress, aka the Oberfurer) would think of something more imaginative to write than, "Hopelessly childish attitude in class."*

The context of situation in sentence (3) is that Georgia felt displeased with the headmistress whom Georgia labelled her a hawk eye as the nick name for giving unpleasant comment about her. Previously, the principal had labelled Georgia as a childish person in class.

The nickname given by Georgia is a metaphor by describing human with animal or animal's body part. Like someone who gets the nickname hedgehog hair, it is because his hair is stiff and facing upwards like a porcupine spine. The eagle eye nickname given by Georgia to the headmistress is also a nickname given based on the same characteristics between eagle eyes and the Georgia's headmistress. Eagle is a bird known for its hunting skills. Aside from its flying ability, the eagle is famous for the sharpness of its eyes as it can see its prey from a distance. It was the eagle's eye image that was described as the principal. It is a description of the principal attitude that paid much attention to her students sharply and frighteningly. Moreover, the hawk eye metaphor is a metaphor for the meticulous character possessed by the principal with the sharp vision of an eagle.

(4) *I am lucky if I get **one square** meal a week. I'm getting really, really thin.*

The context of situation in sentence (4) tells us when Georgia felt that he did not feel cared for so she felt sad when she got very little food. She will be thin, very thin. It means the size of *one square* which is defined as a patch that is usually used to measure the width of a room or land. For the size of the land or field, 1 plot is a very small size. Georgia used that measurement to measure the food she got for a week. It means that the food she got was very little. This can be seen from the description given by Georgia that she got very

little food, and she would become very thin. Furthermore, in the sentence (4) listed above, there is a metaphor that compares two perceptually equal things. In this case there are perceptual equations related to size (small size) in the context of small food portion and small (narrow) land sizes.

5) *I looked through him as he was just **a floating guitar in midair**.*

The context of situation in this sentence is about Georgia's comment when she remembered her meeting with Robbie after they broke up. Georgia commented that she would be cold and as if she didn't want Robbie when she met him later. The cold attitude shown by Georgia towards Robbie is described in sentence (5) in *a floating guitar in midair*. Georgia described that she looked at Robbie like a guitar thrown (in the air). Something thrown means something unwanted. So, if Robbie is regarded as something thrown into the air, it means that Georgia did not want Robbie anymore, just like an object thrown away and no longer wanted. Moreover, in metaphor context of *floating guitar in midair*, there are direct comparisons fused in the form of perceptual equations. There are similarities in perception, namely: objects that are not desirable anymore (guitar and Robbie).

6) *Although I have only snogged two other boys so far and one of those was **part boy part whelk**.*

The context of situation in the sentence (6) is when Georgia was complaining about her kissing experience with her male friend. She told me that she only kissed two men and even one of them was not something that should be seen or told. Georgia described a boy she didn't like using the phrase *part boy part whelk*, that the man is not completely male. The word *whelk* was used by Georgia to describe Georgia's feeling towards men. *Whelk* means a snail-like animal, but that does not mean that the person who kissed Georgia was a strange man who was half a snail. Georgia provided this description by taking the characteristics of snails, which are slow and slimy animals. Because Georgia had kissed him and their kisses were full of male saliva, she said that the man was half human, half snail.

Whelk which also means acne also gives a picture of Georgia's feeling to the intended subject. Acne is a small object that grows on the face and is considered as an annoying thing and disturbing facial appearance. As Georgia felt to the boy that he was annoying. The word *whelk* is one example of metaphor because it describes a comparison between someone who can be called a real man as a boy and compared to the word *whelk* which means snail or acne.

In this case, the use of *part boy part whelk* phrase has two points of view; the first point of view is to group *part boy part whelk* into metaphorical group because the direct comparison between *boy* and *whelk* and the second point of view is to group *part boy part*

whelk into connotative meaning, because of the snail and acne connotations which are disturbing entities in human life.

(7) *Oh good grief, welcome back to **the land of the crap**.*

Georgia didn't like the school where she studied. She also did not feel comfortable in his school and she expressed it by saying sentence (7) which literally means "God, welcome to the island full of rotten objects". The phrase *the land of crap* used by Georgia as the nickname for the school is a comparison between a school-shaped building and an island full of rotten objects. The phrase was not meant by Georgia as a land in the school which was full of rotten objects, but she described her school as a place where there were unpleasant things. Moreover, the metaphor in sentence (7) is a direct comparison of character equality and unpleasant school perception with *land of the crap* as 'island full of rotten objects'. In this case Georgia's perception of the school led to a comparison between the unpleasant experiences experienced by Georgia and various kinds of rotten objects; furthermore there are similarities in semantic features, namely an unpleasant atmosphere or a place that is not comfortable to stay.

