

# Metaphor in the Song Lyrics of Aurora's Album: A Different Kind of Human Step 2

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## Abstract

**Keywords:**  
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Metaphors are essential for understanding complex ideas and enhancing creativity. Thoroughly studying metaphors reveals their deeper meanings, especially in poetic devices used in songs. Artist Aurora is known for her inspiring and introspective lyrics, particularly in her album "A Different Kind of Human Step 2," which focuses on self-discovery and nature. Applying Lakoff and Johnson's theory of conceptual metaphors to Aurora's lyrics uncovers the depths of her emotions and highlights the environmental crisis she addresses. This research aims to identify the types of metaphors in Aurora's album and their meanings using Lakoff and Johnson's framework. The findings will benefit English teachers and learners by improving vocabulary, writing, and metaphor analysis skills through real-world song lyrics. The researcher will also contribute valuable knowledge to the field. The method used is library research, systematically analyzing various sources. The study found 30 lyrics containing conceptual metaphors, revealing the significance of structural, orientational, and ontological metaphors in creating meaning. This research offers valuable contributions to English Language Teaching by improving students' writing, vocabulary, and metaphorical comprehension.

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**Abstrak**

**Kata Kunci:** *Metafora sangat penting untuk memahami ide-ide yang kompleks dan meningkatkan kreativitas. Mempelajari metafora secara menyeluruh akan mengungkap makna yang lebih dalam, terutama dalam perangkat puitis yang digunakan dalam lagu. Artis Aurora dikenal karena liriknya yang inspiratif dan introspektif, terutama dalam albumnya "A Different Kind of Human Step 2," yang berfokus pada penemuan diri dan alam. Menerapkan teori metafora konseptual Lakoff dan Johnson pada lirik Aurora mengungkap kedalaman emosinya dan menyoroti krisis lingkungan yang ia tangani. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi jenis-jenis metafora dalam album Aurora dan maknanya menggunakan kerangka kerja Lakoff dan Johnson. Temuan ini akan bermanfaat bagi guru dan pelajar bahasa Inggris dengan meningkatkan keterampilan kosakata, menulis, dan analisis metafora melalui lirik lagu di dunia nyata. Peneliti juga akan menyumbangkan pengetahuan yang berharga di bidang ini. Metode yang digunakan adalah penelitian kepustakaan, menganalisis berbagai sumber secara sistematis. Penelitian ini menemukan 30 lirik yang mengandung metafora konseptual, yang mengungkap pentingnya metafora struktural, orientasi, dan ontologis dalam menciptakan makna. Penelitian ini menawarkan kontribusi yang berharga bagi Pengajaran Bahasa Inggris dengan meningkatkan kemampuan menulis, kosakata, dan pemahaman metafora siswa.*

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**Introduction**

Metaphors, though often unnoticed, are ubiquitous in daily conversations, speeches, and writings. They add color and depth to language, helping individuals express complex ideas simply. As in literature, writers utilize metaphors to influence the reader's response by manipulating language to shape perception. In essence, metaphors serve as a powerful tool for writers to convey complex ideas in a compelling and accessible manner, while simultaneously influencing the reader's cognitive and emotional responses. They're a powerful tool used in all sorts of fields, from politics and sports to legal arguments and economic discussions. They even appear in everyday sayings, poems, prose, and, perhaps surprisingly, the verses of the Quran and the teachings of Islam. In Islamic teachings, metaphors have a significant role. They're seen as a powerful

tool for conveying complex spiritual concepts in a way that resonates with people. These metaphors, often called "*mathal*" in Arabic, bridge the gap between the abstract and the concrete. As an example, metaphors might compare Allah's power to the vastness of the sky or use stories about gardens and rivers to represent paradise and the flow of blessings. By using familiar imagery, metaphors make Islamic teachings more relatable and impactful for believers.

In modern literature, metaphors are commonly used in poetry and songs to convey ideas, feelings, and information emotionally. Songs serve various purposes, such as expressing the singer's feelings or views, telling stories, and addressing societal issues. One notable artist is Aurora Aksnes, known as AURORA, whose unique lyrics inspire and motivate people. Aurora believes music can evoke strong emotions and connect listeners on a human level. Her emotive and introspective songs are themed to inspire personal growth and encourage students. Her poetic and thought-provoking lyrics are suitable for language and literature studies, helping students develop critical thinking skills, explore metaphors and symbolism, and understand poetic devices. Aurora's music offers a unique perspective that can enrich educational experiences. Most of her phenomenal songs are in the second part of her second album: *A Different Kind of Human Step 2*. Her second album, "A Different Kind of Human," is dedicated to issues related to the environment and global warming. Moreover, the songs in the album are written artistically to express these meanings using various figurative language in this context metaphorically.

