



## A Hermeneutical Approach to the Emphasis on Peace and Metaphors in the Song 'Ein Bisschen Frieden'

### 'Ein Bisschen Frieden' Şarkısında Barış Vurgusu ve Metaforlara Hermeneutik Bir Yaklaşım

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## Abstract

Music is regarded as one of the tools for calling for peace. There is great interest in the potential of music to promote peace. The language of music is not only local, regional, and national, but also international and universal. Music has been assigned various roles in establishing universal peace. To date, many artists, singers, and music groups advocating for peace and goodwill have tried to prevent wars and contribute to humanity's peaceful coexistence by performing peace songs. Nicole's song 'Ein bisschen Frieden' (A little peace) is one such example, composed and performed in keeping with the spirit of the times. This study is designed as a qualitative research to examine and interpret the emphasis on peace and the metaphors in the song 'Ein bisschen Frieden' (A little peace), performed by Nicole in the 1982 Eurovision Song Contest, which won Germany its first ever victory, using hermeneutic methodology. The song features many metaphors such as flower, winter, icy wind, fire, doll, clouds, birds, cries, dark, sun, earth, joy, warmth, dreaming, cry, girl, peace and love. It emphasizes peace from beginning to end. The emphasis on peace in the lyrics starts from an individual call and turns into a collective call for peace. It is a peace song with a gentle melody and emotional impact. Its lyrics are simple, understandable, and reflect a universal language. The song remains memorable for its message of peace despite the passage of years.

## Keywords

'Ein Bisschen Frieden', Music, Peace, Hermeneutic, Metaphor.

## Öz

Müzik, barış çağrısı yapmanın araçlarından biri olarak kabul edilir. Müziğin barışı teşvik etme potansiyeline büyük ilgi söz konusudur. Müziğin dili sadece yerel, bölgesel ve ulusal değil, aynı zamanda uluslararası ve evrenseldir. Müziğe, evrensel barışın tesis edilmesinde çeşitli roller yüklenmiştir. Bugüne kadar, barış ve iyi niyeti savunan birçok sanatçı, şarkıcı ve şarkıcı grubu, savaşları önlemek ve insanlığın barış içinde yaşamasını sağlamak için çaba sarf etmiştir. Nicole'ün 'Ein Bisschen Frieden' (Biraz Barış) şarkısı da zamanın ruhuna uygun bir eser olarak bestelenmiş ve seslendirilmiş böyle bir örnektir. Bu çalışma, Nicole'ün 1982 Eurovision Şarkı Yarışması'nda seslendirdiği ve Almanya'ya ilk zaferini kazandıran 'Ein bisschen Frieden' şarkısındaki barış vurgusunu ve metaforları hermeneutik metodoloji kullanarak incelemek ve yorumlamak için tasarlanmış nitel bir araştırmadır. Şarkı, çiçek, kış, buzlu rüzgâr, ateş, oyuncak bebek, bulutlar, kuşlar, ağlama, karanlık, güneş, toprak, neşe, sıcaklık, hayal kurma, ağlamak, kız, barış ve aşk gibi birçok metafor içermektedir. Baştan sona barışı vurgulamaktadır. Sözlerindeki barış vurgusu, bireysel bir çağrıdan başlayıp kolektif bir barış çağrısına dönüşmektedir. Şarkı, yumuşak bir melodiye ve duygusal etkiye sahip bir barış şarkısıdır. Sözleri yalın, anlaşılır ve evrensel bir dil yansıtır. Şarkı, üzerinden geçen yıllara rağmen hala hafızalarda barış mesajlarıyla hatırlanmaktadır.

## Anahtar Kelimeler

'Ein Bisschen Frieden', Müzik, Barış, Hermeneutik, Metafor.

## Introduction

Throughout history, from the past to the present day, people have found themselves in a struggle to sustain their lives and existence on Earth. On the one hand, they have tried to live in harmony with others, while on the other hand, they have continued this struggle to live their lives as much security as possible. Over time, the desire of individuals, communities, and states to dominate one another for their own interests, ethnic and faith conflicts, racism, discrimination, oppression, and otherization have led to friction, conflicts, and sociologically motivated wars. However, wars did not add value to the lives of people who were created as honorable beings, but left great suffering behind and dragged humanity into chaos and insecurity.

Although various theories and approaches have been put forward regarding the causes of wars (Demirci, 2025), it can be said that the primary factors underlying wars are the interests of states (Miller, 2007). It is a fact that religious, national, political, and economic factors generally underlie the main causes of most wars. When discussing the causes of war, Ibn Khaldun highlighted factors such as revenge and hostility, religious beliefs, and rebellion against the state and government (Ibn Haldun, 1989). In addition, states' instincts for survival, power acquisition and domination can make wars inevitable (Baysal, 2021). Human nature's inherent greed, aggression, and desire for power can also be considered other philosophical and psychological factors. Although wars can be justified for various legitimate or illegitimate reasons, humanity's true desire is to live in peace.