(8) *I thought I would go completely **jelloid** and **dribbling**.*

The context of situation in sentence (8) is when Georgia told how she felt when she met Robbie, her boyfriend. She said how she would turn out to be someone different. The sentence (8) explains in detail how Georgia changed when she met Robbie. Georgia described herself as *jelloid* when she met Robbie. *Jelloid* in a denotative context means something that is frozen, like water becomes ice. However, the meaning in sentence (8) does not mean that Georgia would be frozen when meeting Robbie. It reveals meaning that she could not move like ice or a jelly. The image that she could not move is a metaphor meaning of the word *jelloid*. It can be concluded that by using the word *jelloid*, Georgia felt nervous so that her body could not move.

The word *dribbling* which means reflecting or controlling the ball like in basketball or football in sentence (8) describes Georgia's behavior that could not be silent or could not control herself because of excessive exuberance. The character of the ball bounced on the ground is compared to the human character who jumps here and there because of joy. The words *jelloid* and *dribbling* are examples of metaphors because they try to compare between entities such as jelly or ice with someone's behaviour who is quiet in silence and the movement of carrying or controlling the ball with human behavior that cannot control herself due to excessive excitement. Furthermore, there is a comparison of characters between 'frozen' character and 'dribbled or managed ball' with human characters.

(9) *Dragged myself up from my **bed of pain** and went all the way downstairs and picked up the phone.*

In sentence (9), the context of situation was that Georgia woke up from her daydream because she heard a telephone ringing downstairs. Georgia's father and mother asked her to pick up the phone because of Georgia's father and mother were busy in the kitchen. Finally, Georgia rushed downstairs uneager and picked up the phone. *Bed of pain* in sentence (9) has a literal meaning 'bed sick' but in the context of situation in sentence (9), *the bed of pain* is a metaphor for the daydream of sadness experienced by Georgia. Furthermore, the use of *bed of pain* phrase is included in the type of *illogical mixed metaphors*, that the comparison has an illogical impression. *Bed of pain* in real condition is an illogical expression because in the real world there is no expression of 'sick bed'.

However, *bed of pain* is used because of its semantic features. *Bed of pain* has a semantic feature, an entity that is related to sad daydream. If we study deeply, the bed has the semantic features as the place to rest and empty the mind. This is compared to the daydream carried out by Georgia. This comparison is reasonable because there is similarity in semantic feature, namely empty thoughts. The word *pain* has a semantic feature that is similar to sadness, namely 'painful feelings' experienced and felt by a person's mental. Therefore, Rennison uses the bed of pain to describe the daydream of extreme sorrow.

Bed of pain in sentence (9) has an emotional metaphor which is included in *illogical mixed metaphors*. Furthermore, this case also appears in Shakespeare's artwork "*to take against a sea of trouble ...*" In this example *a sea of trouble* has an illogical meaning, as well as *a bed of pain*. The purpose of using this metaphor is to overestimate something, so that readers can easily capture the perception desired by the author. Moreover, this *bed of pain* metaphor is a comparison with perceptual equation and involves object categories or comparing with objects in the space of human perception.

The Connotative Meaning in "On the Bright Side, I'm now the Girlfriend of a Sex God"

The connotative meaning is another meaning that is "added" to the denotative meaning that relates to the taste value of the person or group of people who use the word. The following are the findings of connotative meaning in *On the Bright Side, I'm now the Girlfriend of a Sex God*.

(10) *I'm so **hot** and restless.*

The context of situation in sentence (10) is when Georgia considered herself a person who could not be underestimated. She thinks that she has advantages in terms of 'charming in her sexual appeal'. The word *hot* means literally hot, but when the word *hot* is used to describe human nature, a person is not described as someone who is hot, burning or ignited by fire. When someone is described as someone who is hot, it means that her physical appearance can arouse the passion of people who see her and increase heat in the

body. Thus, the meaning of word *hot* in sentence (10) is Georgia felt that she had physical appeal which could attract attention from the opposite sex and the word *restless* which has meaning as unable to stand still emphasizes that Georgia always attracted people's attention. The connotative meaning of the word *hot* in sentence (10) contains positive and negative connotations. Positive connotation arises when the meaning of the word *hot* here raises a spirit for Georgia to respect herself. The negative connotation will arise when the meaning of the word *hot* is used by commercial sex workers to sell themselves.