The study of metaphor has been revolutionized by the groundbreaking work of Lakoff and Johnson in their book "Metaphors We Live By." According to their conceptual metaphor theory, metaphor is defined as "viewing one conceptual area through the perspective of another." They explain that metaphor involves using one conceptual area, referred to as the "source domain," to understand another, called the "target domain." The source domain provides the basis for interpreting the target domain, often using concrete or physical concepts to explain abstract ideas. For example, the metaphor "Time is Money" relies on

the abstract concept of time being understood in terms of the concrete concept of money; as we understand the value of money, we also understand the value of time. This connection exemplifies how the conceptual system of metaphor works, indicating that metaphor is found not only in language but also in cognition and behavior.

Furthermore, in the book "*Metaphor We Live By*", Conceptual Metaphor is categorized into many types. Lakoff and Johnson divided metaphors into three conceptual types, namely, 1) Structural metaphor is a concept when an idea is symbolically organized in terms of another. 2) Orientational metaphor is a type of metaphor that uses spatial concepts, like up/down, front/back, or in/out, to understand more abstract ideas. 3) Ontological metaphor is type of metaphor that treats abstract things like events, emotions, or even the mind itself as if they were tangible objects or substances.

In search of the benefits and meanings of songs, knowledge of metaphors is essential. Understanding the classification and types of metaphors, along with the foundational theory by Lakoff and Johnson, is crucial. Their work, particularly in "*Metaphors We Live By*" (1980), revolutionized the understanding of metaphors in language and thought. Their theory emphasizes that metaphors are not just linguistic expressions but fundamental to human thought and understanding. By exploring metaphors in songs, listeners can uncover deeper meanings, connect emotionally, and appreciate the artistic nuances. This knowledge enhances the educational value of songs, making them powerful tools for learning and personal growth.

Based on the phenomena above, this research focused on analyzing the Metaphor using Lakoff and Jhonson's theory. As the subject, the researcher will be using Aurora's songs in the album: *A Different Kind of Human Step 2*.

## Method

This research utilizes Library Research as the design, involving organized inquiry with specific instruments, guidelines, and methods.(George, 2008) The

descriptive method is used to facilitate data analysis and simplify the research report. Primary data is Primary data refers to information gathered and analyzed directly to address a specific research question. The data is collected directly from Aurora's album "A Different Kind of Human: Step 2" through the Genius website. These are including songs like "The River," "Animal," and "The Seed." Secondary data includes references from online sources like the Aurora Aksnes fandom. This research also used online dictionaries to provide some data notably, Cambridge Online Dictionary, Oxford Online Dictionary, and Merriam-Webster.

For data collection, the content analysis approach, also known as the documentation method, is employed. This involves analyzing print media, literary works, and recorded items, particularly song lyrics. The researcher followed steps including repeatedly listening to the album, searching for lyrics online, understanding the song context, identifying metaphors in the lyrics, and taking notes based on the classification and analysis of metaphors using Lakoff and Johnson's theory.

## **Result and Discussion**

### **Metaphor**

A metaphor is defined as a word or phrase that is used to describe something else, in a different way from its literal use or meaning. Metaphors specifically relate two different things indirectly, unlike similes which use "like" or "as" for comparison. Metaphorical language simultaneously considers both the literal and figurative meanings of words or phrases, enhancing our comprehension of the subject by offering multiple perspectives. Metaphors are powerful tools for expressing emotions. They allow individuals to convey feelings that might be difficult to articulate with literal language.(Goatly, 2022) They use a style of language as creative and imaginative so that the meaning becomes more extraordinary than the usual language.(Lakoff & Johnson, 2008) It is also considered as a change of meaning and expression rather than being referred to. It is essential to change the meaning and expression of something, for

example, calling someone "*the lion of our team*" uses the characteristics of a lion, such as bravery and leadership, rather than its literal meaning. This demonstrates how metaphors can alter the meaning within a sentence, making language lively and impactful. Metaphors allow readers to grasp concepts more profoundly than literal descriptions, fostering deeper understanding and emotional resonance. They express words indirectly, comparing different terms that resemble a physical being, character, trait, or perception. (Fatwansyah et al., 2022)

### **Structural metaphor**

Structural metaphors are a linguistic tool that shape our understanding of abstract concepts through the lens of more tangible, everyday experiences. This type of metaphor is based on a systematic correlation between what we know and experience daily and the complex ideas we try to comprehend. For instance, the metaphor "*ARGUMENT IS WAR*" exemplifies this by mapping the competitive elements of war onto the domain of argumentation. Phrases like "*He attacked every weak point in my argument*" and "*I never win arguments with him*" illustrate how the contentious aspects of war inform our conceptualization of arguments, suggesting a battleground of strategic offense and defense rather than a rational exchange of ideas.

