



## The Poetics of Grief and Healing in Nadin Amizah's 'Bertaut' : A Stylistic Analysis

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**Abstract:** This study explores the intricate relationship between grief and healing as depicted in Nadin Amizah's song "Bertaut." Through a stylistic analysis, the research delves into the poetic elements employed by Amizah to convey the emotional depth of loss and the journey towards recovery. By examining the use of imagery, metaphor, and lyrical structure, the paper highlights how these stylistic choices enhance the listener's understanding of the complexities of grief. Furthermore, the analysis reveals the transformative power of music as a medium for expressing sorrow and facilitating healing. Ultimately, this study contributes to the broader discourse on the role of art in processing emotional experiences, emphasizing the significance of Amizah's work in contemporary music.

**Keyword:** Bertaut, grief, healing, Nadin Amizah, stylistic analysis

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Grief and healing are universal human experiences that have long been explored through various forms of artistic expression, including literature, visual arts, and music. In the contemporary music scene, artists often use poetic language and stylistic devices to articulate the complex emotions associated with loss and recovery, offering listeners both catharsis and understanding. Nadin Amizah, an Indonesian singer-songwriter known for her emotionally resonant and lyrically rich compositions, presents a compelling case for such exploration in her song "Bertaut." This song captures the nuanced interplay between sorrow and hope, tracing a path from heartbreak to emotional restoration.

The present study aims to analyze the poetics of grief and healing as conveyed in "Bertaut" through a detailed stylistic analysis. By examining the song's lyrical features, including its use of figurative language, imagery, and structural elements, this paper seeks to uncover how Amizah crafts a meaningful narrative that resonates deeply with audiences. Understanding the stylistic choices embedded in "Bertaut" not only enriches the appreciation of Amizah's artistry but also sheds light on the broader role of music as a vehicle for emotional expression and healing in contemporary culture.

### 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

The exploration of grief and healing in art, particularly in music, has garnered significant attention in academic discourse. Scholars have examined how various artistic

forms serve as conduits for expressing complex emotions associated with loss. One prominent framework for understanding this phenomenon is the concept of "music as therapy," which posits that music can facilitate emotional processing and healing (Bradt & Dileo, 2014). This perspective aligns with the notion that artistic expression allows individuals to navigate their grief, providing a space for reflection and catharsis (Hilliard, 2012).

In the realm of lyrical analysis, the use of poetic devices in music has been extensively studied. For instance, the work of O'Brien (2015) highlights how metaphor and imagery in song lyrics can evoke powerful emotional responses, enabling listeners to connect with the artist's experiences. This aligns with the findings of Frith (1996), who argues that the emotional resonance of music is often rooted in its lyrical content, which can articulate feelings that are difficult to express in everyday language.

Furthermore, the intersection of personal narrative and collective experience in music has been explored by scholars such as DeNora (2000), who emphasizes the role of music in shaping identity and community. This is particularly relevant in the context of grief, as songs often serve as communal touchstones that allow individuals to share their experiences and find solace in shared understanding.

Nadin Amizah's "Bertaut" exemplifies these themes, as it encapsulates the journey from grief to healing through its lyrical and musical composition. By employing rich imagery and emotive language, Amizah invites listeners to engage with their own experiences of loss, making her work a significant contribution to the discourse on music and emotional expression.

### **3. RESEARCH METHOD**

This study employs a qualitative research methodology, specifically a stylistic analysis, to explore the poetics of grief and healing in Nadin Amizah's song "Bertaut." The research method consists of several key components: text selection, analytical framework, data collection, and data analysis.

- a. Text Selection: The primary text for analysis is Nadin Amizah's song "Bertaut." The song was chosen due to its thematic focus on grief and healing, making it a rich subject for stylistic exploration. The lyrics will be analyzed in their entirety to capture the nuances of Amizah's poetic expression.
- b. Analytical Framework: The analysis will be guided by established frameworks in stylistics and literary analysis. According to Simpson (2004), stylistics involves the

examination of language in literary texts, focusing on how specific linguistic choices contribute to meaning. This study will utilize tools such as imagery, metaphor, and sound devices to uncover the emotional depth of the lyrics. Additionally, the framework proposed by Carter and McRae (2001) will be employed to analyze the interplay between form and meaning in the song.