There are many universal values that enable people to live in prosperity and security, and one of these is peace (Aktaş & Safran, 2013, p. 131). Peace, whether between individuals and communities or between nations and states, is a universal value that encompasses concepts such as reconciliation, harmony, understanding, mutual respect, tolerance, and friendship at its core and foundation, and requires a process of construction. Peace requires a building process. This process, including dialogue efforts, can help rebuild and improve relationships in conflict-affected communities (Zelizer & Rubinstein, 2009). Building peace requires not only courage and will, but also a great deal of knowledge and skill (Reychler & Langer, 2006, p. 6). The concept of peace requires people to work together to solve problems, to respect the principles of justice, to value human rights, and to stay away from all kinds of discrimination and prejudice (İmamoğlu & Bayraktar, 2014, p. 21).

Peaceful environments add value to life, instil a desire to live, and provide a secure atmosphere that leads nations to prosperity and happiness. Ensuring all kinds of development and progress, enabling societies and states to continue their existence and vitality, guaranteeing fundamental human rights and freedoms, and providing security for the future are only possible through living in peace. In chaotic environments where there is no peace, it becomes difficult to maintain order and obtain fundamental rights and freedoms that are at risk. This is because polarisation increases in chaotic environments, and factors such as uncertainty and instability about the future lead to crises. Therefore, peace should be considered a phenomenon that requires effort to build and maintain (Wade & Min, 2025).

Humanity is essentially one big family. We are all members of this family. We all need love, respect, happiness and to live in peace. As the human family, should we not understand that we did not come into this world to destroy one another? Regardless of the reason, can people who do not see others as human beings and disregard human values for their own interests be defenders of peace? How can they be friends of the human family? Regardless of language, religion, race, colour or nationality, human beings, created as noble beings, should have the right to live in peace and security in this world.

Today's technological developments make it possible for almost all countries, societies, nations and individuals to communicate with each other. If we want to live in peace in this world, it should be our common duty and responsibility to try to establish existing communication channels or bridges through various reliable and reputable people, institutions and organisations based on human values or needs. Indeed, peace is a construct that can be built through local and international institutions as a fundamental approach (Russet, 2013). However, it cannot be achieved without sacrifice and struggle. It requires a comprehensive effort in economic, political, social, administrative, educational, cultural and environmental areas (İnandı & Altınöz, 2025, p. 78). As the human family, we must seek ways to live together respectfully and humanely, without resorting to violence, within the framework of fundamental human rights and freedoms. In a world where people and human values are not protected, who can live in peace or speak of a happy future?

### 1. Music as a Call for Peace

The compelling power of sounds and words in our world of perception and emotion is undeniable. Sound and words are

two fundamental elements that humans utilise to express themselves. People also express their emotions, excitement, joy, sadness and enthusiasm through music, which embodies these two elements. In this context, music is a form and means of conveying and communicating feelings, emotions and ideas through sound. It presents images that establish emotional connections between the composer and the listeners. Music, as one of the most indispensable elements of our lives, not only serves as an interpreter of our emotions and feelings, but also emerges as an art form potent enough to influence virtually every aspect of life (İmik & Haşhaş, 2020, p. 196). The language of music is not only local, regional and national, but also international and universal. Music has acoustic features that are systematically related to the goals and responses of singers and listeners (Mehr et al., 2019). It is a multifaceted, multidimensional and comprehensive field of action, discourse and existence that carries deep meanings and functions in the lives of individuals, society and all humanity (Uçan, 2023, p. 398). It can offer new insights into societies' trends, norms, and attitudes (Hall, 2008). In today's world, where digital technologies and internet platforms are rapidly developing, popular music serves as a powerful tool for cultural exchange and communication between different nations, easily transcending borders and spreading globally (Li, 2025, p. 2). It contributes to the development of self-awareness and enables communication with others (Schäfer et al., 2013). It has the potential to contribute greatly to peacebuilding by eliminating direct and indirect violence, igniting hope and the will to live, and facilitating peaceful integration between societies (Wu, 2019, p. 142). The crucial role of music in promoting well-being and mental health throughout life is highlighted (Zaatar et al., 2024). Music is also regarded as the language of the soul (Andriamasy, 2023, p. 52) because it speaks to the soul. Music that is beneficial to humans also referred to as nourishment for the soul and body (Koç et al., 2016). Its direct effect on the human soul and heart makes it significant. The great Sûfî master Mevlânâ (1207-1273) begins his honorable work, the Mathnawi, which he dedicated to all humanity, with the command 'listen to the *ney*<sup>1</sup> (*reed flute*) ...' (Can, 2011, p. 181; Türkan, 2024; Golkarian, 2024, 62). This message also points to the human soul's sensitive connection with sounds and music. Indeed, he similes the metaphor of the "ney" in the Mesnevi to a perfect human being (Kılcan, 2017).