This metaphorical framework, as proposed by Lakoff and Johnson, not only structures our thoughts but also influences our behavior. While it effectively captures the adversarial nature of debate, it simultaneously obscures other facets of argumentation. By focusing on aggression and victory, the metaphor overlooks the potential for understanding, compromise, and mutual benefit that can arise from arguments. In doing so, it highlights the confrontational aspects of arguments while hiding the cooperative ones, suggesting that while structural metaphors are powerful, they also have their limitations in fully representing the nuances of our experiences.

### **Oriental metaphor**

Oriental metaphors are a type of metaphor that uses spatial concepts like up/down, front/back, or in/out to help us understand more

abstract ideas. These metaphors are deeply rooted in our physical experiences and cultural backgrounds, making them a universal yet culturally variable phenomenon. For example, the feeling of sadness is often metaphorically linked to "down," leading to expressions like *"I'm feeling down today"*. This connection is not random; it arises from our bodily experiences where people tend to stand taller and hold their heads high when feeling happy, while sadness is often accompanied by a slumped posture and a downcast gaze. The specific ways these spatial opposites are applied in metaphors can vary across cultures. For instance, while one culture might metaphorically place the concept of "future" in front, another might associate it with the back.

### **Ontological metaphor**

Ontological metaphor is described as a bridge between abstract concepts and our understanding of the concrete world. This conceptual metaphor treats abstract things like events, emotions, or even the mind itself as if they were tangible objects or substances. For example, the concept in the metaphor *"The mind is a machine"* from the sentence *"We're still trying to grind out the solution to this equation."*

Ontological metaphors treat abstract ideas like emotions or events as concrete things. Abstract things like rising prices become a single concept, like *"inflation."* This makes it easier to talk about them. For example, it is easier to say *"Inflation is lowering our standard of living"* because *"inflation"* acts like a concrete noun we can discuss.

Moreover, the ontological metaphor also derived a term called container metaphor. The container metaphor is a way of understanding something abstract by imagining it as being held within a physical container. Think of it like putting your thoughts *"in a box."* This metaphor helps us grasp complex ideas by relating them to something familiar – a container with boundaries and contents. For example, we might say *"I can't fit all these ideas in my head today"* to express feeling overwhelmed.



## **Song Lyrics**

A song is a short musical composition of words and music. It is a composition for a voice that is presented with an instrument or by singing. Every culture has its unique reasons for writing and performing songs. Every song has its message. The appeal and effectiveness of the song to the listener is dependent on the lyrics. The message contained in a song lyric can be delivered depending on how the writer put the words in the lyrics.(Firdaus, 2013) A song's lyrics are a means of expressing feelings and situations that are impossible to convey in clear or explicit words.(Rahmadhanti et al., 2022) Lyrics also play a vital role in the representation of characters and actions within a song, adding depth to the listener's understanding and interpretation. Ultimately, lyrics are intertwined with performance in the creation of meaning, acting as an imaginative form that individuals use to navigate and make sense of their experiences in society. Without lyrics, the music would lose a layer of personal and cultural significance that has become integral to the listening experience. Therefore, the use of expressive language like metaphor in song lyrics, may appeal to listeners and encourage them to comprehend the song's message.

## **Aurora**

Aurora Aksnes is a Norwegian singer, songwriter, and record producer. She is phenomenal because of the theme and lyrics of her songs. Aurora was born on June 15, 1996, in Stavanger, Norway. Her unique voice and songwriting talents soon caught the attention of the music industry. She is very aware of the responsibility that comes with that connection and with touching people's hearts and lives in the way her music does. Aurora spent her early years creating music, playing in the woods, and discovering her love for traditional attire. This is what gives Aurora a lovely appearance in both her voice and her attire. Through the words of her songs, Aurora expressed her feelings and opinions on life.



**Album: *A Different Kind of Human Step 2***

An album is a collection of several pieces of music, made available as a single item on a CD, the internet, etc. An album can also be a collection of songs that is built into a concept or a theme. Therefore, the songs within the album would be related to the concept. AURORA's sound can be best described as electropop, and this can be clearly heard in her album "A Different Kind of Human." Every song in this album is a testament to her mastery as a composer. Each track is intricately crafted with its own unique harmonies and eccentricities, setting them apart from the typical offerings of mainstream music. AURORA's electropop sound shines brightly throughout the album, making it a captivating and refreshing listening experience.

