

Discourse Analysis in Song Lyric Entitled Boulevard Sung by Dan Byrd

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Abstract. This research aimed to get the three aspect of discourse analysis: contextual, grammatical and lexical aspect of the song lyric entitled Boulevard. In this study, the researcher would like to discuss the song lyric using qualitative approach. After analyzing it, the researcher found that the lyric was about a sad story of a heartbroken man and hoping to get a happy life with his lover if he got another chance. In the side of grammatical and lexical analysis give a cohesion and coherence in the song lyric. The result of the grammatical and lexical aspect gives a depiction of cohesion and coherence of the song discourse of "Boulevard". It can be seen that there are seven forms of first singular personal pronoun of "I", nine forms of second plural personal pronoun of "you", and three form of first plural personal pronoun of "we". Though, it is difficult to find lexical aspect of this song discourse in the song lyric "Boulevard, there are collocation and equivalency aspect in it. They are "My love" and "lovers", "happy forever" and "love together" as collocation aspect. Whereas "let me know" and "tell me", "go" and "left" as the equivalency aspect.

Keywords: Discourse analysis, Song lyric, Boulevard

1. INTRODUCTION

Humans require interaction with other people in order to survive. For this exchange to take place, media is required for communication. Language, signs, sounds, or other media can be used. The earliest medium for communication was language. Everyone uses language as a tool for communication in their daily lives to share their ideas and disagreements with others [1]-[3]. Carol states that language is an arbitrary system of sounds or spoken sound patterns that are employed or can be employed in interpersonal communication. [4]-[6]

People could convey their thoughts, ideas, desires, emotions, messages, etc. through language. They are able to produce the language both orally and in writing. One example of a language product is a song. The lyrics will convey the message to the listeners. The term of *lyric* itself originates from the Greek word "*lyre*," The Greek word "lyre," describes an instrument the Grecians played when reciting poetry. Words are used by lyrical poets to evoke specific emotions and moods. These moods express a range of emotions, from intense to unclear, on life, love, death, and other life experiences [7]-[9].

A lot of individuals enjoy listening to music, particularly when the lyrics express common emotions. As it is said that lyrics have the ability to affect the feelings of listeners [10], [11]. In understanding the meaning of song lyrics it needs a discourse analysis especially when it is in foreign language. The term "discourse" has a fact added to its meaning, which can be understood in different ways depending on the situation [12]-[14]. It can be treated as the general domain of all statements, as an individual able set of statements, or as a regulated practice that takes into account a variety of statements.

Pettijohn & Sacco Jr. discussed how songs interact with listeners and transmit information in ways akin to how people converse [15]. Song definitions state that a song is a poem with lyrics and melody. A lyric is a group of verses and choruses that together form a full song or a brief, non-narrative poetry. A lyric usually has a single speaker who shares feelings or ideas that are unique to them. Lyrical poetry are easy to set to music, have a nice sound, and are frequently chosen for their rhythm and melodic qualities [7].

Additionally, the song's tone, lyrics, and musical components all contribute significantly to its attractiveness. Lyrics have the power to influence listeners' emotions as well. A song often contains a

narrative, information, or experience. The deeper meaning of the song lyrics might be revealed by analyzing the sentences inside the lyrics. As we know that one of the most important parts of a song is its lyrics [4], [7]-[8]. The study about discourse is important and interesting for student. Something unique for students learning English or teacher who teaches English because he or she combines the linguistics features, such as semantic, syntactic with personal feeling [7]-[9]. It seems to be deep learning technique. It needs to observe the context and concept not only understanding literal but also deep implicit meaning. The study about lyric has been done by some scholar. It is finding implicit meaning relating social issue [15], the study of song lyric to teach young learners [21], how to find social discourse by finding messages [22]. this study is to finding the taboo word relating with social critics [23] This study uses a qualitative technique to examine the contextual, grammatical, and lexical aspects of the song lyric "Boulevard" in relation to the three discourse analysis dimensions. Previous research on discourse analysis of song lyric discussion has been done. The first was the research done by Sukmono Bayu Adhi. He looked at the figurative language used in the Boulevard song lyric by Dan Byrd.

The study's main focus was on the meaning of figurative language as it appears in the lyrics to the song "Boulevard." In contrast to the first study, these aims to look into the lexical, grammatical, and contextual aspects of the Boulevard song lyric. The second previous study was a research which looked at the lexical, grammatical, and contextual aspects of the lyrics to the song "We will not go down (Song for Gaza)" by Michael Heart [24]. The researcher's attention in this study was on the song's lexical, grammatical, and contextual aspects. However, it was examined from many contextual and lexical angles. The third previous study was conducted by Iin Saftrian et.al [25]. They analyzed Song Lyrics in Tulus's Monochrome Album only in the form of lexical and grammatical meaning found in the song lyrics in that album. They didn't analyze the lexical, grammatical, and contextual aspects. Moreover, the implications of the song "Moana Original Soundtrack" for educational reasons as well as the lexical and contextual meanings inside the lyrics [12]. The research question is how is the discourse analysis the Song Lyric Entitled Boulevard Sung by Dan Byrd in the perspective of linguistics? And what is the message delivered by the author?