- c. **Data Collection:** The primary data for this research will consist of the lyrics of "Bertaut," which will be obtained from official sources, such as music streaming platforms and lyric databases. Secondary data will include scholarly articles, books, and other relevant literature on grief, healing, and the role of music in emotional expression. This literature will provide context and support for the analysis.
- d. **Data Analysis:** The analysis will be conducted in several stages:
  - 1) **Linguistic Analysis:** A close reading of the lyrics will be performed to identify key stylistic features, including figurative language, imagery, and sound patterns. This will involve coding the text for specific elements that contribute to the themes of grief and healing.
  - 2) **Thematic Analysis:** The identified stylistic features will be examined in relation to the overarching themes of the song. This will involve interpreting how Amizah's choices reflect the emotional journey from sorrow to recovery.
  - 3) **Contextual Analysis:** The findings will be contextualized within the broader discourse on music and emotional expression, drawing on existing literature to support the interpretations made during the analysis.

By employing this qualitative approach, the study aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of how Nadin Amizah's "Bertaut" articulates the complexities of grief and healing through its poetic elements.

#### **4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

##### **Data Lagu Bertaut**

##### **Bait 1:**

Bun, hidup berjalan seperti bajingan  
Seperti landak yang tak punya teman

##### **Bait 2:**

Ia menggonggong bak suara hujan  
Dan kau pangeranku, mengambil peran

**Bait 3:**

Bun, kalau saat hancur ku disayang  
Apalagi saat ku jadi juara  
Saat tak tahu arah kau di sana  
Menjadi gagah saat ku tak bisa

**Bait 4:**

Sedikit kujelaskan tentangku dan kamu  
Agar seisi dunia tahu

**Bait 5:**

Keras kepalaku sama denganmu  
Caraku marah, caraku tersenyum  
Seperti detak jantung yang bertaut  
Nyawaku nyala karena denganmu

**Bait 6:**

Aku masih ada sampai di sini  
Melihatmu kuat setengah mati  
Seperti detak jantung yang bertaut  
Nyawaku nyala karena denganmu

**Bait 7:**

Bun, aku masih tak mengerti banyak hal  
Semuanya berenang di kepala

**Bait 8:**

Dan kau dan semua yang kau  
Menjadi jawab saat ku bertanya

**Bait 9:**

Semoga lama hidupmu di sini  
Melihatku berjuang sampai akhir  
Seperti detak jantung yang bertaut  
Nyawaku nyala karena denganmu

The analysis of Nadin Amizah's song "Bertaut" reveals a rich tapestry of emotions surrounding grief, healing, and the profound connections between individuals. Each lyric serves as a poignant reflection of the themes of companionship, resilience, and the complexities of human relationships. Below, the lyrics are analyzed line by line, highlighting key stylistic elements and their emotional implications.

The song opens with the line, "Bun, hidup berjalan seperti bajingan," which sets a tone of frustration and disillusionment. The use of the word "bajingan" (scoundrel) conveys a sense of betrayal or hardship in life. This choice of language reflects the speaker's struggle with the unpredictability of existence, suggesting that life can be harsh and unforgiving. Hilliard (2012) notes that expressions of frustration in art often serve as a precursor to healing, indicating that the acknowledgment of pain is the first step toward recovery.

Following this, the lyric "Seperti landak yang tak punya teman" introduces a powerful metaphor. The imagery of a "landak" (hedgehog) without friends evokes feelings of isolation and loneliness. This metaphor illustrates the speaker's emotional state, emphasizing the pain of feeling alone in a difficult world. The hedgehog, often seen as a solitary creature, symbolizes the struggle to connect with others during times of grief. This aligns with DeNora's (2000) assertion that music can shape identity and foster shared emotional experiences, suggesting that the artist's expression resonates with listeners who may feel similarly isolated.