*A Different Kind of Human Step 2* is dedicated to issues related to the environment and global warming. It also listed some songs that motivate and assured listeners that they are unique and that they shouldn't worry about feeling out of place by explaining that this song is about her interpretation of the hereafter. The songs in AURORA's album include "The River," "Animal," "Dance on the Moon," "Daydreamer," "Hunger," "Soulless Creatures," "In Bottles," "A Different Kind of Human," "Apple Tree," "The Seed," and "Mothership." Each song offers a unique and captivating experience, showcasing AURORA's diverse musical style and thought-provoking lyrics.

Based on those explanations, the purpose of this research is to identify the types of metaphors in the song lyrics of Aurora's album "*A Different Kind of Human Step 2*" and to uncover the meanings of metaphors in the song lyrics of Aurora's album "*A Different Kind of Human Step 2*". This study hopefully will contribute to English Language Teaching by providing authentic material about literary works, thereby enhancing English learners' vocabulary and writing abilities and aiding in the analysis of metaphorical utterances in speech or literature.

This research chapter contains the research findings and discussion about metaphor in the song lyrics of Aurora's album, *A Different Kind of Human Step 2*. The research findings present the type of metaphor found in the lyrics as well as the interpretation of metaphorical meaning. Then in the discussion, the researcher focuses on how is the correlation between the findings and the metaphor theory from Lakoff and Jhonson.

Based on conceptual metaphor by Lakoff and Johnson, the types of metaphorical expression consist of structural metaphor, orientational metaphor, and ontological metaphor. The table below shows the frequency of those metaphors found in each song lyrics of Aurora's album, *A Different Kind of Human Step 2*.

There are several ways to find out types of metaphors in the song lyrics of Aurora's album, *A Different Kind of Human Step 2*. Below are some songs that will be analyzed to find the kind of metaphor inside the lyrics. To map the data, some code is used to refer to the metaphor in the lyric. I used code *s1* for stanza 1, followed by a number that refers to the line of the lyric, and the next number refers to the number of songs that are analyzed.

#### **The Types of Metaphors Used in the song lyrics Aurora's album, *A Different Kind of Human Step 2*.**

From the theory of metaphor by Lakof and Jhonson, the researcher found three types of metaphor namely structural metaphor, orientational metaphor, and ontological metaphor. These types of metaphors will be used to analyze the song's meaning.

**Table 4.1 Data of Conceptual metaphors on Aurora's songs**

<b>Song</b>	<b>Structural</b>	<b>Orientalional</b>	<b>Ontological</b>
1) The River	3	1	1
2) Animal	2	1	1
3) Dance on the Moon	1	1	1
4) Daydreamer	1	1	1
5) Hunger	1	1	1
6) Soulless Creatures	1	1	1
7) In Bottles	1	-	1

8) A Different Kind of Human	-	1	1
9) Apple Tree	-	1	1
10) The Seed	1	1	-
11) Mothership	-	-	1
<b>Subtotal</b>	11	9	10
<b>Total</b>	30		

Below are some examples of the explanations of the metaphor types found in this research.

### 1) Song Entitled: The River

The song The River consists of nine stanzas. The stanzas that were analyzed are:

Stanza #3

*You can cry, drinking your eyes*

*Do you miss the sadness when it is gone? (Gone)*

*And you let the river run wild (Gone)*

*And you let the river run wild*

The lyric “*You can cry, drinking your eyes*” (s3/01/01) is considered a **structural metaphor**. Here, the target domain “*act of crying*” (abstract) is linked to the source domain which is the concrete concept of “*drinking*.” While drinking is not directly related to crying, the shared characteristics of liquid flow create a connection.

Based on the analysis above, the lyric “*You can cry, drinking your eyes*”, can be represented as “*it is alright to cry*”. This metaphor suggests that it's acceptable or permissible for someone to express their emotions, and there's no shame in showing vulnerability or letting emotions out through tears.

Moreover, the lyric “*And you let the river run wild*” (s3/03/01) is indeed an **Ontological Metaphor**. The word *river* is viewed as an alive entity that is doing an act of “*run wild*”. That can be identified as **Personification**,

which belongs to the category of **Ontological Metaphor**. The source domain of this metaphor, the word “*river*” represents a natural flow of water constantly flowing and adapting to its environment, it can also metaphorically represent the release of strong emotions like anger, sadness, or passion (target domain). Then the phrase “*run wild*”, can be represented as *freely without any constraint*.

Based on the analysis above, the target of “*letting the river run wild*”, can be represented as *releasing the strong emotion to follow the natural course, freely without any constraints*. This metaphor helps us to understand the importance of our emotions. It encourages listeners to allow themselves to feel sadness and not bottle up their feelings, but to release them.

