

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Research

Pierce distinguishes three classes of signs; these are defined in terms of kind relation between the signifying item and which it signifies; an icon, an index, and a symbol (Abrams, 1985: 275). An icon functions as a sign by means of inherent similarities, or shared features. An index is a sign which bears a natural relation of cause or effect to what it signifies (Abrams, 1985: 276). In a symbol, the relation between the signifying item and what it signifies is not a natural one, but entirely a matter of social convention (Abrams, 1985: 276). From those three classes of signs, symbol is the most superior because it has a function of thought, imagination, and sense. Thus, this research concentrates to analyze the symbols in literature.

A symbol is a shorthand way of suggesting an idea. As Heilman said (1980:177) that, "Artful writers use symbols to suggest abstract ideas, not only for their brevity but for the feelings they convey." A symbol is a thing, something concrete; colour, natural, phenomena, etc. may be utilized to symbolize women in kinds of literary works.

Any concrete element actually can be a symbol. Cars and houses may represent economic or social status, stars can be a symbol of wishes, water may symbolize life, roses may indicate love, etc. A thing can be a symbol for certain

people as it means something beyond itself for him or her. For example, one assumes that sea is symbol of love for him. It arouses by the experience he gets concerning the sea, that he often finds love as he is going to view the sea. Sea may symbolize sadness for one, but may not for the others. It means that everything can represent different symbols for different persons based on their experiences. A rose, for example, may indicate love; a dove refers to the peace, and etc. Furthermore, symbol is a word or something which can be analogized as a related word to (1) the user's interpretation, (2) the rules of usage that depends on the context, and (3) the creation of the meaning given that suitable to user's dimension. The symbol that is included and related to those three aspects is called a symbolic form (Alex Sobur, 2004: 58).

Like in Poe's poems, few of his works have a theme of death, otherwise in the poems, Poe also represents love, or it can be said that love is a minor theme for his works. All his love expression is included in his poems in order to suggest an idea or the feeling that he feels into some kinds of symbolic forms. Shortly, symbols are included in his works that represents love.

A symbol is anything, which signifies something. In this sense, all words are symbolic, because the more we read and study literature, the more we will come a cross words that always function symbolically. The term symbol applies only to word or phrase that signifies a object or event which its turn signifies something, or has a range of reference, beyond itself (Abrams, 1985: 206).

In discussing literature, the term symbol applies only to word or phrase that signifies an object or event, which in its turn signifies something, or has a

range of reference; beyond it (Abrams, 1985: 206). Symbol can represent an object, idea, or a relationship. It can symbolize anything depends on the context of the text. Symbol may represent love in every kind of literary works.

According to Fromm (1990: 45), love an active attention toward the life and the development of someone or something he or she is loved. Therefore, love is an activity; it is not merely a desire or lust. Further, Fromm claims that love should consist of several basic elements; attention or patronage, responsibility, respect and understanding or knowledge.

From the statement above, the researcher finds symbol of love in Poe's Poems. The researcher chooses Edgar Allan Poe's Loves because these poems not only have a theme of death but also love. Love is interested to analyze because the researcher want to reveal the other side of Poe's works except the death and the Gothic elements. Then, the researcher assumes that it is important to analyze Poe's poems because Poe is well known for his short stories not his poems. Therefore, the researcher will analyze Edgar Allan Poe's poem based on the symbol that related to love. Finally, the research entitled "**Symbol of love in Edgar Allan Poe's Poems.**"

B. Statement of problem

The main problem of this research is the searching and the analyzing of symbols that represent love in Edgar Allan Poe's poems. The problems include the meanings of symbols of love in the poems and how the symbol of love is represented in Edgar Allan Poe's poems. The research question as follows:

1. How is symbol of love represented in Edgar Allan Poe's poems?
2. What are the interpretations of symbols of love in Edgar Allan Poe's poems?

C. Purpose and Significance of research

1. The Purpose of research are:

- a. To know the symbol of love in Edgar Allan Poe's poems.
- b. To know the interpretation of symbol of love in Edgar Allan Poe's poems based on Northrop Frye's theory.

2. Significance of research

- a. Academically, this research is provided to students whose study in English Literature Department to be reference about research in the same problem.
- b. Practically, this research is provided to the literary society and other people as a unity who want to understand and explore the poems content and who are interested in this research, especially about symbol of love in poems.
- c. Personally, this research is provided to the researcher as the writer to add the literature knowledge, especially about symbol of love in poems.

D. Conceptual framework

Literature as a creative art using human and all kinds of life as a media convey idea or system thinking of human can be able to become forwarding of idea thought and felt by man of letters about the human life. Literature goes about as a far as a representation of life, to be judge by its accuracy of description rather than by its integrity as a structure of words, as it could go and still remain literature (Frye 1975: 80).