Peace requires reconciliation, harmony, mutual understanding and tolerance. It brings together different cultures and societies, unites them, draws them closer to one another, thereby creating an environment of peace and security. At the heart of music lies peace, that is, harmony and balance (Uçan, 2023). There is considerable interest in music's potential to support peace (Howell, 2022, p. 152). Music plays various roles in building universal peace (Pruitt, 2011; King, 2016; Sandoval, 2016; Urbain, 2019; Wu, 2019; Andriamasy, 2023; Howell, 2022; Kilpi, 2025; Möller, 2025). It plays a strategic role by acting as a catalyst and channel that creates meaning before, during and after war (Grant, 2020). To date, many artists, singers, and groups of singers who advocate for peace and goodwill have strived to prevent wars and enable humanity to live in peace. To this end, they have performed songs of peace on various platforms, using music as a tool and an effective force. Nicole's song 'Ein bisschen Frieden' is one such example, composed and performed as a work in keeping with the spirit of the times (Gassert, 2012, p. 168). Many musicians, peacebuilders, music therapists, community musicians, and music educators have contributed to efforts to integrate music into the peace-building process (Möller, 2025: 24). Because music reflects and operates within the boundaries of social practices, norms, and values, it can help bring people together in historically fragmented and violently divided societies (Hintjens & Ubaldo, 2019, p. 279). It aims to build relationships, dialogue, and empathy through collaborative and participatory music-making as a shared activity, while also serving as an emotional tool to alter people's moods and forge connections through emotionally charged shared listening experiences (Howell, 2021, p. 86).

In today's world, where various wars are being fought, new songs of peace should be composed and performed that are appropriate to the conditions and spirit of the times. The universal unifying and healing power of music should be harnessed for a more peaceful world. Because music is a universal element that brings different people together, regardless of language, religion, race, or geography; it removes boundaries, overcomes obstacles, and reconciles. It builds cultural bridges by bringing different cultures and nations together in a universal melting pot and on common ground for dialogue. This allows different cultures to share their values and understand each other. It can eliminate various prejudices. It encourages cultural diversity. It affects the soul and conscience of listeners, elevating their emotional level. Songs about peace express the pain, hopes, and dreams of war victims, enabling listeners to empathize and form emotional bonds. It strengthens feelings of solidarity. It can reflect the feelings that victims are unable to express. It can be a balm for them to feel psychologically well and heal their emotional wounds. It can instill hope for a peaceful future in victims. Peaceful music can also serve as a tool

<sup>1</sup> Ney is a wind instrument used in Turkish music (Ateş, 2012, p. 143).

for guiding social change. Singers, being emotional and sensitive individuals, can inspire large audiences with their peace-filled, emotional messages and provide support to those who advocate for peace. They strive to bring people together around a common purpose by promoting their songs and messages of peace, usually through peace concerts and festivals. They play a role in passing on music as a symbol of peace to future generations. All of these are essentially factors that pave the way for peace and peaceful environments.

## 2. Aim and Methodology

This study is designed as a qualitative research to examine and interpret the emphasis on peace and the metaphors in the song 'Ein bisschen Frieden' (A little peace), performed by Nicole in the 1982 Eurovision Song Contest in the United Kingdom, which won Germany its first ever victory, using hermeneutic methodology. As is well known, qualitative research techniques based on understanding, interpreting and explaining phenomena are used in various disciplines (Fraenkel et al., 2000, p. 669; Topkaya, 2006, p. 113; Demir, 2024, p. 313). Hermeneutic methodology is among the methods used in qualitative research (Solmaz, 2017, p. 285). The hermeneutic approach offers various strategies for analysing the language, internal structure, symbols, and meanings of texts (Yılmaz, 2024, p. 5). It enables understanding both the text as a whole and its parts (Karadeniz, 2020). Hermeneutics, one of the oldest and most deeply rooted subjects in Western culture, is the art and science of understanding expressions belonging to the human world. It encompasses various disciplines research and areas of interest as an art of interpretation, textual criticism, exegetical understanding, method of knowing, and theory of understanding (Taşdelen, 2008, p. 9). Hermeneutic studies are also important and necessary in music research (Karadeniz, 2020; Robert, 2021; Uçan, 2023; McAuliffe, 2024). Hermeneutics, a philosophical, artistic, and scientific discipline aimed at understanding meaning, is expressed as an interpretation science, an interpretation methodology (Toprak, 2003; Akbaş, 2023, p. 40). It focuses on interpreting the author's thoughts as a result of analysing texts. Indeed, meaning can be revealed and developed through interpretation (Çelik, 2013, p. 128). Examples of hermeneutics in the field of literature began to appear in the 17th century (Nakiboğlu & Aşık, 2021, p. 281).

