# STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS IN ROBERT FROST'S STRECTED POEMS



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by .

MOHAMAD AMALUDDIN MOKHRAM

Reg No. 90 07 004

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# UNIVERSITAS HASANUDDIN FAKULTAS SASTRA

Sesuai dengan surat tugas Dekan Fakultas Sastra Universitas Hasanuddin nomor: 132/PT04.H5.FS/C/1995 tanggal
27 Januari 1995, dengan ini kami menyatakan menerima dan
menyetujui skripsi ini.

Ujung Pandang, 5 September 1995

Pembiymotog

Drs. Aminuddin Ram, MEd.

Pembimbing II

Drs. R.S.M. Assagat, MEd.

Disetujui untuk diteruskan kepada Panitia Ujian Skripsi Dekan Fakultas Sastra Unhas

u.b. Ketua Jurusan Sastra Inggris

Drs. Agustinus Ruruk L., M.A.

# UNIVERSITAS HASANUDDIN FAKULTAS SASTRA

Pada hari ini, Kamis, tanggal 7 September 1995, Tim penguji menerima dengan baik skripsi yang berjudul:

# STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS IN ROBERT FROST'S SELECTED POEMS

dalam rangka memenuhi salah satu persyaratan ujian akhir sarjana jurusan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Sastra. Universitas Hasanuddin.

Ujung Pandang, 7 September 199

Panitia Ujian Skripsi

1. Drs. Agustinus R.L., M.A. . Ketua

2. Drs. R.S.M. Assagaf, M.Ed.

3. Drs. H. Mustafa Makka, M.Sc.

4. Drs. Burhanuddin Arafah, M.Hum.

Penguji II

5. Drs. Aminuddin Ram, M.Ed

Konsultan

6. Drs. R.S.M. Assagaf, M.Ed

Konsultan II

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The Writer

#### ABSTRAK

Judul skripsi ini adalah "Structural Analysis in Robert Frost's Selected Poems" atau Analisis Struktural Beberapa Puisi Robert Frost. Nama Robert Frost tidaklah asing di bidang kesusastraan, utamanya puisi abad ke-20 ini. Karya-karyanya seperti "Stopping by the Woods on a Snowy Evening", "Birches", "Mending Wall", dan masih banyak lagi menjadi terkenal di seluruh dunia, dan bahkan karya-karya tersebut selalu menjadi bahan acuan di berbagai perguruan tinggi di seluruh dunia untuk mengapresiasi dan mengkaji puisi secara umum.

Dalam skripsi ini, termuat pembahasan empat puisinya yang dipilih berdasarkan keinginan penulis semata. Kajian penulis terhadap keempat puisi Robert Frost ini mencakup penggunaan kata dalam menyusun puisinya, citraan (imagery), bahasa kiasan (figures of speech), pola-pola rima dan juga ritme, serta tema puisi itu sendiri.

Hasil kajian terhadap tema diperoleh setelah membahas puisi-puisi ditilik dari sudut isi dan makna yang terkandung dalam keseluruhan puisi tersebut dengan mengkaji unsur-unsur dalam struktur bahasa puisi secara menyeluruh. Bertitik-tolak dari hal ini, penulis kemudian membuat rumusan tema.

Untuk mencapai hasil analisis yang memadai, penulis menggunakan metode atau pendekatan intrinsik, yakni membaca secara langsung puisi itu dan meneliti atau memperhatikan unsur-unsur yang berperan penting dalam puisi tersebut. Selanjutnya dipakai pula metode atau pendekatan ekstrinsik yang turut menyokong struktur dan makna puisi.

Dari hasil analisis ini, penulis dapat mengetahui dengan jelas bahwa bahasa yang disusun Frost cukup sederhana dan mudah dipahami pembacanya. Sumber yang menjadi inspirasinya adalah obyek sehari-hari, umumnya adalah alam yang masih murni, hutan, pantai ataupun suasana pedesaan. Setiap unsur yang turut membangun struktur puisinya disusun dengan sederhana namun pola rima maupun ritmenya terpadu rapi secara utuh dan menyeluruh sehingga terasa sangat istimewa.

Puisi-puisinya tidak sekedar menghadirkan alam, tetapi menyulapnya dengan imajinasi yang terkadang menghanyutkan, dan terkadang menyentak dan menggugah perasaan. Tentu saja hal ini terjadi karena Frost menggunakan simbol-simbol yang tidak terlalu asing bagi pembacanya, bahasa kiasan serta citraan yang hidup dan bersemangat tanpa sedikitpun berusaha menghadirkan suasana murung dan putus asa.

Tema yang terkandung dalam keseluruhan puisinya, terutama keempat puisi yang dikaji ini adalah perenungan tentang
hidup. Ia mengetengahkan sebagian kecil problema hidup yang
menjadi bagian dari diri manusia itu sendiri, dan mencoba
mendorong kita untuk memecahkan masalah itu melalui pertimbangan-pertimbangan yang bijaksana.

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"When power leads man toward arrogance, poetry reminds him of his limitations. When power narrows the areas of man concern, poetry reminds him of the richness and diversity of his existence. When power corrupts, poetry cleanses. For art establishes the basic human truth which must serve as the touchstone of our judgement." (World Book Encycl., 1988:269)

John F. Kennedy, Oct 26, 1963

#### CHAPTER I

#### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 BACKGROUND

Poetry is one of the most important human expression.

All of the literary elements are presented in poetry. It is considered as the most basic expression of literature. Reading poem is a specific amusement of art, moreover it constitutes the top luxury of literature. Hence, from previous time until recent time poetry is always created, read and presented in order to feel the art of ecstasy and to obtain its highest inner value.

Poetry is identical with beautiful words, besides it has a philosophical value. A poem can give contentment and consolation to the reader. It also offers some benefits in order to form their perception about life. The philosophical value that has benefit in developing reader's philosophy of life, comprises some problems which are very complex. The complexity occurs because it is considered as an art creation; poetry derived its subject matter from the complexity of problems in life itself, from everything exist and probably exist. By means of it, basically, poetry can afford to depict man problems with universal scope. For instance: about the essence of life; about death; about humanity; and about divinity (Aminuddin, 1991:197).

In other hand, poetry is not only used as a literary work which is appreciated in a paper or in front of public, but, it also has a close relationship with daily life. Poetry as an imaginative expession can be seen in the image of life, in assisting of awareness about our existence as human in the world, as a man with God, as man in the relation with other man, within nature, and within society.

Analyzing poetry is an enjoyable and provocative mental exercise because it never stops providing us with new meaning and idea. There is still something new we may obtain when we read a poem which we read such things before. It means, a poem gives possibility for someone to have his own understanding toward the poem he reads. No wonder, definitions given to poetry are always different all through the years from one person to another.

