

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

The final chapter presents the conclusion and suggestions of the study. It summarizes the information discussed in the previous chapter to answer the research questions.

5.1 Conclusion

The Tortured Poets Department: The Anthology album is a collection of songs that capture Taylor Swift's emotional experiences during a brief but impactful chapter of her life. As Swift described, this album serves as an anthology that gathers stories, reflections, and feelings that were both heartbreaking and transformative. Through poetic storytelling, she turns sorrow into something meaningful, shaping it into artistic expression that transforms personal pain and public misunderstanding into songs that speak to others. Her experiences in the songs can inspire and motivate listeners, allowing her to reclaim her voice, connect with her audience, and transform vulnerability into strength. As she shared, the album is a secret double album, a result of two years of "tortured poetry" that she wanted to share with her listeners. In her words, *"the story isn't mine anymore... it's all yours,"* emphasizing how the emotional journey captured in these songs now belongs to the listener.

This research examined two main aspects, namely the types of figurative language used in the fifteen additional songs of the anthology, and the meaning behind those figurative expressions. From a total of 327 lyrical expressions, 180 were identified as figurative. Metaphor appeared most frequently, followed by symbol, overstatement, and simile. These types play a key role in Swift's lyrical style, allowing her to express complex emotions through vivid imagery and layered meanings. Songs such as *The Albatross*, *imgonnagetyouback*, and *The Bolter* contain the highest number of figurative expressions, indicating their emotional intensity. Compared to her previous albums, The Tortured Poets Department: The Anthology presents a significant change in both lyrical style and leans more heavily into poetic devices. The figurative expressions used are often more detailed and emotionally rich, reflecting a more mature and introspective songwriting style.

By using Perrine's theory in Johnson et al. (2016) and supported by insights from Genius and Vogue Australia, this analysis reveals that Swift's figurative language is not just poetic decoration, but also deeply meaningful. It serves as a powerful tool for storytelling, emotional release, and self-reflection. In conclusion, the figurative language in this album is both an artistic medium and an emotional record that marks a unique and transformative chapter in Swift's music that is now shared intimately with her listeners.

5.2 Suggestions

Figurative language has been a significant topic in the study of literature and music for many years. In particular, the use of figurative expressions in modern music remains underexplored, even though it plays an important role in conveying emotional depth and narrative meaning. This study focuses on Taylor Swift's *The Tortured Poets Department: The Anthology* and aims to understand the types and meanings of figurative language in her lyrics. Based on the findings, the following suggestions are proposed.

Theoretically, future researchers are encouraged to explore figurative language across various forms of media, such as poems, novels, movies and other literary works. This can help expand the theoretical framework and offer a deeper understanding of how figurative expressions work across different contexts. Additionally, applying diverse theories can provide new insights into how figurative language functions and shapes meaning in various genres.

Practically, it is suggested that educators and students engage with popular culture, especially music with rich lyrical content like those by Taylor Swift to explore the use of figurative language. Engaging with music in the classroom can make learning about figurative language more accessible, enjoyable, and relevant. Music listeners are also encouraged to take a closer look at song lyrics to uncover the deeper meanings behind the words and narrative layers created by figurative expressions.