## 3. The song 'Ein bisschen Frieden'

The lyrics of the song 'Ein bisschen Frieden' were written poetically by Bernd Meinunger and composed by Ralph Siegel. In 1982, Germany won first place for the first time in its history with 161 points at the Eurovision Song Contest held in the United Kingdom, with Nicole performing the song 'Ein bisschen Frieden'<sup>2</sup> (A little peace). As 'peace' was one of the prominent terms in the world in the early 1980s (Hindrichs, 2007), this song was very appropriate for the conditions and spirit of the period in which it was performed. Therefore, it caused a great stir in Europe. It aimed to send a political and emotional message to the whole world, and it succeeded. The song remained at the top of the charts in the UK for some time after the contest. In terms of lyrics and music, it contains a dynamic that reflects highly traditional stylistic techniques, such as the gradual addition of extra instruments and singers and successive changes in tone (Gassert, 2012, p. 170). The song also ranked 7th in the 'Hits of the Century' category in Germany in 2005<sup>3</sup>. The lyrics of the song 'Ein bisschen Frieden'<sup>4</sup>, originally in German, are as follows:

### A Little Peace [*Ein bisschen Frieden*]

1

Like a flower at the beginning of winter [*Wie eine Blume am Winterbeginn*]  
 And like a fire in an icy wind [*Und so wie ein Feuer im eisigen Wind*]  
 Like a doll, no one loves anymore [*Wie eine Puppe, die keiner mehr mag*]  
 This is how I feel on some days [*Fühl' ich mich an manchem Tag*]

2

Then I see the clouds, above me and you [*Dann seh' ich die Wolken, die über uns sind*]

<sup>2</sup> Eurovisionworld (2025). <https://eurovisionworld.com/eurovision>

<sup>3</sup> Musikwoche, 2025. [https://www.musikwoche.de/musik/100-jahrhundert-hits-des-zdf-0ac8bd299534ab140b\\_9412\\_bf4fe58cce](https://www.musikwoche.de/musik/100-jahrhundert-hits-des-zdf-0ac8bd299534ab140b_9412_bf4fe58cce)

<sup>4</sup> Lyricstranslate.com, 2025. <https://lyricstranslate.com/en/ein-bisschen-frieden-little-bit-peace.html>

And hear the cries of the birds in the wind [*Und höre die Schreie der Vögel im Wind*]  
 I'm singing because I'm afraid of the dark [*Ich singe aus Angst vor dem Dunkeln ein Lied*]  
 And hope that nothing's going to happen [*Und hoffe, dass nichts geschieht*]

3

A little bit of peace, a little bit of sun [*Ein bisschen Frieden, ein bisschen Sonne*]  
 On this earth, we all live on [*Für diese Erde, auf der wir wohnen*]  
 A little bit of peace, a little bit of joy [*Ein bisschen Frieden, ein bisschen Freude*]  
 A little bit of warmth, is what I'm wishing for [*Ein bisschen Wärme, das wünsch ich mir*]

4

A little bit of peace, a little bit of dreaming [*Ein bisschen Frieden, ein bisschen Träumen*]  
 And that the people don't cry so often [*Und dass die Menschen nicht so oft weinen*]  
 A little bit of peace, a little bit of love [*Ein bisschen Frieden, ein bisschen Liebe*]  
 That I'll never lose hope again [*Dass ich die Hoffnung nie mehr verlier'*]

5

I know that my songs, won't change so many things [*Ich weiß, meine Lieder, die ändern nicht viel*]  
 I am just a girl, who says what she feels [*Ich bin nur ein Mädchen, das sagt, was es fühlt*]  
 Alone I am helpless, a bird in the wind [*Allein bin ich hilflos, ein Vogel im Wind*]  
 Who feels that a storm is brewing [*Der Spürt, daß der Sturm beginnt*]

6

A little bit of peace, a little bit of sun [*Ein bisschen Frieden, ein bisschen Sonne*]  
 On this earth, we all live on [*Für diese Erde, auf der wir wohnen*]  
 A little bit of peace, a little bit of joy [*Ein bisschen Frieden, ein bisschen Freude*]  
 A little bit of warmth, is what I'm wishing for [*Ein bisschen Wärme, das wünsch ich mir*]

7

A little bit of peace, a little bit of dreaming [*Ein bisschen Frieden, ein bisschen Träumen*]  
 And that the people don't cry so often [*Und dass die Menschen nicht so oft weinen*]  
 A little bit of peace, a little bit of love [*Ein bisschen Frieden, ein bisschen Liebe*]  
 That I'll never lose hope again [*Dass ich die Hoffnung nie mehr verlier'*]

8

Sing with me a little song [*Sing mit mir ein kleines Lied*]  
 That the world lives in peace [*Dass die Welt in Frieden lebt*]  
 Sing with me a little song [*Sing mit mir ein kleines Lied*]  
 That the world lives in peace [*Dass die Welt in Frieden lebt*]

The song 'Ein bisschen Frieden' attracted attention not only by winning the Eurovision Song Contest, but also by conveying a powerful and universal message of peace to humanity during a period of global East-West tension. As is well known, in 1982 the world faced various global threats such as the Cold War, nuclear war and political conflicts. In such a period, the peace-themed song sung by a 17-year-old girl (Nicole) accompanied by guitar and piano had a profound impact on a wide audience of different nations, cultures and languages, and lit a beacon of hope for universal peace.