The writer realizes that most of the students or undergraduates of English Department in Hasanuddin University choose novels and short stories and plays/drama as their subject of analysis for sarjana degree accomplisment. As far as the writer concerns, that they consider poetry is more difficult than any other literary works because it is packed and densed, and more complex. They will not take the chance to choose it. So that, the students or even public think prose and drama is easier to be understood and more suitable to read, whereas it is not definitely true. Precisely, analyzing poetry is the most provocative activity in the way of enjoying oneself within the literature.

Poetry has its own specifically characteristics, structure and convention. Hence, to understand it more, it is necessary to study or to analyze the convention and structure at once. Poetry can be analyzed from its structure or elements, in view of poetry is a structure which constructed from various elements and poetic devices. As we know already, a poem is a structure which is composed of some elements. Applying this approach, the writer does not mean to treat poem as unity of elements. Although every element in a poem is inseparable from the poem itself.

異な

In this thesis, the writer has a good mind to use some knowledge and self technique in analyzing the structure of poetry. The analysis based on the rules and theories to some of selected poems by treating a poem apart in order to arrive at a great understanding of both its structure and its meaning. So, he choses Structural Analysis to be the title of his thesis because he believes this way will brings him to approach the meaning of the selected poems.

About the poet himself, the writer chose him because Frost and his works is the writer's favourite one among other poets. Beside he has an ability to make himself became a famous poet. During his lifetime, Frost produced many poems. Most of his poems have abundant sources of the elements that built it up such as: simplicity of words arrangement. They are composed out in a simple and very clear words, rich imagery, interesting diction etc.

#### 1.2 THE SCOPE OF PROBLEMS

In order to make easy and clear, the analysis is concentrated only on Frost's selected poems. The poems are: Spring Pools, Neither out Far nor in Deep, Come In, and The Gift Dutright. The writer believes that most of those poems are unfamilliar with the students of English Department of Hasanuddin University or even for public. Obviously, there are many interesting things to analyze. Since a poem cannot lead a reader into a certain conclusion, then we always have chance to give interpretation on it.

The writer doesn't want to analyze the exhaustive view in all entire of each poem. He will keep the analysis only on some peculiar elements that strikingly covered all over a poem. So, may be any paricular elements are going to be analyzed in one poem, but not in other, because each poem performs different elements. Perhaps in one poem some of peculiar elements come up strikingly, for example those are symbolism, rhyme or sound pattern, but, in other poem it has not such elements. So, the writer only analyzing such emerged elements.

In short, the scope of problems are as follows: the role of poet's choice of words (diction) in conveying his intention to the readers, the difficulties to differentiate between Imagery and Figure of Speech, or between the elements of Figure of Speech themselves, The contribution of Sounce

Effects like rhyme and rhythm to the meaning of the poems, and the great role of the symbols in determining the meaning of the poems, as well as the correlation of these elements to state the theme.

#### 1.3 OBJECTIVES OF WRITING

This thesis has some points of destination just like many other writing of thesis. In this thesis, the writer expects that: first, by this analysis he will be more familiar with English, as the basic step to elaborate the study to another subject, particularly in literary subject.

Second, this analysis pointing at appreciation of Robert Frost's selected poems by applying all the writer's insight which has been acquired from self reading and by the lectures all through the years at Faculty of Letters of Hasanuddin University.

The writer admits, perhaps this analysis is not an exelent work, but some of extensions the writer shows in this thesis could be show some way of how to analyze a poetical work. So that, it can encourages the other students at English Department of Hasanuddin University to choose poetry as their subject of analysis.

The main objectives that will be achieved in this thesis that are: to mention the choice of words which express the poet's intention, to show that Imagery is different from figurative language, to know the difference between elements

of figurative language; and to find out the role of sound devices in influencing the meaning. At last, to determine the theme in relation with the message of the poem.

#### 1.4 METHODOLOGY

. There are two approaches used in this thesis, namely:

- Intrinsic Approach in which the writer reads himself and observes the sources only from inside the poems itself.
- Extrinsic Approach in which the writer observe does not belongs to naturally or the physical shapes of the poem, but the factors that support the poems from outside.

There are two steps or procedures used in this thesis namely the collection of data, and the method of analysis of data. In the collection of data, the writer needs the literary data as a source of references that consist of primary and secondary data. The primary data are the data taken from the text of four selected poems. The following steps to collect the data are:

- Reading and comprehending any related references more completely in terms of a set of theory used in analyzing the data.
- Seeking and finding out the data in text which conform to the theory used in this thesis.

Secondary data are the data in which the relevant theories are either directly or indirectly taken. They consist of the related objects and theories that support the thesis. The following steps to collect them are:

- 1. Collecting any related references as many as possible.
- Selecting the references based on the resemblance to the study that the writer has observed.
- Concluding all the references as the basis for carrying out the analysis.

In analyzing the poems, the writer focus on the structure which is set out in the poems. Firstly, he identifies the elements of poetry, and gives the proof by showing it in the text. Secondly, the writer moves into the discussion of the structural analysis of each poem, by notifying line by line for particular elements and their reasons that support it in order to convey the themes, and conceive the meaning as a whole.

In other words, after analyzing the structure and set and formulating their context meaning, he, then, will show the relation to the themes of each of the poems.

#### 1.5 SEQUENCE OF CHAPTERS

This thesis consists of four chapters. Chapter One is the Introduction that covers : the Background of Writing, Scope of Problems, Objectives of Writing, Methodology and

Sequence of Chapters.

Chapter Two shows the literature review that mentions some definitions of poetry and the presentation of the theories and terminologies that covering the structural analysis.

Then, moving into Chapter Three or the core of the thesis, there will be the presentation of the analysis of the four selected poems and their themes as well.

The conclusion of the analysis and some suggestions are both included in the last or Chapter Four.

#### CHAPTER II

#### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1 DEFINITONS OF POETRY

Sometimes people have a good understanding about poetry throughout its physical shape. In a poem they can see, for example, the arrangement words that may consist of some figure of speech and imagery. Such things can be recognized easily. However, it still difficult to make precise formulation of what the poetry is. As example, people usually just eat gado-gado (salad eaten with peanut sauce) without making any effort to find out from what gado-gado are made of.

Essentially, the definition of poetry itself is not the most important thing because the main thing is ability to understand and to enjoy the poetry. Nevertheless, the writer does not intend to leave the definition of poetry behind, though until present time people cannot give any certain definition about poetry. Yet, to understand the poetry itself, it is necessary to know some estimations around the definitions of poetry.