## 2) Song Entitled: Animal

The song Animal consists of eleven stanzas. The stanzas that were analyzed are:

Stanza #1

*You are the victim*

***The victim of my love***

*I dangle up on rooftops*

***Before I push you off***

*I stand at the headlights*

*Looking for a corner where I can't be found*

*With a goddess in my right eye*

*Watching every lover on the battleground*

The sentence “*The victim of my love*” (s1/02/02) is considered as an **ontological metaphor**. The source domain of this metaphor is the concept of being a “*victim*.” This concrete entity is used to metaphorically represent the negative consequences of the speaker's love. The target domain of this metaphor is the impact of the speaker's love on the other person. As it shows the “*victim*” typically implies suffering or harm inflicted by another. By

calling the other person a "*victim*," it suggests that love can cause negative consequences, potentially emotional pain, manipulation, or even physical harm. Therefore, it can be understood that the concept of love is not something positive but rather something overwhelming and potentially harmful.

As for the line, "*Before I push you off*" (s1/04/02), It contrasted the previous statement where it is shown "*Pushing*" as a "*Downward Force*". The act of "pushing" someone off a rooftop implies a downward force, suggesting an emotional state might lead them to take a negative action that could harm the other person.

The meaning of the orientational metaphor in this line adds a sense of intentionality and potential danger to the actions. It suggests that the emotional instability might not just be internally, but could manifest in harmful actions towards the other person.

### 3) Song Entitled: Dance on the Moon

The song Dance on the Moon consists of eight stanzas. The stanzas that were analyzed are:

#### Stanza #1

*This voice is calling for a touch to be undone*

*I hope love will come to us again*

*As a place we all can come*

*And if I'm blinded, will my eyes become the planets?*

***Will I float or will I drown?***

*This voice, is it calling for the world to pull me down?*

In this lyric, the line "*Will I float or will I drown?*" (s1/05/03) which can be considered as an **orientational metaphor**. The source domain presented as a contrasting experience of "*floating*" which can be described as an upward movement, staying afloat, or a sense of freedom or weightlessness. On the other hand, "*drowning*". Described as a downward movement, sinking, or experiencing fear, struggle, and loss of control.

The orientational metaphor contrasts floating, representing staying above water, with drowning, symbolizing sinking below. This reflects the speaker's emotional state and potential outcomes. The question "*Will I float or will I drown?*" expresses uncertainty about the future and consequences: floating suggests a positive outcome, while drowning implies a negative one.

#### 4) Song Entitled: Daydreamer

The song Daydreamer consists of eight stanzas. The stanzas that were analyzed are:

##### Stanza #2

*I know I'm just a girl, but can I change lives?  
If I am nothing, if I am trying, I think I can  
**I step on broken glass, and dream of soft clouds**  
When feelings are heavy, they become all we are*

In this lyric, the line "*I step on broken glass, and dream of soft clouds*" (s2/03/04) is considered as an **Ontological Metaphor**. As in the concrete concept, the source domain is defined as the physical sensations like *stepping on broken glass* symbolizes pain and the harshness of reality while *dreaming of soft clouds* represents comfort, peace, and escape from the difficulties of reality. As the abstract concept, the target is presented as a deep-seated desire or longing for an experience or connection to be erased or undone. The line contrasts physical sensations, showing the speaker's emotional struggle between harsh reality and the longing for comfort and peace. The ontological metaphor deepens the speaker's emotions, hinting at a longing to escape from a painful reality.

#### 5) Song Entitled: Hunger

The song Hunger consists of nine stanzas. The stanzas that were analyzed are:

##### Stanza #1

*I've been born for sometime  
And I got **death on my mind**  
Come and follow me (Ah)  
**Away from the nightlife**  
Sleeping in nirvana  
And I will long for the gutter  
When I'm in your arms (Ah)  
I long for my freedom (Ah)*

In this lyric, the line “*And I got death on my mind*” (s2/02/05) is considered as an **Ontological Metaphor**. As in the concrete concept, the source domain is defined as the physical sensation of “*death*”, that is often associated with darkness. As the abstract concept, the target domain is presented as emptiness and hopelessness of mind.

The lyric “*And I got death on my mind*” metaphorically tells us about the depth of the speaker's emotional struggle. It imagines someone who is feeling lost and hopeless, and wondering if they will be able to find their way out of this darkness.

Moreover, the lyric “*Away from the nightlife.*” (s2/04/05), can be analyzed as an **orientational metaphor**. The concrete source is presented as the physical movement “*away*” from a location or situation (nightlife). As for the target, the domain is metaphorically meant as a “*desire to escape*” from a particular lifestyle or environment.