The subsequent line, "Ia menggonggong bak suara hujan," introduces auditory imagery that deepens the emotional landscape. The comparison of the hedgehog's barking to the sound of rain suggests a duality of sadness and cleansing. Rain is often associated with sorrow, yet it also symbolizes renewal and healing. This duality indicates that the speaker's grief is both overwhelming and purifying, reflecting the complex nature of emotional experiences. Bradt and Dileo (2014) highlight the therapeutic potential of sound, noting that music can evoke and process deep emotions, allowing individuals to confront their feelings in a safe space.

As the song progresses, the line "Dan kau pangeranku, mengambil peran" introduces a significant other, referred to as "pangeranku" (my prince). This line brings a sense of hope and support amidst the turmoil. The presence of this person is portrayed as a stabilizing force, highlighting the importance of companionship in the healing process. DeNora (2000) emphasizes the role of music in shaping emotional connections, suggesting that the artist's portrayal of love serves as a reminder of the power of relationships in overcoming adversity.

The lyric "Bun, kalau saat hancur, ku disayang" reflects the duality of love and support during moments of despair. The speaker acknowledges that even in their brokenness, they are loved. This sentiment resonates with the idea that relationships can provide solace during difficult times, as discussed by Hilliard (2012). The acknowledgment

of love during moments of vulnerability reinforces the notion that emotional support is crucial for healing.

In the following line, "Apalagi saat ku jadi juara," the contrast between moments of despair and triumph emphasizes the complexity of human emotions. The speaker recognizes that love and support are present not only in times of struggle but also in moments of success. This duality is essential in understanding the multifaceted nature of relationships, as highlighted by Frith (1996). The ability to celebrate victories together strengthens the bond between individuals, illustrating that love is not solely about enduring hardships but also about sharing joy.

The lyric "Saat tak tahu arah, kau di sana" highlights the theme of guidance and support. The presence of the significant other during times of uncertainty underscores the importance of having someone to rely on, which is crucial for emotional healing. Bradt and Dileo (2014) assert that consistent support can facilitate recovery from grief, emphasizing the role of companionship in navigating life's challenges.

Continuing with "Menjadi gagah saat ku tak bisa," the notion of the partner being "gagah" (strong) when the speaker feels weak illustrates the dynamic of mutual support in relationships. This line emphasizes the idea that love can empower individuals to overcome their struggles, aligning with the therapeutic aspects of music discussed by Hilliard (2012). The recognition of each other's strengths fosters resilience, allowing both partners to navigate their emotional landscapes together.

The lyric "Sedikit kujelaskan tentangku dan kamu" suggests a desire for understanding and connection. The speaker's intention to explain their relationship reflects the importance of communication in relationships, particularly when navigating complex emotions. O'Brien (2015) notes that lyrics often serve as narrative tools that foster understanding and connection, indicating that the act of sharing one's story can strengthen bonds.

The line "Agar seisi dunia tahu" indicates a longing for validation and recognition of their bond. The desire for the world to understand their connection speaks to the universal need for acknowledgment in relationships, particularly during times of grief. This aligns with DeNora's (2000) exploration of music as a means of expressing shared experiences, suggesting that the artist's work resonates with listeners who seek validation for their own emotional journeys.

The phrase "Keras kepalaku sama denganmu" introduces the idea of shared traits between the speaker and their partner. The acknowledgment of "keras kepalaku" (my

stubbornness) fosters a sense of unity, reinforcing the idea that shared experiences can strengthen relationships. This is supported by Frith (1996), who emphasizes the emotional resonance found in shared traits, suggesting that recognizing similarities can enhance relational bonds.

The juxtaposition of "Caraku marah, caraku tersenyum" illustrates the complexity of emotions within the relationship. This line captures the multifaceted nature of love, where both positive and negative feelings coexist, reflecting the human experience. Hilliard (2012) discusses the complexity of emotions in relationships, indicating that the ability to express a range of feelings contributes to emotional depth and connection.