The writer is very sure that he needs a certain definition in order to start analyzing poetry. According to Laurence Perrine, poetry might be defined as a kind of language that says more intensely than ordinary language does (1965:553). While in book "The World of Poetry" Robert Frost himself says that: poetry may be defined as a way of

remembering what it would impoverish us to forget (Sansom, 1959:6). In other hand, Frost wrote a letter to Louis Untermeyer, defines poetry as follows:

A poem is never a put-up job so to speak. It begins as a lump in the throat, a sense of wrong, a homesickness. It is never a thought and succeeds or doesn't find it and comes to nothing. It finds its thought or makes its thought. I suppose it finds it lying around with others not so much to its purpose in a more or less full mind. That's why it oftener comes to nothing in youth before experience has filled the mind with thoughts. It may be a big emotion then and yet finds nothing it can embody in. It finds the thought and the thought find the words. Let's say again: A poem particularly must not begin with thought first (Curry, 1985:214).

Somehow, the writer prefers to back up such definition given by Rachmat Djoko Pradopo, which he thinks appropriate with the thesis, that is:

So, a poem expesses thought that inspires feeling, stimulates imagination of the five sense in a rhytmical arrangement. Those all are important, that to be recorded and expressed, presented attractively and impressively. Poetry is an important record and interpretation of man experience. It is composed in a very impressive shape.

(Jadi, puisi itu mengekspresikan pemikiran yang membangkitkan perasaan, yang merangsang imajinasi panca indera dalam susunan yang berirama. Semua itu merupakan sesuatu yang penting, yang direkam dan diekspresikan, dinyatakan dengan menarik dan memberi kesan. Puisi itu merupakan rekaman dan interpretasi pengalaman manusia yang penting, digubah dalam wujud yang paling berkesan (1993:7)).

Some of notions above have shown us that it is obviously difficult to define poetry strictly in attempt to analyze it, because of each person has his own opinion.

After all, it is also usual to give its own particular

characteristics and elements which different from another literary work such as short story, drama or prose.

#### 2.2 STRUCTURAL APPROACH

Poetry as one of literary works is not a simple matter, it is complex and a complicated one. However, a poem consists of elements which are built in one total unity, inseparable one another, and those elements are called the structure of the poem.

As described above, concerning the structural analysis, Pradopo says that:

"...structural analysis of poetry is an analysis of poetry into its elements and its functions within the poetry structure and an analysis which shows that each part has its meaning only in its correlation with another elements, moreover, it also to be based on its place within the structure).

("...analisis struktural sajak adalah analisis sajak ke dalam unsur-unsurnya dan fungsinya dalam struktur sajak dan penguraian bahwa tiap unsur itu mempunyai makna hanya dalam kaitannya dengan unsur-unsur lainnya, bahkan juga berdasarkan tempatnya dalam struktur").(Pradopo, 1993:120).

The reason why the writer choses structural analysis to be the subject of his thesis is because he believes through this way will help him to approach the meaning of selected poems. Furthermore, this structural analysis is the main priority before we come to further analysis, we cannot catch the whole intrinsic meaning from such literary work without this approach (Pradopo, 1993:125).

#### 2.2.1 STRUCTURE AND MEANING

It is necessary to remember that before the complex elements of poetry are going to be discussed, we must notify two steps of procedure. Firstly, we should begin by outlining the basic meaning of the poem. Secondly, the analysis concerns with the relationship between form and content, or between structure and meaning.

Talking about meaning, it is of course the most important thing in appreciating literary works, particularly in poetry. Perrine says that the meaning of a poem is the experience it expresses-nothing-less (Perrine, 1965:689). Meanwhile let's see a quotation given by Lewis:

The meaning of a poem is not what it would mean if translated into prose, but what it means to each reader when he translates it into the terms of his own spiritual experience. Poetry is above all a way of using words to say things which could not possibly be said in any other way, things which in sense do not exist till they are born (or re-born) in poetry (Sansom, 1959:33).

In a particular case, some readers might ask about a poem they read: "What is the meaning of such poem?" This kind of difficulty is usually arises after they have read it. Actually, what they mean is the real meaning, or the thought deep inside the poet's mind. It seems just an unimportant and trivial question. However, we knew that reading poetry, like any other literary work, is just wasting time without getting any meaning from it. We get nothing at all.

This problem would never happen if we take note of the basic approach of reading poetry, namely to understand both literal sense of the poem and the symbolic or suggested meaning of the poem. (Reaske, 1965:9). In this case, the writer is concerning with reason of Frost works:

...it takes only a second reading to catch the hints Frost drops along the way that there is a deceptively simple surface poem here and a vital below-thesurface meaning. Frost quite clearly used the object of the farm world as symbols of a deeper meaning, as a way of moving from the concrete world to abstract ideas (Carlsen, 1979:471).

#### 2.2.2 STRUCTURES OF POETRY

As mentioned above, a poem consits of various elements.

Each element constructs the poem with its function. No doubt, its role is to form a good poem, concerning with the poet himself and the readers.

#### A. Diction

A poem is of course composed by numbers of words. In this section, the particular function of words that will be dealt with the way they establish the meaning. Each word in a poem is selected for particular reason. Just like Reaske says:

When we ask about the diction of a poem we are inquiring into the stylistic and tonal qualities of the words which the poet has chosen. We are concerned with the vocabulary of the poem. (Reaske, 1966:31).

We knew, the word is a device to express the idea. Moreover, by using precise diction to construct a sentence, we can obtain the precise meaning or even more broad than what are reflected by these collection of words. This term does not only used to say particular word to tell idea, but it also covered style and figure of speech (Keraf,1994:22). The careful choice of words will also be necessary in order to produce good rhyme and rhythmical sound.

#### B. Image and Imagery

The most popular and technical word is image, or, in its plural form is imagery. (Gill, 1985:23). Without imagery, a poem will not be interresting and unenhanced the reader. It is nothing more than a group of words that construct one understanding, but it doesn't enhance the readers. The poem will loss its literary value.

To know more about imagery, the writer would also take what Coombes says:

In a good writer's hand, the image, fresh and vivid, is at its fullest used to intensify, to clarify, to enrich; a successful image helps to make us feel the writer's grasp of the object or situation he is dealing with, he give his grasp of it with precision, vividness, force, economy. (1982:44).

In a poem, a reader may find many kinds of imagery.

The various kinds of imagery that found in a poem give many possibility for readers to appreciate it into their personal interpretation depend on their personal experience. We may

notice this statement:

The word image perhaps most often suggest a mental picture, something seen in the mind's eye-and visual imagery is the most frequently occurring kind of imagery in poetry. But an image also represent a sound; a smell; a taste; a tactile experience... (Perrine, 1965: 599).

#### C. Figurative Language

Figurative language is any way of saying something other than the ordinary way (Perrine, 1965:610). The same with Imagery, it function is to evoke attraction toward the words that asserted in a poem. Another opinion of Figurative Language is:

Figurative language is that kind of language which departs from the language employed in the traditional, literal ways of describing person or objects. Using figurative language is making imaginative descriptions in fresh ways. (Reaske, 1966:33).