(11) *He laughed so much on his false teeth shot out. He was **wheezing** away for so long.*

The context of situation in sentence (11) is when Georgia commented on his grandfather's fake teeth that would come out if he laughed out loud. Georgia described his grandfather's behavior by saying he would act weird all the time. Georgia used the word *wheezing* to describe the grandfather's behavior. The word *wheezing* means denotatively as sigh. In the sentence (11) the grandfather would not sigh like a long sigh. The meaning of the word *wheezing* in the sentence is meaningful because the grandfather was old, so when he laughed he would not laugh out loud like a young man but he let out a sound like someone sighed repeatedly and it sounded strange.

The word *wheezing* in sentence (11) means a negative connotation because the behavior that arises from the meaning of *wheezing* is that someone will act awkwardly and strangely. The word *wheezing* actually has a neutral connotation, but in the context of the sentence (11) above the meaning becomes negative because it degrades other and has an unpleasant value for other. This is also related to the agreed consensus upon the British community about the word *wheezing* which means 'people who do not have the ability to make a sound perfectly and loudly again'.

(12) *She is practically a **midget**.*

Sentence (12) is a comment given by Georgia for her best friend Jass. The relationship between Georgia and Jass is a friendly relationship full of diverse feelings. They sometimes need each other but they can sometimes disagree then they do not greet each other. The sentence (12) is an expression of Georgia's feeling for Jass when she was annoyed by Jass.

Georgia used the word *midget* to aim at Jass. *Midget* means short people or those who are genetically small and have limited growth. However, the meaning of Georgia's word is not to describe Jass as being small but that Jass' image is like a midget who has a negative connotation for English people. Smaller people usually often become mockery in society because of their abnormal body shape like most people and they are often regarded as people who are useless and not included in the intellectual group. So, the meaning of the word *midget* in sentence (12) is that Jass is like a stupid person who has no intelligence.

The word *midget* in sentence (12) is a negative connotation because only the negative characteristics of the *midget* used by Georgia in the sentence, such as slow, strange and not so smart. Moreover, the word *midget* actually has a neutral connotation, but in sentence (12) the word has a sense of value that is not pleasing to other because it is related to the view of life or shared norms adopted by British society about *midget*.

13) *Honestly, some of the younger girls are so **dim**.*

Georgia commented on younger girls than her. In her 14 years old, Georgia felt that if she is an adult and she considered girls who are below her age to be useless little children. Georgia used the word *dim* to describe girls who were under her age. The word *dim* means denotatively dim or not bright, but what was meant by Georgia was not to say those girls were dark but girls were stupid or not smart. *Dim* in the sentence means that the girls' brains are not bright or smart. The word *dim* in sentence (13) means negative connotation because it means stupid or not smart.

14) *Eventually I was drifting off into **a tragic sleep** when I heard shouting from the next door's garden.*

The context of situation in sentence (14) occurs when Georgia fell asleep soundly after she had already managed to overcome her anxiety about sadness and she would leave her friends and lover because of her parents' desire to move from England to New Zealand. When Georgia fell asleep, he heard a loud voice from the direction of his home garden. In sentence (14) there is the phrase *a tragic sleep* which does not mean a tragic sleep, but the phrase *a tragic sleep* in sentence (14) means 'sleep that is not sound' or in this context, Georgia could finally fall asleep (uneasy sleep) after the shocking news she had just heard. The word *tragic* has the connotation of sadness because of its semantic features. The semantic feature of the word *tragic* is an extreme discomfort or sadness experienced by someone. In this case, the act of sleep experienced by Georgia is a sleep that is not calm (restless) which emphasizes the inconvenience experienced by Georgia when she slept and this discomfort was caused by news of her move to New Zealand.

The word *tragic* in the sentence (14) has an emotional connotation related to sadness. Furthermore, it happens so that the reader can get an image of an emotional feeling experienced by Georgia after hearing the news of her move which caused her to be separated from her friends and lover.