Based on the analysis above, the lyrics talk about escaping an unwanted lifestyle or environment. It imagines the speaker who finds the nightlife may be unappealing, and desires to find a different kind of experience.

## 6) Song Entitled: Soulless Creatures

The song Soulless Creatures consists of nine stanzas. The stanzas that were analyzed are:

Stanza #2

*Give me a piece of your heart, of your heart*



*Give me a piece of your hands as we go*

In this lyric, the line "*Give me a piece of your heart, of your heart*" (s2/01/06) is considered as a **Structural Metaphor**. Here, "heart" is the target domain, representing *love, affection, or emotional connection*.

The source domain is a physical object (*a piece*) that can be shared or given. This metaphor represents the term love that can be divided and shared like a tangible object. The lyrics explained the heart, as a physical organ, becomes a symbol of love and affection, representing the very core of our emotions. Giving a piece of this metaphorical heart signifies a deep emotional connection as if sharing a part of oneself with the other person.

## 7) Song Entitled: In Bottles

The song In Bottles consists of ten stanzas. The stanzas that were analyzed are:

Stanza #1

*I put my tears in bottles*

*In case if I need them later*

*You never know, you never know*

*And if I get thirsty*

*Will they make me sad forever?*

*Forever?*

In this lyric, the line "*I put my tears in bottles*" (s1/01/07) is considered a **Structural Metaphor**. Here, the source domain is presented as the physical act of placing "*tears (a liquid) in bottles (containers)*". In concepts, tears become a symbol of emotion which is a natural physical response to sadness, grief, or strong emotions. Bottles are a container for emotions as bottles are typically used to contain liquids. In this metaphor, the target domain represents as the emotions that are suppressed or contained.

### 8) Song Entitled: A Different Kind of Human

The song A Different Kind of Human consists of ten stanzas. The stanzas that were analyzed are:

Stanza #1

*Are you awake or are you sleeping?*

*Are you afraid? We've been waiting for this meeting*

***Oh, Superman, are you with me when I am too weak?***

*Oh, Mother, are you dreaming of me in your sleep?*

In this lyric, the line “*Oh, Superman, are you with me when I am too weak?*” (s1/03/08) is considered an **Ontological Metaphor**. Here, the source domain is presented as “*Superman*”, a fictional superhero known for his immense strength and ability to protect others. The target domain represents *a feeling of needing strength, support, and protection*. The concept of this metaphor uses “*Superman*”, a character known for his superhuman abilities, with the abstract concept of strength and protection, to represent the feeling of having someone strong and reliable by your side. Related to the phrase “*when I am too weak*”, the lyrics tell us about what the speaker feels. Being overwhelmed, weak, and needs a strong figure as a support.

### 9) Song Entitled: Apple Tree

The song Apple Tree consists of ten stanzas. The stanzas that were analyzed are:

Stanza #1

*All of my life I've been hunting*

*I've been a girl, I've been a boy*

***Digging my feet into the ground like an apple tree***

*Wanting to live with a purpose*

*Skin is a word, love is not a sin*

*People are bad, people are good*

*Just like the moon is a stone*

*But it's a star when it's dark and now she's hiding*

In the lyric *"Digging my feet into the ground"* (s1/03/09) is considered an **Orientational Metaphor**. Here, the source domain is presented as a physical action of *digging one's feet into the ground*.

The target domain represents a feeling of *establishing a strong connection or grounding oneself*. Elaborately, the act of digging one's feet into the ground represents a strong connection with the earth. Therefore, by means it tells us that the speaker desires a sense of grounding and a strong connection to something larger than themselves.

#### 10) Song Entitled: The Seed

The song The Seed consists of six stanzas. The stanzas that were analyzed are:

Stanza #1

*Just like the seed*

*I don't know where to go*

*Through dirt and shadow, I grow*

*I'm reaching light through the struggle*

*Just like the sea*

*I'm chasing the wonder*

*I unravel myself*

*All in slow motion*

The lyric *"Just like the seed"* (s1/01/10), and *"I don't know where to go"* (s1/02/10) are considered a **Structural Metaphor**. In this concept, the source domain is presented as *"a seed"*, which represents an unformed potential waiting to grow, and relies on external factors (water, soil, light). The target domain represents a human feeling *unsure and lost in life*. Elaborately, comparing humans to a seed suggests they have the potential to grow, but they're unsure where to go. Just like a seed that relies on external factors

like water, soil, and sunlight, the humans might also need external guidance in order to figure out their life direction or purpose.