2. METHOD

Discourse analysis is how text relate to context of situation and how text are created as a media to express idea, believe or thought. The definition of discourse analysis, according to Stubbs, is (a) the study of language use outside of sentences or utterances; (b) the study of the relationship between language and society; and (c) the study of the interactive or dialogic aspects of daily communication [20]-[27].

Discourse analysts must utilize texts in their work. Texts make up the corpus of any given study; examples of texts include written documents, recorded conversation transcripts, and computerized corpora of a particular language [28]. Musical compositions are classified into two groups based on how they appear: instrumental music and music with lyrics, or songs [29]. A song is therefore a collection of pre-existing tunes that are enhanced by song text, or lyrics. According to the Cambridge Dictionary, song lyrics are the actual words of a song [30]. Thus the lyrics are the song's most important element. Although a song can sound attractive and wonderful with simple music, the author's meaning must still be communicated through the words.

The Data of Research

The object of the research is a song lyric entitled Boulevard. This song was sung by Dan Byrd in his album Stay. It was released on 1984. The song lyric as the main data was written by Tomis Chilaren. The secondary data were gathered from pertinent online sources that may support in the study and help to get the answer of the problem.

Data Analysis

In this study, there are some steps in processing the data to get the answer of the problem. The initial phase in data analysis is listening, when the writer will pay close attention to the song, The second step is reading. In order to ascertain the song's message, the writer will read the lyrics repeatedly. The writer will identify the contextual, grammatical, and lexical aspects in the third step, analysis. Fourth, the author will draw a conclusion and paraphrase the song's lyrics after considering every angle.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The data of this study is taken from Dan Byrd's song entitled Boulevard. This song told about a man left by his lover in a boulevard and he begged his lover to give him another chance so that they could live and happy together. As Marco Parsons, a frequent contributor to Old Time Music explained that the beautiful ballad "Boulevard" by Dan Byrd explores the depths of love and heartache. The song's lyrics vividly depict a person struggling to deal with the abrupt loss of a deeply loved relationship. "I don't know why you said goodbye," the first phrase, instantly establishes the tone of bewilderment and sadness. After being left in a condition of emotional distress, the protagonist begs for clarification and a chance to repair the damaged relationship. The recurring picture of being left on a boulevard, which is a metaphor for feeling lost and abandoned in a once-familiar place now packed with unpleasant memories, emphasizes this sense of desperation even more.

The song's poignant chorus, "Come again you would release my pain, and we could be lovers again," highlights the protagonist's intense need for forgiveness. The boulevard, which represents their common history, turns into a site of sorrow and hope. The storyline of the song speaks to everyone who has ever felt the hurt of a breakup and the desire for a second chance. The melancholy melody of the song and Byrd's expressive delivery heighten the impression of vulnerability and desire.

The protagonists' optimism comes through in the song's last verse, as they look forward to a time when they can be happy together once more. A dash of romantic fantasy is added when Tokyo is mentioned as a destination where they could live happily ever after, implying that a change of scenery might help them get over their problems. This fantasy of starting over somewhere new emphasizes the common want to run away from suffering and find comfort in fresh starts. "Boulevard" is a timeless hymn for the grieving because it is a moving examination of love, grief, and the unwavering hope for reconciliation. This is the song lyric of "Boulevard" sung by Dan Byrd [31].

BOULEVARD

- (1) *I don't know why*
- (2) *You said goodbye*
- (3) *Just let me know you didn't go*
- (4) *Forever my love*
- (5) *Please tell me why*
- (6) *You make me cry*
- (7) *I beg you please I'm on my knees*
- (8) *If that's what you want me to*
- (9) *Never knew that it would go so far*
- (10) *When you left me on that boulevard*
- (11) *Come again, you would release my pain*
- (12) *And we could be lovers again*
- (13) *Just one more chance*
- (14) *Another dance*
- (15) *And let me feel it isn't real*
- (16) *That I've been losing you*
- (17) *This sun will rise*
- (18) *Within your eyes*
- (19) *Come back to me and we will be*
- (20) *Happy together*
- (21) *Never knew that it would go so far*
- (22) *When you left me on that boulevard*
- (23) *Come again, you would release my pain*
- (24) *And we could be lovers again*
- (25) *Maybe today*
- (26) *I'll make you stay*
- (27) *A little while just for a smile*
- (28) *And love together*
- (29) *For I will show*
- (30) *A place I know*
- (31) *In Tokyo where we could be*
- (32) *Happy forever*

According to the lyric, it is a sad song. The sorrow caused by the relationship which has to end unhappily. The song shares a universal feeling which happened to everyone who has the same experience about the breakup and a hope of second chance. The melancholic melody is in line with the sad song lyric. Lyric is the expression of the writer and its arrangement of words support the message which would be delivered to the listener. To get better understanding about the song lyric, a contextual analysis should be done.