Figure of speech obviously gives us possibility to judge someone's personal characteristic or attitude, and his ability in using that kind of language. The better he uses his style, the better of people judge him (Keraf,1994:113). Figures of speech are including: simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, symbol etc. Those figure of speech, among others:

#### 1. Simile and Metaphor

Metaphor and Simile are both used as a means of comparing things that are essentially unlike. The only distinction between them is that in simile the comparison

is expressed by the use of some word or phrase, such as like, as, than, similar to, resembles, or seems; in metaphor the comparison is implied—that is the figurative term is subtituted for or identified with the literal term (Perrine, 1965:610).

In a simile the relation is made clear by the use of words 'like' or 'as', whereas in a metaphor the two things are fused. For instance, "the fog descended like a blanket" is a simile, and "the blanket of fog descended" is a metaphor (Gill, 1985:18).

#### 2. Personification

Personification consists in giving the attributes of a human being to an animal, an object, or an idea. It is really a subtype of metaphor, an implied comparison in which the figurative term of the comparisons is always a human being. For example, when Sylvia Plath makes a miror speak and think (page 582), she is personifying an object (Perrine, 1965:612).

#### Symbol

A Symbol may be defined as something that means more than what it is. Image, metaphor, and symbol are sometimes difficult to distinguish. In general, however, an image means only what it is; a metaphor means something other than what it is; and a symbol means what it is and something more too (Perrine, 1955:628). For instance, we have already seen that sunrise stands for a new beginning. Other popular ones are sunset, sleep and night standing for death; flowers standing for shortness of life; water for purity; the sea for eternity; the garden for perfect order; and the sky for heaven (Gill, 1985:22).

#### 4. Irony

Irony has meaning that extend beyond its use merely as a figure of speech (Perrine, 1965:652). Irony is any way of saying something that has difference between the sentence and its meaning. For example: "No doubt, you are the one, till all of previous policy are totally ruin" (Keraf, 1994:143). The sentence seems to praise someone, but, actually, it recommended an assumption that the meaning is definitely the opposite of the sentence itself.

In figures of speech above, the writer deliberately does not put more examples for each to clarify the matter, because of the explanation is enough. He thinks it will be clearer within the analysis later on. There are numbers of figures of speech we can find in poetry. But, those things mentioned by the writer that probably occur in the selected poems. If there were any other figurative language apparently occurs, it will be explained implicitly within the analysis by then.

#### D. Rhyme and Sound Devices

The most common sound in poetry is that of rhyme. According to Perrine, Rhyme or Rime is the repetition of the accent vowel sound and all succeeding sounds (1965:719). Most of people's idea about poetry are of rhyming lines, and sometimes they are puzzled when they read poetry that doesn't have rhyme. Of course, their reaction upon the poem they read is understandable. Let's see the statement as follows:

Rhyme has ability to focus the meaning of a poem is an extension of the way it emphasises certain words. Poets use rhyme to focus the reader's attention upon words that are central to the poem's meaning (Gill.1985:52).

There are two technical terms associated with rhyme: masculine and feminine. Masculine rhyme occurs when the words are monosyllabic, as in 'Bold' and 'old', and feminine when they are polysillabic, as in 'leaving' and 'weaving', which we may found in the poem's line (Gill,1985:52). We also have to know that rhyme is referred into two kinds, namely Internal Rhyme and End Rhyme. The reason that backs up the rhyme is:

... It is referred to as INTERNAL RIME when one or both rhyming words are within the line and as END RIME when both rhyming words are at the ends of the lines (Perrine, 1965:719).

End Rime is the most frequently used and the most consciously sought after sound repetition because it comes at the end of the line, it receives emphasis as a musical effect and perhaps contributes more than any other musical

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resource except rhythm and meter to give poetry its musical effect as well as its structure (Perrine, 1985:719).

It probably proved at the analysis later on.

Often, the beauty of the poem is shown by the poet in combination of the proficiency in choice of word and the arrangement of sound or musical devices. Such things are including sound effects which we may talk any further, which are: alliteration, onomatopoeia, consonance and assonance, if there any. Some definitions of those sound effects below given by Richard Gill (1985:45-47), which are mentioned as follows:

Alliteration is the repetition of a consonantal sound.
 For instance, the 'w', 'l', 'sh', sounds are alliterated in this line from Hopkins' "Spring":

When weeds, in wheels, shoot long and lovely and lush

 Assonance is the repetition of a vowel sound. For example, 'a' in following line of George Herbert's "Prayer"

Prayer, the Church's banquet, Angels age ...

'i' in the 'thick pink' and 'in' sound blunt and insistent, it is mentioned in this line of Ted Hughes'

Such weight and thick pink bulk Set in death seemed not just dead.

#### E. Rhythm and Meter

Poetry is not the same thing as ordinary language, especially in its rhythm. Sometimes, in order to make a clear understanding about the meaning of a poem when it is read, sometimes, a poet need to use rhythm. Perrine defines rhythm as follows:

The term rhythm refers to any wavelike recurrence of motion or sound. In speech it is the natural rise and fall of language. All language is to some degree rhytmical, for all language involves some kind of alternation between accented and unaccented syllables (1965:732).

Rhythm itself has a close relationship with meter, which its duty is to determine the pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables in lines of a poem. It might be defined as follows:

Meter is the kind of rhythm we can tap our foot to. In language that is metrical the accents are so arranged as to occur at apparently equal intervals of time, and it is this interval we mark off with the tap of our foot. Metrical language is called verse (Perrine, 1965: 732).

When we begin to detect rhythm, we should master some basic technical terms. Identifying metres is called scansion, we may note that a syllable is stressed we use the v sign, when unstressed the v sign (Gill,1985:34). There are names for the number of feet in a line; a one foot line is a monometer, two a dimeter, three a trimeter, four a tetrameter, five a pentameter, and so on (Leech,1969:114-116).

v. 3

#### 2.2.3 THEME

Every literary work must have theme. If there any reading which has no theme is only an entertainment. Thus, theme can be assumed as follows:

Theme is the central concept developed in a poem. It is the basic idea which the poet is trying to convey and which, accordingly, he allows to direct his imagery (Reaske, 1966:42).

It's of course very difficult to find the theme directly after reading a poem, since we know that poetry is poly interpretable or it has many meanings, hence, in order to grasp the whole meaning, through the analysis we must know the distinction between literal meaning and symbolic or suggested meaning; or between the total meaning and the prose meaning of the poem (Perrine, 1965:689). So, whenever the whole level of meaning are found through analysis consi, deration, perhaps it will bring the writer to determine the theme of the selected poems.

# CHAPTER III

As we have discussed theoritically about poetry in the previous chapter, we found poetry has many ways to express its inner values untill it comes to the reader. We so called it elements of poetry. A poem is one complete unity, so it is necessary to understand completely too.