The song expresses humanity's longing for peace, which is the most basic and vital need. While pointing out the senselessness of war, it emphasises peace and highlights human values. Although the lyrics are simple, they focus on deep metaphorical and universal messages. The melody is quite simple, emotional and memorable. Therefore, with its lyrics and melodic structure, the song has a universal quality that can be easily understood and felt by different cultures and identities. The innocence, sincerity and sympathetic warmth that young Nicole reflects while singing her song contribute to effectively

conveying the messages in the song to consciences and leaving an empathetic impact on listeners and viewers. Thus, the song's call for peace and solidarity becomes more effective and emotional.

On the other hand, Nicole continues to convey messages of peace worldwide and demonstrate the unifying power of music by performing her song in different languages in the years following the contest. The song calls on people to live a life of love, respect, tolerance and mutual understanding. It plays a role in keeping alive and strengthening humanity's belief and hope for peace. The song transcends the political barriers between countries, leaving a unifying effect on people around the universal desire for peace. It represents a beautiful example serving universal peace with its main theme. The song's messages of peace retain their relevance and validity in today's world, where global conflicts, wars and tensions continue.

### 3.1. Metaphors in the song 'Ein bisschen Frieden'

Metaphor is considered one of the cornerstones of cognitive linguistics and literary studies (Ziadi, 2025, p. 2). As a literary concept, metaphor is one of the ways to express emotions (Üstün and Umuzdaş, 2023, p. 104), a form of expression or narration that conveys meaning through similing without directly contrasting one thing with another. It is generally a figurative expression that establishes a connection with a word that has a different meaning in order to describe a concept, word, term or phenomenon in a more elegant style (Aydın, 2006, p. 10). It allows abstract concepts to be expressed in concrete terms. One of the most important aspects of metaphor is that it forms a fundamental part of understanding others and ourselves (Yağız & Yiğiter, 2007, p. 235). It enriches the language of expression and adds depth to understanding, allowing the reader to form an emotional connection (Güleroğlu, 2024, p. 165). It is a powerful tool that can convey deeper meanings to readers and shed light on various aspects of a text, thus enriching comprehension and interpretation (Ziadi, 2025, p. 3).

Metaphors are widely used in poetry and song lyrics. Metaphorical structure is inherent in the nature of music, helping us to conceptualize our ideas and images related to peace more easily (Möller, 2025, p. 24). The song 'Ein bisschen Frieden' employs numerous metaphors from a poetic perspective. In the poem written in the first person singular, the poet has placed himself at the center and blended the metaphors in his poem with a style aimed at a specific purpose. The song is a call for peace based on an extremely emotional foundation. It conveys a message of peace and love to the world through a young female singer who appears utterly innocent, sincere, and angelic.

The song's lyrics and musical structure have a dynamic achieved through highly conventional stylistic devices, such as the gradual addition of additional instruments and singers and successive changes in the background (Gassert, 2012: 170). The overall narrative in the song depicts the unrest that war has created in society. The narrator emotionally expresses his opposition to war by using imagery that emphasizes peace. The text is simple in both form and narrative. When the song 'Ein bisschen Frieden' is examined in general from beginning to end, many metaphorical concepts attract attention. The number of their repetitions in the text of the song is given in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Metaphorical concepts and their repetition numbers in the the song 'Ein bisschen Frieden'.

Metaphorical concepts	Repetition numbers
Peace [Frieden]	10
A little bit of peace [Ein bisschen Frieden]	8
Wind [Wind], Sing or Singing [Sing or singe], Song [Lied]	3
A little bit of sun [Ein bisschen Sonne] A little bit of joy [Ein bisschen Freude] A little bit of dreaming [Ein bisschen Träumen] A little bit of love [Ein bisschen Liebe]	2
Bird [Vogel], Earth [Erde], Warmth [Wärme], Cry [Weinen], Sun [Sonne], Joy [Freude], Dream [Traum], Love [Liebe],	2
Flower [Blume], Winter [Winter], Fire [Feuer], Icy [Eisigen], Doll [Puppe], Cloud [Wolke], Cries [Schreie], Dark [Dunkeln], Storm [Sturm], Girl [Mädchen]	1

The word 'peace', the song's main theme and message, appears 10 times in the lyrics. The message "A little bid of peace" is repeated 8 times. The impressive word structures 'A little bit of sun', 'A little bit of joy', 'A little bit of dreaming' and 'A little of bit of love' are repeated twice. The words 'wind', 'sing or singing' and 'song' appear three times. The words 'Bird',

'earth', 'warmth', 'cry', 'sun', 'joy', 'dream' and 'love' are repeated twice. In addition, the words 'flower', 'winter', 'fire', 'icy', 'doll', 'cloud', 'cries', 'dark', 'storm', 'girl' and 'alone' appear only once in the text, even though they affect the listeners. In addition, the third and fourth stanzas, the refrains of the poem, are repeated twice in both the text and the song.