Contextual Analysis

To comprehend the events and elements around a particular event, text, or circumstance, contextual analysis is a useful technique. It is said that the practice of examining a complex topic or issue in order to obtain a deeper knowledge is known as contextual analysis [32]. This method considers a number of situational and sociocultural factors. The inferential component will next be explained using this contextual analysis.

Situational Context

Situational context consist of physical, epistemic, social context with personal, locational and temporal analogical interpretation principle:

Physical context, these are some aspect of physical context and its analysis. Based on locational interpretation, the situation which is expressed in the song lyric is in a boulevard.

(10) *When you left me on the boulevard*

The topic of conversation is the sad feeling of the singer because of his lover left him in the boulevard.

(9) *Never knew that it would go so far*

(10) *When you left me on that boulevard*

Epistemic Context, There is an understanding between the writer of the song lyric and the hearer of the song about the sad feeling of broken heart and there is a hope of happy live if there is another chance. These following lyrics will reinforce the idea :

(25) *Maybe today*

(26) *I'll make you stay*

(27) *A little while just for a smile*

(28) *And love together*

(29) *For I will show*

(30) *A place I know*

(31) *InTokyo where we could be*

(32) *Happy together*

Social Context, according the song lyric, the interpretation about the hearer in social context can be seen by analyzing the sentences of the lyric. The sadness or feeling gloomy in the lyric reflected in every words. In social life it is a normal thing happened for someone with heartbroken to express the sadness. Socio-Cultural contexts, The social and cultural elements that affect people and their actions in a given society or community are referred to as the socio-cultural context. It includes the social structures, norms, values, beliefs, conventions, and traditions that influence how people think, act, and relate to one another [33].

(3) *Just let me know you didn't go*

(4) *Forever my love*

(6) *You make me cry*

(7) *I beg you please I'm on my knees*

(16) *That I've been losing you*

According to Sumarlam (2003) as cited by WC. Hutajulu understanding external context examination of conversation can help establish an understanding of cultural and social context [34]. In this case, it's crucial to recognize the cultural and social context in order to attempt to comprehend the song lyrics more deeply.

Due to its free distribution on MP3, Spotify, YouTube, and other channels—which allows for cost-free downloads and access—this song has gained immense global recognition. Millions of people have viewed and downloaded it from the official websites as well as others. Up to now many versions of this song were released and a large number of fans have responded positively to them.

The socio-cultural context of the boulevard song by Dan Byrd. He lyrics suggest that this is a depressing tune. It can be seen in these lyrics:

- (6) *You make me cry*
- (7) *I beg you please I'm on my knees*
- (8) *If that's what you want me to*

The sadness brought on by a relationship that must terminate unhappy can be seen in these lyrics:

- (9) *Never knew that it would go so far*
- (10) *When you left me on the boulevard*
- (15) *And let me feel it isn't real*
- (16) *That I've been losing you*

The song expresses a common emotion that all people who have gone through a breakup. It can be seen in these lyrics:

- (1) *I don't know why*
- (2) *You said goodbye*
- (3) *Just let me know you didn't go*
- (4) *Forever my love*

There is a hope for a second opportunity encounter and it can be seen in these lyrics:

- (11) *Come again you would release my pain*
- (12) *And we could be lover again*
- (13) *Just one more chance*
- (14) *Another dance*
- (19) *Come back to me and we will be*
- (20) *Happy together*

The depressing song lyrics are consistent with the *sombre* melody. A lyric is a writer's expression, and the way the words are arranged supports the message being conveyed to the audience.

Grammatical Aspect Analysis

Cambridge Dictionary defines grammatical as having to do with grammar or adhering to its rules. Grammatical analysis is the process of examining the structure and components of sentences in a language to understand how words and phrases are organized and how they function within a sentence. It involves identifying parts of speech, phrases, clauses, and sentence structures to determine how they work together to convey meaning [35].