The recurring metaphor of "Seperti detak jantung yang bertaut" symbolizes the deep emotional connection between the speaker and their partner. This imagery evokes a sense of unity and interdependence, suggesting that their lives are inextricably linked. DeNora (2000) asserts that music can express deep emotional bonds, indicating that the artist's portrayal of intertwined heartbeats resonates with listeners who understand the significance of emotional connections.

The line "Nyawaku nyala kar'na denganmu" expresses the idea that the speaker's vitality is sustained by their relationship. The notion of one's life being "nyala" (lit) due to another person emphasizes the transformative power of love and companionship in overcoming grief. This reflects the therapeutic potential of music, as discussed by Bradt and Dileo (2014), suggesting that the act of creating and listening to music can illuminate the path toward healing.

The affirmation of existence in "Aku masih ada sampai di sini" highlights resilience. The speaker's acknowledgment of their presence despite challenges reflects a journey of healing and survival. Hilliard's (2012) findings on the importance of resilience in the healing process underscore the significance of recognizing one's strength in the face of adversity.

The line "Melihatmu kuat setengah mati" conveys admiration for the partner's strength, reinforcing the theme of support. The speaker's recognition of their partner's resilience serves as a source of inspiration, further emphasizing the importance of mutual encouragement in relationships. DeNora (2000) discusses the role of music in fostering mutual support, indicating that the artist's portrayal of admiration contributes to the overall message of the song.

Finally, the wish expressed in "Semoga lama hidupmu di sini" reflects a deep emotional investment in the relationship. This sentiment underscores the desire for

continued support and companionship, which is vital for healing. Hilliard (2012) asserts that emotional connections are crucial for recovery, suggesting that the speaker's hope for their partner's longevity is rooted in a desire for shared experiences and mutual growth.

The concluding line, "Melihatku berjuang sampai akhir," encapsulates the acknowledgment of struggle and perseverance. The speaker's commitment to fighting through challenges, with their partner by their side, reinforces the theme of resilience. This reflects the broader discourse on the role of art in processing emotional experiences, as noted by O'Brien (2015). The act of sharing one's journey through music not only serves as a means of personal expression but also fosters a sense of community among listeners who may be navigating similar challenges.

In conclusion, Nadin Amizah's "Bertaut" intricately weaves together themes of grief, healing, and the power of relationships. Through vivid imagery, metaphor, and emotional depth, the song captures the complexities of human connections, illustrating how love can serve as a guiding light in times of darkness. The analysis reveals that the song not only resonates with personal experiences of loss but also speaks to the universal need for companionship and support in navigating life's challenges. The findings underscore the significance of Amizah's work in contemporary music, highlighting its potential to foster emotional healing and connection among listeners.

## 5. CONCLUSION

Nadin Amizah's song "Bertaut" serves as a profound exploration of the themes of grief, healing, and the intricate dynamics of human relationships. Through its evocative lyrics and rich imagery, the song captures the emotional complexities that accompany loss and the transformative power of love and companionship. Each line of the song reflects a journey through despair and resilience, illustrating how relationships can provide solace and strength during challenging times.

The analysis reveals that Amizah's use of metaphor, auditory imagery, and emotional depth resonates deeply with listeners, allowing them to connect with their own experiences of grief and healing. The recurring motifs of support, mutual understanding, and shared emotional experiences underscore the importance of companionship in navigating life's adversities. Furthermore, the song highlights the therapeutic potential of music as a means of processing emotions and fostering connections among individuals. In essence, "Bertaut" not only articulates the personal struggles of the speaker but also speaks to the universal human experience of seeking connection and understanding in the face of



hardship. Amizah's artistry exemplifies the role of contemporary music as a powerful vehicle for emotional expression, offering listeners a sense of hope and solidarity. As such, "Bertaut" stands as a testament to the enduring strength of love and the healing journey that unfolds through shared experiences.

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