Moreover, the lyric *"I'm reaching light through the struggle"*, (s1/04/10), can be analyzed as an **Orientational metaphor**. The source domain is the Physical movement *"reaching"*, and spatial orientation upward of *"light"* and downward of *"struggle"*. As for the abstract concept, the target domain represents *"the journey towards a positive outcome or goal despite facing challenges or difficulties"*. These lyrics metaphorically suggest the path towards achieving one's goals is not always easy but requires actively pushing through challenges.

#### 11) Song Entitled: Mothership

The song Mothership consists of two stanzas. The stanza that was analyzed are:

Stanza #2

*In it, the world will not hurt*

*The good ones always die*

*So that is why we bring them here*

*Now you are home*

The lyric *"the world will not hurt"* (s2/01/11), is considered an **Ontological Metaphor**. In this concept, the source domain is presented as *"hurt"*, which represents the capability of inflicting physical or emotional pain. The target domain represents *the world and its potential to cause harm or pain*. Elaborately, the world is not a sentient being capable of inflicting hurt. However, by attributing the action of *"hurting"* to the world, the metaphor personalizes it and suggests a potential danger. Despite the fear, the statement can also be interpreted as a hope or a promise of safety.

## **The meaning of metaphors used in the Song Lyrics of Aurora's Album: A Different Kind of Human Step 2.**

### **1) Metaphor meaning in the song The River**

- a) The metaphor, "*You can cry, drinking your eyes*" (s3/01/01) means that it's alright to cry. Related to Lakoff and Jhonson's theory, the meaning was conveyed using structural metaphor by borrowing familiar structure (concrete) to help understand a complex idea (abstract). The lyrics tells us that, it's acceptable or permissible for someone to express their emotions, and there's no shame in showing vulnerability or letting emotions out through tears.
- b) The metaphor, "*And you let the river run wild*" (s3/03/01) means releasing the strong emotion to follow the natural course, freely without any constraints. In relation to Lakoff and Jhonson's theory, the meaning was conveyed using ontological metaphor by treating abstract things as concrete objects. This metaphor helps us to understand the importance of our emotions. It encourages listeners to allow themselves to feel sadness and not bottle up their feelings, but to release them.

### **2) Metaphor meaning in the song Animal**

- a) The metaphor, "*The victim of my love*" (s1/02/02) means that suggests that love can cause negative consequences, potentially emotional pain, manipulation, or even physical harm. Therefore, in this song, it can be understood that the concept of love is not something positive but rather something overwhelming and potentially harmful. In relation to Lakoff and Jhonson's theory, the meaning was conveyed using ontological metaphor by treating abstract things as concrete objects.
- b) The metaphor "*Before I push you off*" (s1/04/02), means an emotional state might lead them to take a negative action that could harm the other person. Related to Lakoff and Jhonson's theory, the meaning

was conveyed using orientational metaphor by associating spatial ideas like up/down, and good/bad to organize abstract concepts. This metaphor works in conjunction with the overall theme of the song, exploring the dark side of love, possessiveness, and the potential for destructive behavior.

**3) Metaphor meaning in the song Dance on the Moon**

- a) The metaphor *"Will I float or will I drown?"* (s1/05/03) means about expressing uncertainty about the future and consequences: floating suggests a positive outcome, while drowning implies a negative one. Related to Lakoff and Jhonson's theory, the meaning was conveyed using orientational metaphor by associating spatial ideas like up/down, and good/bad to organize abstract concepts. This metaphor aligns with the overall theme of the song, which explores themes of self-discovery, taking risks, and embracing the unknown.

**4) Metaphor meaning in the song Daydreamer**

- a) The metaphor, *"I step on broken glass, and dream of soft clouds"* (s2/03/04) means a contrast between physical sensations, showing the speaker's emotional struggle between harsh reality and the longing for comfort and peace. In relation to Lakoff and Jhonson's theory, the meaning was conveyed using ontological metaphor by treating abstract things as concrete objects. This aligns with the song's theme of daydreaming, escapism, and the longing for a better world.

**5) Metaphor meaning in the song Hunger**

- a) The metaphor, *"And I got death on my mind"* (s2/02/05), means emptiness and hopelessness of mind. It imagines someone who is feeling lost and hopeless, and wondering if they will be able to find their way out of this darkness. In relation to Lakoff and Jhonson's theory, the meaning was conveyed using ontological metaphor by

treating abstract things as concrete objects. It connected to the song's themes of desire, isolation, and a longing for more.

- b) The metaphor "*Away from the nightlife.*" (s2/04/05) means a desire to escape from unwanted particular lifestyle or environment. Related to Lakoff and Jhonson's theory, the meaning was conveyed using orientational metaphor by associating spatial ideas like up/down, and good/bad to organize abstract concepts. This metaphor aligns with the overall theme of the song, which explores the concept of hunger as a metaphor for a deep yearning or desire for something undefined but essential.