In the easier way, its important to give paraphrase in each poem at the first place, before the poem is analyzed. This thing might be caused by assumption that a poem has suggested meaning beside its literal meaning. So that the writer hopes by this paraphrase, the reader will be easy to understand the analysis of poems as a whole.

In this case, he gives the paraphrase based on implicit analysis. By means of this analysis purely comes from his mind. In paraphrase, he does not describe the poem in real concept of explicit analysis. But later on, the real concepts such as diction, imagery and so on are written soon.

#### 3.1 ANALYSIS OF THE POEM "SPRING POOLS"

These pools that, though in forests, still reflect
The total sky almost without defect,
And like the flowers beside them, chill and shiver,
Will like the flowers beside them soon be gone,
And yet not out by any brook or river,
But up by roots to bring dark foliage on.

The trees that have it in their pent-up buds

To darken nature and be summer woods-
Let them think twice before they use their powers

To blot out and drink up and sweep away

These flowery waters and these watery flowers

From snow that melted only yesterday.

The poem opens with a description of natural objects at their best performance. The illustration about the clear pools, bright sky, flowers around the pools, constitute a lush and colorful picture of spring pools and the good effect of the nature.

In the beginning of the first stanza, there are the scenery of pools. Pools in everywhere, even in forests, were painted by the poet like they are always be. There is no damage, the scenery merely provides the effect of the beauty of nature, peacefully and orderly.

The last stanza evokes an intense emotional response for the reader about what the nature is going to be, if people ignore it. The second stanza is the result of question at the first stanza: "Will soon the flowers beside them be gone?". The damages can be seen, for instance: the trees that look like woods in summer and the darken nature. All of the damages caused by the misuse of "power".

#### 3.1.1 Diction

Frost thinks that it is more specific to put the spring season instead of another seasons which in sub tropic area that has four kind of seasons: Autumn, Winter, Spring, and Summer. One good reason of him is because 'Spring' is the best situation among the other seasons: the nature just like a recovery from cold of winter, finest weather, bright skies, temperature in the best performance gives probability for the people to do many works and fun outside their house, plant full with green colour, fresh and vivid.

The "pools" in literal meaning means a small pond; a small body of still water, usually of natural formation and fresh; or deep part of the stream or river where the water runs very slowly. Whatever it is, the main thing is we can imagine what the speaker means.

He asks us, at the point to expect our response about possibility of bad effects or damages caused by men :

Will like the flowers beside them soon be gone,

Frost doesn't mean to put any question mark (?) there,

because he thinks that the form of sentence is enough to

prove what the speaker's mean.

Now, let's see the following lines, to make us realize about the problem.

Let them think twice before they use their powers

"Powers" tends to suggest authority, whatever it addresses to

"they" or "them" that refers to the leader or the ruler of nation or even man who has strong ability to change anything. Frost means some particular leaders of a country in all over the world who irresponsibly use their power not for the human's sake, but only for his own sake, his own glory.

To blot out, and drink up and sweep away.

"To blot out" and "sweep away" means to wipe out they just use and abuse their authority. They had abandoned their responsibility. They are greed and selfish, willing to exploit and destruct forest. For the sake of themselves, they would not hesitate to sacrifice nature. Whereas, it could be a harmness or even a danger for every living things including human. The result is disadvantage obtained for anyone.

In this case, Frost recommends those kind of people to think again and again before they do such kind of destructions. What a leader could do with such things? The answer is obvious. The people under him just obey his command. If he asks the people to do the right thing, then the people do so. Likewise, he orders to do the wrong thing, the people will do so. The continuity of this life depends on him.

In the fourth line, at second stanza: "These flowery waters" and "these watery flowers", it is of course flowery waters means the spring pools and watery flowers means the flowers beside them, the poet deliberately reverse the two phrase "flowery waters" and "watery flowers" because he

considered such things more various and not boring, simple, but effective to perform an easy understanding.

In the line "From the snow that melted only yesterday", Frost deliberately empashizes "only yesterday" that means the last season before this spring, namely Winter.

The writer is very sure, that we already knew, that recent time most people all over the world are worried about our atmosphere that day by day is getting worse. The ozone stratum whose function is to protect the living things on earth from the excess of sun shine radiation (ultra violet), became fade away. Among other, the result is the snow that melted in both of the poles, beside it arises many skin dis eases and other damages. This is a warning for our life persistence, and Frost did it since long time ago. Who knows, the spring pools today will be the same with the future time, or perhaps they will no longer exist. So, what we can do now?, just let's heal the world as much as we can.

#### 3.1.2 Imagery

Some lines in the poem contain some images, by mean of some appeals to the senses:

These pools that, though in forests, still reflect

It is a kind of visual imagery, in which "reflect" means the water is pure and calm, so that anything what so ever above the pools water are reflected and can be seen by our naked eyes.

And like the flowers beside them, chill and shiver,

Its a kind of kinetic imagery. "Chill" and "shiver" give more

vivid and fresh impression to the flowers all around the

pools.

We should take a note to this following lines:

Will like the flowers beside them soon be gone,

And yet not out by any brook or river,

But up by roots to bring dark foliage on.

There are some words which show the kinetic imagery we find it in: "gone", "out", "up" and "bring". The speaker seems to ask us whether the flowers gone, will not go out by any brook or river, but they are brought by roots. These are examples of the damages. If these are not caused by men themselves, then, who else will be responsible for this all.

The illustrations become more intense to fill the emotion which that last line combined with visual imagery "dark foliage"; The situation bring our feeling into a dark and sad impression.

The trees that have it in their pent-up buds

To darken nature and be summer woods-
It is a kind of visual imagery "darken nature" and "summer woods" is an illustration of gloomy atmosphere, darkening,

and seems like nature in summer, dried out, infertile, no

beauty left, evokes inconvenient impression.

Let them think twice before they use their powers
To blot out and drink up and sweep away

"To blot out", "drink up", and "sweep away" appeal to such a kind of taste experience, which those phrases show the activity of tasting. In other words the speaker tries to convey by harshly example of exploiting things by the leaders or the rulers. The poet uses it to create strong feeling and the negative thought about the occupation they commit.

From snow that melted only yesterday.

This line tends to suggest a tactile image, which shows that the snow is gradually melted by hot temperature, becomes water, and sweeps away those flowery water and watery flowers. The melted snow is caused only by yesterday's Winter.

#### 3.1.3 Figurative Language

#### a. Metaphor

Frost uses two words to express his strong feeling in "And like the flowers beside them, chill and shiver,". This is actually not like a metaphor if we notice the condition, it rather simile than metaphor. Suppose the word "like" we eliminate, the distinction can be seen clearly. We may imagine how it could look like whether a flower looks chill and shiver.

#### b. Symbols .

Pools is a symbol of world. According to Gill, spring is a symbol of new life or energy (1985:22). The writer assumes that "Spring Pools" is the symbol of progressive

now, many progress in every field. Among others, it is caused by an amazing improvement in science and technology. All instruments become sophisticated and efficient. It makes people easier to carry on their life.