Idioms in On the Bright Side, I'm Now the Girlfriend of a Sex God

Idioms are speech units whose meaning cannot be "predicted" from the meaning of the elements, both lexically and grammatically. For example, the form of *selling a house* grammatically means 'the one who sells the house will receive money and the one who buys

the house will receive his house'. In Indonesian, the form of *selling teeth* does not have such meaning ("the one who sells receives money and the one who buys receives his tooth") but means "laughing out loud". So, the form of selling teeth has idiomatic meaning. The following is an idiom analysis in *On the Bright Side, I'm now the Girlfriend of a Sex God*.

(15) ***Tearing herself away*** from Tom for a second.

The situation in the sentence was that Georgia felt that Jass was busy with her boyfriend Tom so she had not cared her anymore. In the idiom *tearing herself away* in the sentence (15) the meaning conveyed is not the literal meaning that Georgia wanted to tear Jass herself apart. However, the use of word *tearing* with the base word *tear* means torn. It means that someone does not want to do it because the result will not be neat. There is an element of coercion in the word *tear*. In this case, if someone wants to share something intentionally, she will use the word *cut* which means cut rather than the word *tear*.

The word *tear* which is paired with the word *away* that has meaning becoming far away emphasizes the element of coercion in the idiom meaning. So, by looking at the context of the sentence (15), the meaning of *tearing herself away* is to create distance or to separate a person even though it will be difficult and will eventually lead to coercion. This activity of separating someone is difficult because the person does not want her to be separated. Furthermore, this idiom belongs to partial idiom because its literal meaning is still (slightly) comprehended, as seen in the *tearing* character which means separating a part into two parts.

(16) ***Break the news*** to him gently that I'm definitely not in a trillion years coming.

The situation that occurred in this sentence was that Georgia wanted to refuse subtly that in fact she did not want to go to New Zealand to move with her father. Georgia used the idiom *break the news* to express what she felt. The word *break* in this idiom does not mean damaged or broken. Using the word *break*, Georgia actually wanted to indicate that the information she wanted to say was new information. Thus, the meaning of idiom *break the news* is not literally that she would break the news because the news is an abstract object that cannot be broken down like a flower vase. However, there are similarities in semantic features between breaks which mean 'break' and 'informing news'. If we look at *I break the egg* and *break the news*, then there is an entity that comes out after the word *break*. In the sentence *I break the egg*, the entity that comes out is an egg that has not been cooked, and the idiom *break the news* will issue an entity in the form of news. Then, the meaning in sentence (16) is that Georgia wanted to convey news which was likely to surprise the recipient and this idiom is a partial idiom because its literal meaning is still (slightly) visible, like the word *break* which might mean an action to let out something (such as in the example *I break the egg*).

(17) *I can't talk really because **I am on the dash** to meet Tom.*

The situation in the sentence was when Georgia wanted to tell Jass but Jass objected because she already had an appointment with her boyfriend, Tom. In sentence (17) there is an idiom *I am on the dash*, the word *dash* is an abbreviation of the *dashboard*, one part of the car. When people say *I am on the dash* then this is related to a means of transportation called a car. Preposition *on* is used if one subject attaches to another subject such as *the painting is on the wall*. However, the sentence (17) does not mean that Jass attached to the dashboard of the car but Jass was ready to go. It is based on the assumption that if someone is already in the car, it means she is ready to leave or go. This idiom is a partial idiom because its literal meaning can be felt, such as the use of word *dash* that we can associate with parts of a car.

(18) *She **blundered around** in the elephantine nuddy-pants, looking for them.*

Sentence (18) is Georgia's comment about her sister Libby. The relationship between Georgia and Libby looks like a sister-to-be relationship in general, which often quarrel or in excitement. However, their considerable gap of age makes Georgia sometimes felt comfortable by her sister's behavior. In sentence (18), Georgia used *a blundered around* idiom to explain her sister's behavior. The word *blundered* means error while the word *around* means around, but the *blundered around* idiom does not mean a circular error. In the situation when the phrase "*She blundered around in the elephantine nuddy-pants, looking for them*" was stated by Georgia, there was a condition when Libby wore underwear with an elephant picture and she wore it without pants while walking around. So, when she walked around, she looked very funny. Therefore, Georgia used *blundered around* idiom which means funny and ridiculous act and this idiom is a full idiom because its literal meaning cannot be seen from the use of the idiom in sentence (18).