#### **6) Metaphor meaning in the song Soulless Creatures**

- a) The metaphor, "*Give me a piece of your heart, of your heart*" (s2/01/06) means a deep emotional connection as if sharing a part of oneself with the other person. Related to Lakoff and Jhonson's theory, the meaning was conveyed using structural metaphor by borrowing familiar structure (concrete) to help understand a complex idea (abstract). This metaphor aligns with the overall theme of the song. In "Soulless Creatures," it might suggest a longing for genuine connection in a world perceived as emotionally detached.

#### **7) Metaphor meaning in the song In Bottles**

- a) The metaphor, "*I put my tears in bottles*" (s1/01/07) means sadness, grief, and strong emotions that are suppressed or contained. Related to Lakoff and Jhonson's theory, the meaning was conveyed using structural metaphor by borrowing familiar structure (concrete) to help understand a complex idea (abstract). The lyrics metaphorically talk about the negative effects of bottling up emotions and the need to find a healthier way to express themselves.



**8) Metaphor meaning in the song A Different Kind of Human**

- a) The metaphor, *"Oh, Superman, are you with me when I am too weak?"* (s1/03/08) means the feeling of having someone strong and reliable by your side when in vulnerable condition. In relation to Lakoff and Jhonson's theory, the meaning was conveyed using ontological metaphor by treating abstract things as concrete objects. This metaphor aligns with the overall theme of the song, which explores themes of vulnerability, searching for solace, and the complexities of human emotions.

**9) Metaphor meaning in the song Apple Tree**

- a) The metaphor *"Digging my feet into the ground"* (s1/03/09) means as the act of digging one's feet into the ground represents a strong connection with the earth. Related to Lakoff and Jhonson's theory, the meaning was conveyed using orientational metaphor by associating spatial ideas like up/down, and good/bad to organize abstract concepts. This metaphor aligns with the overall theme of the song, which explores themes of growth, transformation, and finding one's place in the world.

**10) Metaphor meaning in the song The Seed**

- a) The metaphor, *"Just like the seed"* (s1/01/10), and *"I don't know where to go"* (s1/02/10) means a comparison of human and seed. Just like a seed that relies on external factors like water, soil, and sunlight, the humans might also need external guidance in order to figure out their life direction or purpose. Related to Lakoff and Jhonson's theory, the meaning was conveyed using structural metaphor by borrowing familiar structure (concrete) to help understand a complex idea (abstract). This metaphor connects to the song's theme of growth, potential, and uncertainty
- b) The metaphor *"I'm reaching light through the struggle"*, (s1/04/10) means as a journey towards a positive outcome or goal despite

facing challenges or difficulties. Related to Lakoff and Jhonson's theory, the meaning was conveyed using orientational metaphor by associating spatial ideas like up/down, and good/bad to organize abstract concepts. This metaphor aligns perfectly with the overall concept of the song, which explores the journey of a seed struggling to grow towards the light, symbolizing determination and the pursuit of one's potential.

#### 11) Metaphor meaning in the song Mothership

- a) The metaphor, *"the world will not hurt"* (s2/01/11) means that the world is not a sentient being capable of inflicting hurt. In relation to Lakoff and Jhonson's theory, the meaning was conveyed using ontological metaphor by treating abstract things as concrete objects. The metaphor aligns with the song by encapsulating both ideas. It reflects a journey of overcoming challenges and finding a safe space, while acknowledging that the world can still be a scary place.

By analyzing the metaphor meanings within the context of the overall song and album through the lens of conceptual metaphor theory, It can reveal a deeper understanding of Aurora's journey and message in *A Different Kind of Human: Step 2*

#### Conclusion

As a result of this research, it shows that Aurora frequently uses metaphors to create meaningful songs that are full of intense thoughts and emotions. Through the discovery of over 30 metaphors in various kinds of categories, such as structural, ontological, and orientational. Metaphors help to create meaning for things that can't be directly perceived. The understanding of the source domain becomes the foundation for creating meaning around the target domain.

The study shows the importance of context in interpreting metaphors used by her songs. In addition to mainly the song itself, this analysis which is

based on Lakoff and Johnson's theory makes significant contributions to the field of English language teaching. The research can improve writing abilities, vocabulary learning, and the ability to understand the metaphorical language used in many kinds of circumstances by offering real literary content. Additionally, the study helps the researcher by developing their own curiosity and research expertise. It also provides a useful foundation for other studies that may take up related topics in the future.

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