One good reason to accomplish this opinion should be gained from other approach such as historical approach. This poem is released in 1928. The writer is very sure to consider that probably, this poem has something to do with the poet's meant toward the situations at the time. He takes one example of American people in the 1920's who comes into modern era. Such developments broadened the experiences of million of Americans.

The modern trends of 1920's brought about problems as well as benefits. Many Americans had trouble adjusting to the impersonal, fast paced life of cities. This disorientation led to a rise in juvenile deliquency, crime, and other antisocial behavior. The complex life in cities tended to weaken the strong family ties that had always been part of American society (1988:175). Frost realized that this phenomenon will be against the morals and social orders of society.

#### 3.1.4 Rhyme and other sound effects

Many of Frost's poems have rhymes, and so has this poem. If we combine the meaning with the sound effect, it will arises the harmony within the poem itself. This poem

consists of two stanzas and has five lines of each stanza. It has rhyme scheme: aa bc bc // aa bc bc.

This poem is one example that rhyme becomes an important feature. Two kinds of rhyme, feminine rhymes which consist of two syllables and masculine rhymes which consist of one syllable, are combined in both of stanzas. The feminine rhymes brings together "reflect" and "defect" with "shiver" and "river" help to enact the sense of admiration. Each flows musically after the other to create an emotional feeling, sounds sweet and attracting. While the masculine rhyme "gone" and "on" give a dramatic effect. We will notice that in the case of "gone" the syllable is stressed to make a question. It means that the attention must be paid increasingly, and it sense have curious effect on our reading.

There are some alliterations used in line three of second stanza:

Let them think twice before they use their power. The poet's demand for some country leader or people to "think twice" before "they" use "their" power. The repetition of consonant /t/ and /th/ which are fricative is to strengthen what is the speaker's up to: "think once more" for "their capacity" should not use at random.

#### 3.1.5 Rhythm and meter

The versification of this poem is of course connected with poets capability. The lambic Pentameter couplet which

Frost's shown is so polished and developed. His capability in making of various words within the iambic is amazing in this poem. It is the sharpening of elements which have already served. So many illustrations offer themselves to show Frost's skill in the technique of versification that it is hard to make a choice. It is the most remarkable for his variation of the iambic pentameter to make a special effect such as in second stanza:

The iambic metres are based on a two syllabical foot. The pattern is preceded by unstressed in the first syllable and following by stressed in the second syllable. Frost uses this conventional metres to make more intense, tight and harmony between nature and the poem as a whole. We should see them between 'trees' and 'buds' and between 'dark' and 'woods'. They have the same stress one another.

#### 3.1.6 Theme

This poem is one example of symbolism. It talks about Spring Pools, pools in the spring time, but, actually the scope is quite wide. Spring Pools is only a symbol. It is used by Frost to reflect his ideal thought, what he demands about this life. Literally, he expects a nature just what it was, runs naturally, and without damages. Furthermore, with

his anxiety, he suggests everyone in this modern era to be aware the persistence of the life in the future. Whatever could happen tomorrow depends on our action today.

The theme is to live this life as good as possible. Frost obviously reflected his obsession to respect the life, peaceful and orderly. He suggests it to anybody else in this poem.

He calls to the leaders to restrain their political ambitions in order to keep the world runs naturally. He also calls for the intellectuals and experts who made this improvement runs quickly. He suggested they use their ability in properly for human sake.

Although at the time people has made many improvements in their civilization, it actually caused some effects, that is violations to the law of nature. They merely just causes damages. He, actually, addresses this message not only to any particular people, but to every single man who is responsible for himself, his environment, and his generation persistence.

## 3.2 ANALYSIS OF THE POEM "NEITHER OUT FAR NOR IN DEEP"

The people along the sand

All turn and look one way.

They turn their back on the land.

They look at the sea all day.

As long as it takes to pass
A ship keeps raising its hull;
The wetter ground like glass
Reflects a standing gull.

The land may vary more;

But wherever the truth may be-
The water comes ashore,

And people look at the sea.

They cannot look out far.

They cannot look in deep.

But when was that ever a bar

To any watch they keep?

This poem begins with a simple description about some people at the beach. They are looking at the sea all day long. They just keep looking, and do nothing else. This occasion continues at the secod stanza which described a ship which sail over the sea, struggle from the waves to keep raising its hull, meanwhile at the shore another impression of the standing gull reflected itself on the wetter ground.

At the third stanza, the poet gives another alternative about the land, behind the people. It seems like a question in the speaker's mind: Why should they look at the sea, instead of the land which promises many interesting things.

The last stanza is a conclusion made by the speaker himself about them; "They cannot look out far//They cannot look in deep". Whatever they do very much, there's no benefit can be obtained. This undesirable situation againsts his inner self. He just want to shift their attention, or to make them realize that what they do is useless by wishing that there was ever a bar to keep their watch.

#### 3.2.1 Diction

Although the poet has not given enough information about what kind of people they are: sailormen or tourist, he also doesn't point to any particular people, anyway. And then, it just the same thing with time: summer or vacancy, or any other particular time.

The point is: this poem uses words: sand, land, ship, gull, ashore and sea, to identify that this is a situation at the coast. It shows some poeple's activity that is doing nothing but just stare at the sea all day. Frost adressed it to every people there, who stare at the sea.

At the last stanza, we may considered as a conclusion based on the speaker's opinion, that says: "But when was that ever a bar // To any watch they keep?" It seems like a question, and he is very doubt about it. Actually, it is a hope from him. He wishes that there was ever a bar to keep their watch. With choice of words above, it may evoke the coherence of rhyme arrangement within the poem, more simple,

more dramatic and strengthen the meaning.

### 3.2.2 Imagery

Some images in this poem altogether create the vivid atmosphere, give us instantly attention about boring activity of some people at the beach. This atmosphere, should be noted, is very impressive when it is contrasted with the poets demand where he just stay out and only watching the people without get involve with them.

Some terms show a kind of visual imagery such as: "All turn and look one way" is the combination of both sense of movement (turn) and visual (look).

They cannot look out far//They cannot look in deep
They are the visual imagery. 'look out far' is the sightseeing at the horizon line, far away from the people. 'look in
deep' means they try to look at the sea as deep as they can.
But, obviously, they cannot afford it.

Another imagery are found in the second stanza, try to evoke the deep impression for the reader that is: "As long as it takes to pass // A ship keeps raising its hull;" It brings the reader into an image of a ship that sail over the sea, with a great fight against the waves. Meanwhile, this impression still continues by the contrast situation of "The wetter ground like glass // Reflects a standing gull." Perhaps this situation wakes us up just for a moment but the deep impressions of the event still remain.