In this thesis, the researcher applies Northrop Frye's phases of symbolism as a grand theory for discussing the proposed problems. The theory of symbol raised by Northrop Frye is surely reinforced by the other supporting theories on the proposed problems.

“Symbol”-which in this essay means any unit of any literary structure that can be isolated for critical attention. A word, a phrase, or image use with some kind of special reference (which is what a symbol is usually taken to mean) are all symbols when they are distinguishable elements in critical analysis (Frye, 1975: 71)

Frye divides symbol into four phases: in the first, literal and descriptive phases: symbol as motif. Second, formal phases: symbol as image. Third, mythical phase: symbol as archetype. The last, anagogic phase: symbol as monad. The researcher use the first phase theory of Frye that is literal and descriptive phase: symbol as motif and sign.

The literal and descriptive phase there is two directions moving in reading anything, the outward and inward. One direction is outward or centrifugal, in which we keep going outside our reading, from the individual words to the things they mean, or, in practice, to our memory of the conventional association between them. The other direction is inward or centripetal, in which we try to develop from

the words sense of the larger verbal pattern they makes (Frye, 1975: 73) that direction deal with symbols in his theory. In literature the standard of outward meaning is secondary, for literary works do not pretend to describe or assert, and hence are not true, not false, and yet not tautological either, or at least not in the sense (Frye, 1975:74). Formal phase which symbol is seen as image. The conception of imitating nature is its work. Frye adopted this formal imitation from Aristotelian *Mimesis*. Mythical phase which symbol is seen as archetype. This phase of symbol sees literature as a whole unfiled dimension, “The archetypal view of literature shows us literature as a total form and literary experience as a part of continuum of life... (Frye, 1975: 115). Anagogic phase which symbol is seen as monad. In the archetypal phase, the work of literary art is a myth, and unites the ritual and dream. By doing so, it limits the dream; it makes it plausible and acceptable to a social working consciousness (Frye, 1975: 118).

For that reasons, the researcher assumes that symbol of love in Poe’s poems can be analyzed and criticized by Frye’s theory of symbol on all phase because those symbols are related to something inward or outward of the works. To analyze symbols in these poems, the researcher elaborates the symbols by recognizing few symbols with looking for the repeated words, and making categories. Then, the researcher identifies and analyzes it by using Frye’s theory of symbol to make process of symbolization to find the meaning and finally, making conclusion for all of analysis.

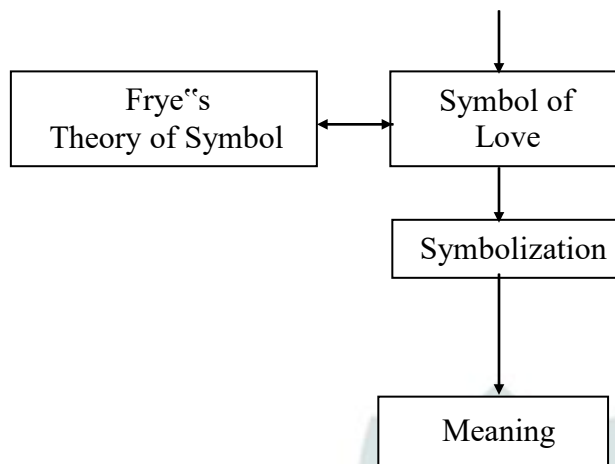


Figure 1
Conceptual Framework

Based on the figure above, the researcher tries to correlate and realize the symbols of love through theories of the symbols, which affect the process of symbolization implemented by Edgar Allan Poe. Poe's poems produce the symbols of love with interrelationship line. The symbols of love have the direct relation to the theories of the symbols. The direct relation above must be related to each other in order to get or to produces the process of symbolization and produces the meaning of the symbols.

E. Procedure of Research

1. Method of Research

The employed method in this research is structural analysis method. Teeuw insists that the structural analysis method is to dismantle and elaborate prudently the interrelatedness of literary works that results a comprehensive

meaning. It implies that what is important in structural analysis is the contribution of the elements to the whole body of meaning in its relationship and its entanglement (Suwondo in Jabrohim, 2003:55).

By this method, a literary work regarded to be an autonomous structure containing its entangled constructing elements of meaning. The analysis does not involve any matters concerning historical background, author's intention, and its affect to the readers, Stanton describes the structural elements of literary work like these: the structural elements of a fiction consist of theme, fact of the story, and literary devices. The fact of story includes plot, characters and characterizations, and setting, while literary devices include point of view, atmosphere and figurative language, symbols, images, and the title choosing (Suwondo in Jabrohim, 2003:56).