Figurative Meaning in "On the Bright Side, I'm now the Girlfriend of a Sex God"

(19) *But as usual when I say something sensible and meaningful, she just tutted and adjusted her bra **like a Russian roulette player**.*

The situation in sentence (19) above tells Georgia's condition when she chattered to her mother about her condition which began to grow up and was dealt by problems with adolescence. When Georgia complained to her mother, Georgia's mother just passed and did not pay attention. Georgia used the phrase *like a Russian roulette player* when her mother just passed by and did not pay attention to her complaints. It does not mean that Georgia's mother was a Russian roulette player but Georgia described the situation when her mother passed and Georgia's mother justified the position of her bra, and the her movement seemed like a *Russian roulette player* who prepared before firing the gun.

The sentence (19) is an example of the figurative meaning found in *On the Bright Side, I'm now the Girlfriend of a Sex God* and has the purpose of exaggerating or emphasizing a context of situation by comparing the movement of correcting the bra with the movement of Russian roulette player that get ready to shoot at the opponent. It happens so that the atmosphere of the story is made visible in the novel written by Rennison.

(20) *My eyes are all swollen up like mice eyes from crying.*

The sentence describes Georgia's condition after crying all day. Georgia cried all day after hearing the news that she would move to New Zealand with her parents and leave her friends and lover. For this reason, Georgia felt devastated and cried all day. In the sentence (20), "*My eyes are all swollen up like mice eyes from crying*" means comparing the condition of Georgia's eyes after she cried with the shape of a mouse's eye. After crying, the condition of Georgia's eyes became swollen and her eyeballs looked very small, just like mouse eyes that looked very small. In this case, the semantic features of small mouse eyes are compared to human eyes that look small after crying (both small in shape).

The sentence (20) uses the figurative meaning of the sentence *My eyes are all swollen up like mice eyes from crying* which is intended to emphasize the eye's condition after crying by comparing it with the shape of the mouse eyes that look very small. Furthermore, it is stated this way so that readers can get the emotional feeling that happened to Georgia after crying all day through a human eye's comparison after crying with the mouse eyes.

(21) *The time goes very slowly when you are suicidal.*

Sentence (21) is a conscience spoken by Georgia. Through this conscience, Georgia complained about her condition which was very sad because of her parents' decision to move to New Zealand. This decision caused her to part with her friends and lover and it made Georgia very sad and depressed. Georgia used the word *suicidal* to indicate her condition. Literally this word means "people who will commit suicide." However, this does not mean that Georgia will commit suicide because of the sadness she experienced. *Suicidal* is a figurative meaning for sadness. Furthermore, *suicidal* is used to give 'hyperbolic' effect in the context of the sentence. The *suicidal* word in sentence (21) is used to describe a very sad feeling.

There is similarity in the semantic features in the *suicidal* word and 'very, very sadness'. In the word *suicidal* contains semantic features 'due to extreme depression or sadness' and this is related to the element of sadness faced by Georgia. From the analysis, it can be concluded that figurative meaning from the word *suicidal* is used to emphasize the ongoing situation, in this context the emphasis is on deep sad situation.

CONCLUSION

Connotative meaning, metaphors, idioms, and figurative meaning are used by Georgia to show how deep her feeling plays a role in evaluating things. By using connotative meaning, metaphor, idiom, and figurative meaning, the humor element contained in the novel can reveal without intending to joke, as in the example of the nicknames Georgia gave to everyone she met.

The novel *On the Bright Side, I'm now the Girlfriend of a Sex God* is written in Georgia's daily notes, and Loise Rennison, the author of this novel, uses many elements of metaphor with the intention of comparing two entities that have the same format, form, character, or perception. Furthermore, the author also uses many negative connotation words to express Georgia's frustration at her surrounding condition, such as in school which she considered to be a boring place. For example, Georgia's resentment is expressed in connotative terms such as the land of crap.

The majority of the idioms found in *On the Bright Side novels, I'm now the Girlfriend of a Sex God* are partial idioms because they still reflect the semantic features from one of the words in the sentence, as in the idiom tearing herself away that are meaningful (someone to stay away). The author also uses many figurative meanings which are aimed to emphasize the situation. By looking at the discussion chapter above, it can be concluded that in the novel *On the Bright Side, I'm now the Girlfriend of a Sex God*, Louis Rennison uses many connotative meanings, metaphors, idioms, and figurative meanings in stories about Georgia. It aims to provide aesthetic and hyperbolic effects in the novel *On the Bright Side, I'm now the Girlfriend of a Sex God*. Metaphors, connotative meaning, idioms, and figurative meaning are used to express Georgia's feelings about something, both related to his family, friends, and her circumstances.

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