# 3.2.3 Figurative Language

#### a. Simile

Simile may be found in "The wetter ground like glass//Reflects a standing gull". The statement that the wetter ground is like glass or mirror, appals us to know it any closer. It arouses the reader's interest to this situation, how the wetter ground so bright and clear that the standing gull clearly visible there.

#### b. Symbols

There are some symbols used by the poet. The First is the 'sea' is the symbol of eternity (Gill, 1985:22). In this case, Frost is really aware about the limit of time a man can live. The 'far' is the symbol of indefinite knowledge; The curiosity of the people who want to know more everything which out of their ability. And 'deep' is the people's thought that has gone too far, beyond the reality. And 'bar' is the symbol of uneternity. The truth of man cannot live forever is a "bar" that makes people realize the uneternity of the creatures in this universe.

Another symbols that is 'land' means the world we live in. 'ship' could means the fate of life. Human fate like a ship againsts the waves to cross over the sea. It portrays man's demand to conquer the infinity of universe. But, man never knows his certain destination. However, the second stanza probably mean nothing else but only its literal

meaning. So, it does not suggest any symbol at all.

#### 3.2.4 Rhyme

From the first until the last stanza, Frost presents the rhyme scheme: 'a b a b. The whole poem use masculine rhyme, for example in the first stanza: "sand" that refers to the sea and "land", seems the speaker bring us a task to notice the two opposite places. This two different "way" and "day" seem like a harmony, one is not against another, they "look one way all day long". So, they accomplish one another.

The key to Frost's attitude, as we have seen in the first, clearly revealed in "deep" and "keep" a word which bring the reader comes down with full force, sharpening the poet's intention for what he assumes about the meaning of the poem as a whole.

#### 3.2.5 Rhythm

Frost has begun each line in conventional iambic fashion. The writer concludes it as Iambic Trimeter. He take one
of the example in the fourth stanza such as:

The metrical arrangement has a variation which is found in line three of the same stanza:

It is an lambic tetrameter, but it is being accepted into a significant thoughts and feeling which is expressed. Somehow, it won't mess the meaning.

#### 3.2.6 Theme

The theme is nothing lasts forever. Human ability has limit. Life's too short to do something useless. Each one who has faith with his divinity, believes every existing things in this world will be back to the creator, the Almighty God, the only eternity.

In this poem, Frost concludes his opinion at the last stanza that is: "They cannot look out far// They cannot look in deep//But when that ever a bar to any watch they keep". This imply that people are looking for something that they never find. They want to live forever, but they cannot do it. It means they should ask themselves, "who can live forever and never die?".

The writer disposed toward this leap of faith which was given by Frost depends on the readers themselves. It is too much involving anything or belief that lies beyond the human commmon sense. The "far" and "deep" which given by the poet suggests that if a man can think far and deep about a problem, of course he will find a clue to solve the problem.

# 3.3 ANALYSIS OF THE POEM "COME IN"

As I came to the edge of the woods,
Thrush music--hark!
Now if it was dusk outside,
Inside it was dark

Too dark in the woods for a bird

By sleight of wing

To better its perch for the night,

Though it still could sing

The last of the light of the sun That had died in the west Still lived for one song more In a thrush's breast.

Far in the pillared dark

Trush music went-
Almost like a call to come in

To the dark and lament

But no, I was out for stars:
I would not come in,
I meant not even if asked,
And I hadn't been.

In the poem, with clearly description, Frost composes it in chronological arrangement. It starts from the speaker come by "to the edge of the woods", the time pointed "it was dusk outside" the trush music still sounding. Then when "the last light of the sun that died in the west" by means of the sun has set in west line of horizon, the real dark comes over and "the trush music went". Only the silent still remains.

The two different situation between the fourth stanza and the fifth stanza could be seen clearly. The fourth stanza says the speaker who just came by the forest when the dark approaching. Then, as far in the pillared dark, when thrush music went, it almost a call to come in. We can imagine that as far as he goes into "the pillared dark", the trush music can not be listened anymore, it sound gradually fade away, but he feels this situation like a call to come into the dark and lament. It suggests to us that the situation inside is very strange, horrible and inconvenient.

In fact, at the fifth stanza, we know the speaker's attitude, eventhough it is a call, or even any one ask him. He prefers to enjoy the stars in the sky outside the woods, for example in the field, farms or could be at the country road.

#### 3.3.1 Diction

Characteristically, Frost goes over and over this impression:

## Trush music went--

# Almost like a call to come in

The question for ourselves is: why does frost prefer to choose "thrush music" than for instance : "owl music", "cricket sound" or another sound inside "the pillared dark".

The gentleness of "Thrush music" and also "pillared dark" mark the quality in tone and feeling of Frost's sense in relation to his vision about "The dark and lament". This is to evoke silent impression.

A little bit knowledge we have to possess that according to "The World Book Encyclopedia" Thrush is the name of a group of songbirds that live in the most parts of the world. These birds are migratory. They fly to warm countries as winter approaches. They live in wooded regions and spend much time on the ground. The largest and best known North America type of thrush is the wood thrush. Its scientific classification is Hylochichla Mustelina. Its noted for its clear, flutelike songs. It builds its nests 1,5 to 6 meters up in a bush or tree (1988:271). The poet choses such kind of bird to represent his idea in this poem in order it match with 'woods', 'perch', 'sing', 'music' and 'sleight of wing'.

Another reason that is the use of the precise diction can help to produce not only the musical effect, but the image of melodious voice which can evokes the meaning of poem more intense. Thus, to get this effect of deep impression,

"thrush music" is more possible rather than "owl sound" for example.

Apart from that, the poet chooses "pillared dark" and other things inside woods at the night is nothing else but to create the romantic feeling, eventhough it looks so strange and inconvenient.

#### 3.3.2 Imagery

There are many kinds of imagery found in this poem such as:

Now if it was dusk outside,

Inside it was dark

The Visual Imagery is: "dusk" outside the woods, in the open sky. Moreover, inside the woods it was "dark" because:

The last of the light of the sun

That had died in the west

"the last light of the sun" show the night comes eventually.

Too dark in the woods for a bird image "dark" are used frequently to show the darkness intensity of the night, so that its too dark for a bird, and it prefers to better its perch for rest.

Far in the pillared dark

It is a kind of Visual Imagery that describes in brief, but enough to bring us into the situation in woods side by side at night. It looks like "pillared dark". This image sharpens and increases the intensity of impression very much.

The Audio Imagery in "thrush music" is stressed here, and said twice. Thrush bird represented one of living creature which live there. Firstly, "thrush music" said it sound is very nice, causes the speaker was stunned and to listen it carefully.