Expressions such as 'a flower at the beginning of winter', 'a fire in an icy wind', 'a doll no one loves anymore', 'how I feel on some days', 'seeing the clouds above me and you', 'hearing the cries of the birds in the wind', 'I am singing because I am afraid of the dark', 'hoping that nothing's going to happen', 'this earth we all live on', 'wishing for a little bit of warmth', 'dreaming a little, that the people don't cry so often', 'never lose hope', 'knowing that my songs won't change so many things', 'just a girl who says what she feels', 'I am alone and helpless', 'I am a bird in the wind', 'feeling that a storm is brewing', 'singing with me a little song' and 'that the world lives in peace' carries its own distinct message. They not only add a unique depth and emotional resonance to the lyrics of the song, but also play a role in leaving a peace-inspiring and encouraging impact on the listeners and audiences.

In the first quatrain of the poem, the author expresses the emotions of the 'moment' he is experiencing as 'some days' [*This is how I feel on some days*] and reflects them outside of his own self. He describes feeling like a flower at the beginning of winter [*Like a flower at the beginning of winter*], like a fire in the icy wind [*And like a fire in an icy wind*], and like a toy doll that no one loves anymore [*Like a doll, no one loves anymore*]. Because when winter comes, fresh flowers wither and their survival becomes difficult. Just as fire provides warmth in cold weather, it is equally difficult for a flower to bloom in the cold to survive. The author feels like a doll here. Doll symbolizes innocence, childish feelings, worthlessness, loneliness, the need to be valued, abandonment and neglect. The author is actually drawing attention to war here and condemning it. Because it is very difficult for a person to survive in a war situation. War is like winter, and just as it withers a flower's life, it also reduces a person to a worthless toy doll. A person needs favorable conditions to survive.

The author uses additional powerful imagery in the second quatrain to deepen the meaning and impact of the words in the first section. Drawing attention to the approaching clouds overhead [*Then I see the clouds, above me and you*] and the cries of birds in the wind [*And hear the cries of the birds in the wind*], he then describes this situation as darkness and says he is afraid of it. Because the image of darkness produces fear, anxiety, and threat. The clouds of war that overshadow peace, like birds scattered by the wind—birds being creatures that spread their wings for freedom—will scatter people here and there amid screams. The author describes this situation with a metaphor of darkness. On the one hand, he is afraid of the darkness, but on the other hand, he tries to overcome and defeat this fear by singing a song [*I'm singing because I'm afraid of the dark*]. He attempts to block the darkness with a song. He resists the darkness with a song, reacts to it, and responds to it. Then, he does not lose hope that his song will prevail over this fear and threat, and he keeps it alive [*And hope that nothing's going to happen*]. He wishes for nothing negative to happen.

The words of the third and sixth quatrains and the fourth and seventh quatrains are repeated as the chorus sections of the song. In these sections, the main message of 'emphasizing peace' is expressed clearly and explicitly. In the choruses, the emphasis on peace is adorned with four metaphors: sun, dream, love, and joy. Each emphasis on peace is followed by these four main metaphors. These metaphors not only strengthen the emphasis but also make the meaning and messages more impactful. The song's repetition of these basic metaphors in a soft and simple style in the choruses ensures that the lyrics are engraved in the ears and memories. The metaphors of peace, love, sun, joy and warmth symbolize fundamental universal values. It is emphasized that these values are not only the common and indispensable desires, needs, and expectations of humanity, but also symbols of the trust and peace that enable people to live together. The author conveys messages through metaphors of peace, sunshine, joy, and warmth, proclaiming the desire for an end to wars in the world people live in. Indeed, the sun is the light that stands against darkness. It brings peace to people and nature, cheers people up, and warms them. War, on the other hand, is darkness. It steals peace and joy and destroys life. The author expresses that he has not lost hope, that he dreams of this in peace, and that he wishes for people not to shed tears. Because peace and tranquility will bring love, and humanity will prevail.

The metaphors of 'peace' and 'sun' [*A little bit of peace*] and [*A little bit of sun*] in the first two lines of the third and sixth quatrains, followed by the emphasis 'earth' [*On this earth, we all live on*], elevate the intended message to a universal dimension. In the third and fourth lines, the emphasis on peace is reinforced by the images of joy [*A little bit of happiness*] and warmth [*A little bit of warmth*], which are expressed one after the other, strengthening the meaning and appealing to all humanity. The aim is to convey the messages through the singer's desire to all of humanity.