Previously, it has been explained that symbol is one of the literary devices of a fiction. Therefore, this research uses the structural analysis method. The most important thing is the structural analysis element of the literary work and the whole of its transformation (Suwondo in Jabrohim, 2003:56).

This method is applied to the poems by taking the elements that want to be analyzed from the text of the poems, in this case the intrinsic elements of the poems. The used method in this research is to analyze the intrinsic rather than the extrinsic. So, for analyzing the symbols of the poems is analyzing the meaning of the symbols by relating it with another intrinsic element, such as, theme and image.

2. Data

The data of this research are qualitative data. The data are words, phrases, or sentences that symbolize an object (love) in the poems that are: Annabel lee, raven, for Annie, to My Mother, Lenore, Temberlane. The researcher choose just six poems from poe's poems because in that six poems that have a theme of love which are expressed by symbol. Kind of data which the writer purpose in this paper is collection of established references and the problem that represented in the conceptual framework which being describing by separated words and sentences based on specific and definite data to reach the conclusion, The data in this paper is symbolic words which related to love in Edgar Allan Poe's Poem, and then the writer discusses and analysis the symbolic words to get the meaning.

3. Source of Data

The data primer is taken from complete poetical works of Edgar Allan Poe poems By John H. Ingram; the theoretical source is taken from anatomy of criticism: four essays by Northrop Frye. This book is published by Princeton university press, Princeton, New Jersey at 1975, and all references are supporting this research.

4. Technique of collecting data

This research used library research as the technique of collecting data. The data will be taken any supporting book and internet source. According to Bagdan and Taylor (Moleong, 2004: 282) suggested: "reading the text smartly, making code, and reading some books related to the research problem".

5. Technique of Analyzing Data

The next step is analyzing data. There are some steps as technique of analyzing data, which generally covers identifying, analyzing, interpreting, and making generalization of data. Their correlation as follows:

a. Identifying data.

The identified data are collected from the source of data.

b. Classifying entire data which related to grand theme; Symbol of love in Poe's Poems.

c. Analyzing the data based on Frye's Theory.

The identified data then analyzed empirically by connecting and relating them based on Frye's theory.

d. Interpreting data.

Interpreting overall data, particularly with Frye's theory for comprehending the subject on the poems.

e. Presenting conclusion from the data, which has been analyzed

F. Organization of Writing

1. Introduction

This chapter deals with the background of research, statements of problem, research questions, purposes and significances of research, and organization of writing.

2. Theoretical Review

This chapter reviews theories underlying and supporting the research including:

a) the theories of symbol include; theory of symbolism and Frye's

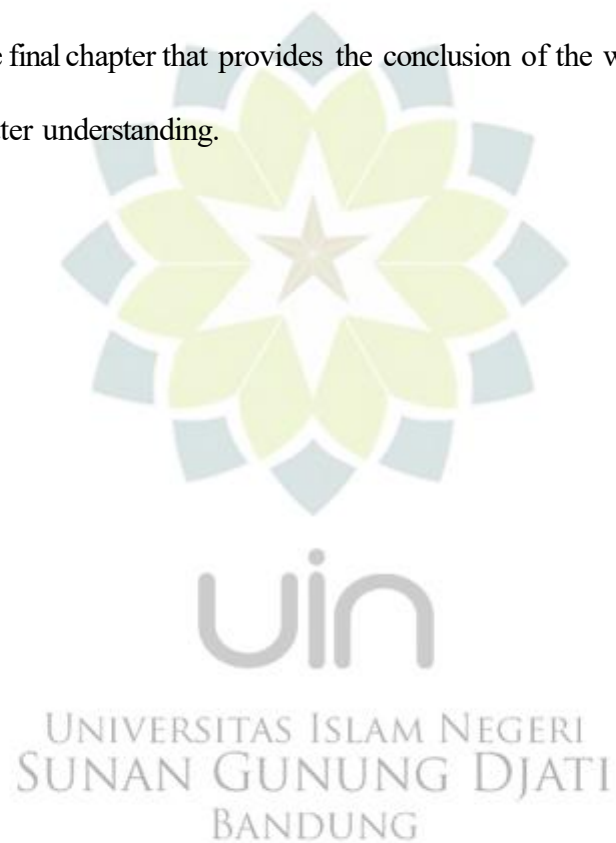
theory of symbol, b) the concept of Love, and c) biographical sketch of Edgar Allan Poe, d) synopsis of Poe's poems.

3. Symbol of love in Edgar Allan Poe's poems

This chapter provides data representation and discussion based on Frye's theory of symbol.

4. Conclusion and Suggestion

This is the final chapter that provides the conclusion of the whole analysis and suggestion for better understanding.





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