1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Human beings are given the capacity to talk and to communicate and the primary tool of their communication is language. People use language to communicate to each other, to express their thought, feeling or ideas either in spoken or written language. Language organizes the content of communication, what human beings want to talk about, into sounds that are heard or the written symbol that are read. So in all our activities and in all aspects of our life, language is involved to serve or to perform its communicative duty.

To know more about language, here are some definitions of language proposed by prominent linguists:

Robert (1957:18) says that “language is the system of speech sound by which human beings, communicate with one another.”

Crystal (1974:30) says that “language is the most frequently used and most highly developed form of human communication.”

That actually the two definitions of language quoted above give us some understanding the purpose of language is to make the speaker and hearer understand through the communicate meaning in the language. It means that meaning is a crucial part of language and through language we give and take meanings.

Meaning can be distinguished into literal and non-literal meaning. Literal meaning means the exactly what the speaker wants to deliver or wants to say. In other
word, literal meaning is we mean what we said, we mean what our words mean, whereas
the non-literal meaning the goal of speaker convey the idea through language is to make
the hearer catch what the speaker really means but sometimes the hearer catch the wrong
idea of what the speaker wants to deliver because it has the different meaning. For
example *you look smart*, and in literal meaning *you look smart* means that you are smart
or you’re an intelligent person, but in non-literal meaning *you look smart* can be meant
“you wear something nice, wear something neat”.

In case of non-literal meaning, there are number of different ways the speaker or
writer express their idea that is by using figures of speeches, such as, facetiously,
exaggeratedly, or figuratively.

In relation to the topic that I am going to analyze in the paper that is the Non-Literal
meaning in some song lyrics, song lyrics most of the time contain literal meanings. A
Song lyric is a kind of poem. Poem is kind of literary work that often uses figure of
speeches like facetiously (ironical or sarcastically). Every poem has a meaning that can
be caught directly or indirectly. Because in poems there is often got the hidden meaning
on it, so the readers must find out what it is that the poet wants to deliver.

Song lyric is also like a poem that is composed by the composer to express their
feeling. They are also often use non-literal meaning to make their song lyric much more
beautiful and full of meaning. Song lyric is one of the interesting works that can give the
enjoyment by reading, or hearing it. Because every song is not just for heard, or enjoying
the sound of music and the lyric, but every song got their own message, their own feeling
from what the composer wants to deliver.
The Used is a post hardcore band from Orem, Utah. They signed with Reprise Records in late 2001 and rose to fame in June 2002 after releasing their debut self-titled album, The Used. And the band members are Bert McCracken as lead vocals - keyboard/piano, Quinn Allman as guitar - backing vocals, Jepha Howard as bass – backing vocals, Branden Steineckert as drums (former, 2001-2006), Dan Whitesides as drums (present, 2007). The Used has produced many songs that give non-literal expression in their works.

In this thesis, figurative expressions which are found in selected song lyrics of The Used were adopted. The lyrics were chosen as the object of my analysis because there are many figurative/ non-literal meaning found in the song lyrics of The Used. The Used is one of my favorite group music and I found that their song lyrics are very interesting and nice to hear.

1.2 The Problems of Analysis

In analyzing non-literal meanings in selected song lyrics of The Used, there are two problems that found. These problems needed to solve, or to be overcome. They are:

1. What kinds of non-literal meanings are found in The Used’s selected song lyrics?
2. What are the meanings of the kind of non-literal meanings found in that selected song lyrics?
1.3 The Objectives of Analysis

By doing this analysis, I want to achieve some objectives that stated as follows:

1. To find out and analyze the kinds of non-literal meanings those are found in the selected song lyrics of The Used.

2. To describe and analyze the meanings of the kinds of non-literal meanings in selected song lyrics of The Used.

1.4 The Significance of Analysis

Those objectives are expected to give some significances to readers and even to me, especially for those who are interested in this subject I hope that this thesis can be useful for the readers who wanted to find out more examples of non-literal meaning, and I wanted to increase my vocabulary or the knowledge about meaning. Besides understanding non-literal meaning sentences not as simple as it sound, we have to read it over and over and tried to catch the true meaning of the sentence.
1.5 The Scope of Analysis

It is significant for the writer to give the limitation, or scope of the analysis. The focus of this analysis is non-literal meaning in selected song lyrics of *The Used*. The writer chooses 9 songs from 3 albums of The Used which contain non-literal meaning. Three albums that is “The Used”, “In Love and Death”, and “Lies for The Liars”. The lyrics were classified into three ways of non-literal meaning that are facetious, exaggerated, and figurative way. Figurative way also has different ways to express meanings, such as personification, simile, or metaphor.