In the fourth and seventh quatrains, the metaphor of 'peace' is supported by the metaphors of 'dreaming' [*A little bit of dreaming*] and 'love' [*A little bit of love*]. While the metaphors of peace and love in the first line represent universal values that humanity needs, the metaphor of dreaming in the second line symbolizes the longing for peace. Then, along with the images

of peace and dreaming, the metaphor of 'crying' [*And that the people don't cry so often*] is used to emphasize that wars are pointless and that people should not cry, i.e., suffer, because of them. In the third and fourth lines, the power of peace and love in the face of adversity is reflected as a beacon of hope for humanity not to lose hope [*That I'll never lose hope again*]. The same lines are repeated in the fourth and seventh quatrains of the poem. This allows the messages conveyed in these lines to have a greater impact on the listeners and makes the song easier to remember and stick in the mind.

The fifth stanza conveys messages to humanity through the songs flowing from a girl's lips. As is well known, the girl child is a symbol of innocence, grace, abundance, prosperity, and hope. This stanza highlights the singer's weakness (Schormann, 2005). The young singer is aware that her song will be weak in the face of current events and will not change much [*I know my songs won't change much*]. Despite this, even though she feels lonely and helpless in the winds of the war's storm [*I am alone, helpless, a bird in the wind*], she does not hesitate to express her opposition to war, at least through her song. Even with just one song, she demonstrates her emotional response. She strives to be the voice and hope of those who feel alone, helpless, and trapped in the harsh conditions of war. With the phrases I am just a girl who says what's happening [*I am just a girl who says what she feels*] and I am someone who feels the approaching storm [*Who feels that a storm is brewing*], she foretells humanity that wars approaching like storms will bring suffering and destruction. She reminds people to be aware of this. Furthermore, the same words are repeated in the third and sixth quatrains, similar to the poem's fourth and seventh quatrains. This increases the impact of the message on listeners and allows the song to sink into their ears more easily. Nicole's innocent and angelic appearance, her performance with her white guitar and the dreamy harp melodies accompanying the song were effective in etching the song into people's memories (Gassert, 2012, p. 170).

The eighth and final stanza complements the lines of the fifth section. This stanza clearly implies that people should come together to strive for peace. With the messages [*That the world live in peace*] and [*Sing a little song with me*], a young female singer calls on humanity to take steps toward peace. Indeed, in the finale, Nicole invites the audience to join in the song, stating that singing together will bring peace to the world (Gassert, 2012, p. 170).

In addition, the metaphors in the lyrics of the song 'Ein bisschen Frieden' are also summarized in Table 2, along with their symbolic meanings and messages.

**Table 2.** Symbolic meanings and messages of the metaphors in the lyrics of the song 'Ein bisschen Frieden'.

Metaphors	Related lines	Symbolic meaning	Messages
'Flower' 'Winter', 'Icy wind', 'Fire'	[ <i>Like a flower at the beginning of winter</i> ] [ <i>And like a fire in an icy wind</i> ]	Flower symbolizes beauty, life, hope and joy as well as fragility. Winter and the icy wind symbolize the harsh world conditions, a life-threatening and damaging phenomenon. The fire in the icy wind, however, symbolizes the hope of survival in the face of hardship and the warmth and energy of life.	Even under conditions of war and fear, people must not allow their desire to live to be extinguished. They must resist the cruelty and threats of the outside world and keep the hope within them alive with all its warmth.
'Doll'	[ <i>Like a doll, no one loves anymore</i> ]	It symbolizes innocence, childish feelings, worthlessness, loneliness, the need to be valued, abandonment and neglect.	In difficult times and conditions where people feel like abandoned, neglected, loveless and lonely little children, they must be supported, given a helping hand and helped.
'Clouds'	[ <i>Then I see the clouds, above me and you</i> ]	War symbolizes fear, threat, anxiety, worry, pessimism, and uncertainty.	Wars, which hang like dark clouds over humanity, lead to social fear, threat, anxiety, worry, pessimism, and uncertainty. Therefore, humanity must strive to prevent wars.