Discourse analysis encompasses grammatical characteristics such as conjunction, elliptical aspect, substitution, and reference [34]. These following grammatical elements can be found in the Boulevard song lyrics:

a. Reference

In this song lyric, the personal reference found are :

- Form of first singular personal reference

There are seven first singular personal references *I* in the lyric. The word *I* refers to the singer, someone who left by his lover. The word *I* can be viewed in line of these sentences :

- 1) *I don't know why*
- 2) *I beg you please*
- 3) *I'm on my knees*
- 4) *That I've been losing you*
- 5) *I'll make you stay*
- 6) *For I will show*
- 7) *A place I know*

- Form of second singular personal reference

There are nine second singular references. The word *you* in this song lyric refers to the singer lover who left him in the boulevard. These references can be seen in these sentences:

- 1) *You said goodbye*
- 2) *Just let me know you didn't go*
- 3) *You make me cry*
- 4) *I beg you please I'm on my knees*
- 5) *If that's what you want me to*
- 6) *When you left me on that boulevard*

- 7) *Come again, you would release my pain*
- 8) *That I've been losing you*
- 9) *I'll make you stay*

- Form of first plural personal reference

There are three first plural personal reference that is *we*. All this words refers to the singer and his lover. This references can be view in line of these verses below:

- 1) *And we could be lovers again*
- 2) *we will be happy together*
- 3) *In Tokyo where we could be happy forever*

b. Elliptical

In the song lyric of Boulevard, there is elliptical in these sentences:

- 1) *I don't know why*
- 2) *you didn't go*
- 3) *I beg you please I'm on my knees
If that's what you want me to*
- 4) *And let me feel it isn't real
That I've been losing you*
- 5) *I'll make you stay*

The actual grammatical construction is:

- 1) *I do not know*
- 2) *You did not go*
- 3) *I beg you please I am on my knees*
- 4) *If that is what you want me to*
- 5) *And let me feel it is not real*
- 6) *That I have been losing you*
- 7) *I will make you stay*

c. Conjunction

There are sentences with conjunction in the song lyrics of "Boulevard":

- 1) *And we could be lovers again*
- 2) *And let me feel it isn't real*
- 3) *Come back to me and we will be*
- 4) *And love together*

Table 1. Speech Act Analysis on Utterances in Song Lyric Entitled "Boulevard"

No	Utterances	Category
1	<i>I don't know why you said goodbye</i>	Informing
2	<i>Just let me know you didn't go forever my love</i>	Requesting
3	<i>Please tell me why you make me cry</i>	Requesting
4	<i>I beg you please</i>	Informing
5	<i>I'm on my knees If that's what you want me to Never knew that</i>	Informing
6	<i>it would go so far</i>	Informing
7	<i>When you left me on that boulevard</i>	Informing
8	<i>Come again, you would release my pain</i>	Requesting
9	<i>And we could be lovers again</i>	Promising
10	<i>Just one more chance another dance</i>	Requesting
11	<i>And let me feel it isn't real that I've been losing you</i>	Requesting
12	<i>This sun will rise within your eyes</i>	Stating
13	<i>Come back to me and we will be happy together</i>	Requesting
14	<i>Never knew that it would go so far</i>	Stating
15	<i>When you left me on that boulevard</i>	Informing
16	<i>Come again, you would release my pain</i>	Requesting
17	<i>And we could be lovers again</i>	Promising
18	<i>Maybe today I'll make you stay</i>	Stating
19	<i>A little while just for a smile And love together</i>	Informing
20	<i>For I will show A place I know</i>	Stating
21	<i>In Tokyo where we could be happy forever</i>	Promising

Lexical Aspect Analysis

Lexical aspect considers concepts including telicity, dynamism, timeliness, and stativity and refers to the verb phrase's underlying meaning or the way the real-life event is structured [36]. Lexical aspect, which is distinct from tense and grammatical aspect, is a characteristic of a linguistic description provided by the verb phrase [37], [38]. In this discourse analysis, lexical aspects are used to promote coherence and cohesiveness from a semantic standpoint. The lyrics to the song "Boulevard" contain the following lexical elements:

1) Colocation

Colocation refers to a group of two or more words that usually go together. Colocations as word groups that appear to have a "mutual expectancy," or a greater-than-chance probability, of occurring together in any given text [39].

In the song lyrics "Boulevard" can be found colocation aspect in the words: *my love and lovers and happy forever and love together*

2) Equivalency

It is claimed that an equivalence occurs when two languages express the same situation using different stylistic or structural techniques [40]. In the song lyric "Boulevard", the equivalency is found in the words:

- Let me know = tell me
- Go = left

5. CONCLUSION

Based on the discourse analysis component, the song lyric "Boulevard" has been examined. The song's words describe the emotion, and the contextual element demonstrates how the lyrics relate to everyday life.

The outcome of the lexical and grammatical aspects illustrates the consistency and cohesiveness of the musical discourse on "Boulevard." The first singular personal pronoun "I" has seven forms, the second plural personal pronoun "you" has nine variants, and the first plural personal pronoun "we" has three forms.

Even though the song lyric "Boulevard" lacks many lexical elements, it does contain collocation and equivalence elements. They are my loves and my love; we will be happy together forever and share a collocation-based love. As for the equivalence element, let me know and tell me, go, and left.

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