**Table 2** (continuing).

Metaphors	Related lines	Symbolic meaning	Messages
'Birds' and 'Cries'	[ <i>And hear the cries of the birds in the wind</i> ]	The cries of birds caught in the wind symbolize threats to freedom and peace,	People must stand against wars that threaten their freedom and peace, and even if they suffer,

		screaming out fears and pain.	they must never give up making their voices heard freely and without fear in the world.
'Dark' and 'Singing'	<i>[I'm singing because I'm afraid of the dark]</i>	Dark symbolizes fear, helplessness, threat and reinforces uncertainty. 'Singing' symbolizes a glimmer of hope against fear and uncertainty. 'Singing against the fear of the dark symbolizes the author's effort to make his voice heard to humanity as a peaceful endeavor.	People must resist the fear and uncertainty brought on by war, and do everything they can to overcome their fears and make their voices heard throughout the world. People should strive to make their peaceful voices heard throughout the world to prevent wars. They must keep their hopes alive in this regard.
'Peace' and 'Sun'	<i>[A little bit of peace, a little bit of sun]</i>	Peace and sun are indispensable symbols of life. The sun symbolizes light and enlightenment. When sung together, they symbolize the joy, warmth, and peace of life.	Wars must end, and humanity must live in peace, tranquility, and security. Peace should be the universal desire and aspiration of humanity. Just as sunlight illuminates the earth, peace should also spread across the earth. All humanity needs a sun of peace.
'Earth'	<i>[On this earth, we all live on]</i>	It symbolizes the world and its conditions in which we live.	This world we live in is our common home. We must be aware of this.
'Peace' and 'Joy'	<i>[A little bit of peace, a little bit of joy]</i>	When sung together, they symbolize happiness.	Peace brings happiness and joy of life. People are happy in an environment of peace.
'Warmth'	<i>[A little bit of warmth, is what I'm wishing for]</i>	It symbolizes the desire for a warm home, sincerity, love and affection.	People can only have warm homes and establish sincere relationships when they live in peace.
'Peace' and 'Dreaming'	<i>[A little bit of peace, a little bit of dreaming]</i>	When sung together, they symbolize imagining and building the future through peace.	The first step in achieving peace is to dream it. People must imagine and generate ideas for how to prevent wars and achieve peace.
'Cry'	<i>[And that the people don't cry so often]</i>	It symbolizes the troubles, pain, bloody tears, famine and poverty that people suffer during wars.	Preventing people from suffering and tears due to wars is only possible through peace. Peace offers a balm for pain and tears.
'Peace' and 'Love'	<i>[A little bit of peace, a little bit of love]</i>	When sung together, they symbolize happiness, innocence, sincerity, joy, compassion and friendship.	True order and happiness in the world can only be achieved through the power of peace and love. The real antidote to wars is peace and love, which are the real needs of humanity. The power of peace and love can break down all walls of evil. As long as people don't lose hope in this regard.
'Songs'	<i>[I know that my songs, won't change so many things]</i>	It symbolizes taking a step together, even if small, for peace and not remaining silent.	People must come together and take steps to establish peace. They should not hesitate to raise their voices for peace.
'Girl'	<i>[I am just a girl, who says what she feels]</i>	She symbolizes innocence, elegance, abundance, fertility and hope.	Innocence, beauty, elegance, abundance, prosperity and hope always evoke love and peace.

#### 4. Conclusion

The song 'Ein bisschen Frieden' emphasizes peace from beginning to end. This emphasis on peace is conveyed through various symbols that appeal to the heart and soul. The metaphors in the lyrics of the song are actually very simple, but they consist of deeply meaningful images. In the song, the emphasis and longing for peace are expressed through metaphors representing personal fragility (flower, baby, fire), nature (cloud, bird, sun) and universal values (peace, love, warmth). The emphasis on peace starts from an individual call and turns into a collective call for peace. Love stands out as the most powerful and striking metaphor for fostering peace.

'Ein bisschen Frieden' is a song of peace, with simple yet powerful and profound lyrics, a simple yet gentle melody, and an emotional impact. It carries images of peace that unite humanity around human values. It conveys a powerful message of peace. It calls on humanity to take steps toward peace. It clearly implies that people must come together for peace. It calls on humanity to develop empathy and understanding on the path to peace. It emphasizes the senselessness of war. It suggests

that music can transcend political and cultural barriers by serving as a bridge to peace. It highlights the power of peace and love in achieving true order and happiness in the world. The power of peace and love has the potential to tear down all walls of evil. Music with peaceful purposes and harmonious melodies has the power to transcend the borders of nation states and bring humanity together (Wu, 2019, p. 142). Peace songs serve to express the feelings of those who oppose wars (Cohen & Kaufman, 2015).

The song is filled with powerful imagery and emotional expressions that touch the heart directly. The lyrics reflect a simple, understandable, and universal language. This allows people from different cultures and languages to more easily understand the song's message. The song calls for unity around a shared hope for peace. This call reaches millions on an international platform like Eurovision. Indeed, with her final words, Nicole invites the audience to join in the song, stating that singing together will bring peace to the world (Gassert, 2012, p. 170). Thus, with her heartfelt, emotional interpretation, she extends her call beyond national borders. In short, the song emphasizes the message that the solution to peace lies in love, tolerance, and understanding. First performed at the Eurovision Song Contest in 1982, 'Ein bisschen Frieden' (A little of peace) remains memorable for its message of peace despite the passage of years. Even in today's world of global conflicts, its message remains relevant.

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