Trush music went--

Almost like a call to come in

Secondly, "thrush music" fades away, suggests that it is the time to rest. The bird better prepares its nest than sings when the night comes. "Though it still could sing", it doesn't do that. When its sound fades away, only the silence remains there, the image truly expresses the feeling, whenever we imagine it almost like a call to enter the woods:

To the dark and lament

Another Visual Imagery of "dark" already proves the condition, by adding "lament". It increases more impression of sorrow. It is of course an inconvenient condition.

Apparently, the speaker does not follow this persuasion.

#### 3.3.3 Figurative Language

There are some figures of speech used in this poem at once, such as:

#### a. Simile

In "Thrush music went-- almost like a call to come in", the two lines are fused. The simile presents a very clear expression that "thrush music" is possible to be compared

with "a call" to enter the woods, evenmore it evokes a strong desire.

# b. Personification #

Personification in third stanza shows completely in run-on line "The last of the light of the sun that had died in the west". The precise words that match with light are: stop or go out. The word "died" only refers to the living things, animal or human who dies or passes away. A reason of the poet to use it, that arouses the very enthusiasm response to the condition right away.

#### c. Symbol

There are some symbols used in this poem such as:
"night" refers to death or retirement that will come to every
man. "Dark and lament" mean sleamy side of life, depressed and
sorrowful. "Thrush music" refers to excitement that comes
temporarilly. Out for "stars" suggest the meaning of living
freedom, full with bright ideas.

## 3.3.4 Rhyme and other sound effects

As the writer has hinted more than once ——like the two poems before—— analysis of sound must be kept in its place. Talk of sound in itself has a little importance to support the meaning. Most readers will nevertheless regard a complete analysis of sound in a poem and treat it as a more violent distortion of their experience than a complete analysis of tone or figurative language or any other elements.

The rhyme scheme of this poem is a b c b in each of its stanza. Just like the second poem, this one is also completed with masculine rhyme, for example in "wing" and "sing" that refers to the thrush bird in his night time we cannot hear its singing and no more slight of wing can be seen because of dark.

Some alliterations are found in the lines. We must extend the sound by keeping the voice steady and up. In the first line of the third stanza, the sound "last" gives a fine chance for "light". Both of these words soundings slow and sweet, but we must pay attention with such phenomenon: what will happen later when the dark replaced the light?

The same thing with the word arrangement demands or allows what we want for this: "Thrush music went -- almost like a call to come in". "call" have a very close relation to "come" evoke to express the temptation response more concrete.

#### 3.3.5 Theme

This poem is actually a reflection of the poet's ideals. He tries to convey us what he intends to say. He tells about himself. The speaker as well as the poet, still wants to be himself, on his own. He doesn't want to be a doctor, or a lawyer, or a businessman or any other people. "out for stars" suggests that he wants to be a poet.

He was "out for stars," but he couldn't close his ears to thrush music "Far in the pillared dark." (Cox, 1957:30).

His common sense wonders: "why should I come inside the woods. Outside, eventhough the night fall, the circumstances is not merely dark, still have stars in the sky, so that it is lighter than inside the woods.

In other words, he doesn't want to life just like every body's ideals, eventhough it offers anything looks teasing him. He could make it — to live as what he ought to be — but he cannot abandons the truth of his inner self says that a lot of ways life a man can choose. He prefers to contribute his live, his bright ideas, in making the poems.

#### 3.4 ANALYSIS OF THE POEM "THE GIFT OUTRIGHT"

The land was ours before we were the land's.

She was our land more than a hundred years

Before we were her people. She was ours

In Massachussetts, in Virginia,

But we were England's, still colonials,

Fossessing what we still were unpossessed by,

Possessed by what we now no more possessed.

Something we were witholding made us weak

Until we found out that it was ourselves

We were witholding from our land of living,

And forthwith found salvation in surrender.

Such as we were we gave ourselves outright
(The deed of gift was many deeds of war)
To the land vaguely realizing westward,
But still unstoried, artless, unenhanced,
Such as she was, such as she would become.

15

This poem is different with the three previous poems which were analyzed before. In those poems, Frost uses words and poetic devices that have a very close relationship with the nature. In other words, Frost involved so much of natural elements, such as: pools, flowers, woods, land, thrush bird, etc.

However, in this poem, Frost as if asserted statements like a brief speech. He needs concrete respose from the reader instantly — eventhough, it is still lyrical, and yet considered as poetry.

One more exception that is the parapharase should be in long description and more details to make the poem easier to understand. He mostly uses historical approach to know the meaning.

This poem begins with some statements as follows:

The land was ours before we were the land's

This line implies meaning that describes the land belongs to

them whenever their ancestors that come from The Great

Britain settled the east regions and live free there

although the land still considered as a territory of British

She was our land more than a hundred years
Before we were her people. She was ours
When American became independent, the people are considered
as citizen of United States of America. It implies that
right now, they belong to "her" (mother-land). Now, they must
obey the nation's order.

In Massacussetts, in Virginia

These are the name of the states in United States of America. Both are located at east of North America and most of the people come from Europe, especially from England and they was the former British Empire.

But we were England's, still colonials,
Possessing what we still were unpossessed by,

Possessed by what we now no more possessed

That is why they considered themselves as colonials, that they possessed the thing which they do not belong to. As the result of these considerations that is about "witholding":

Something we were witholding made us weak

Until we found out that it was ourselves

The word "witholding" is synonymous with tax or payment obligation that citizen must fulfil. The speaker seems to complain about the taxes that made their life in weakness and poverty.

We were witholding from our land of living,

The speaker sighs that she (the land, the country) burdened

the people of American with various taxes. People can not

afford their responsibility.

Let's notice the lines below, the writer thinks, these lines are the key to bring readers into the main purpose of idea in the poem:

Such as we were we gave ourselves outright (The deed of gift was many deeds of war)

At last they found salvation in surender, desperately that is: the gift outright. In parenthesis of "the deed of gift was many deed of war" suggested meaning that the gift should be manifested by the people to involve within the war in order to defend the land. To back up this statement let's see the following opinion.

Once, Sydney Cox says to the reader that Frost reminds them in a poem at once patriotic and true that it was repeated deeds of war that won the gift of their country, as it becomes itself, and becomes theirs (1957:163).

Furthermore, the accumulation of outright gifts by the long succession of sons that have died in our wars is giving them character. People and land are at last becoming integral; they belong to the country, now, as it has long be longed to them (Cox, 1957:164).

To the land vaguely realizing westward,

+14

The speaker tries to recall the situation that happened in the Westward Movement long time ago. During the early 1800's, thousands settlers moved westward over the Appalachian Mountains into the new states territories. Many of these pioneers even settled beyond the country's western boundary.

The pioners were brave, most people who went west in search of a better life. They were attracted by the West's open land, good farm land, and which mineral and forest resources through hard work, they settled the Western wilderness -- as earlier Americans had done in the East (1988:156).

However, it still unstoried, artless, unenhanced give possibility to judge that Frost very pesimistic with the situation that will come in the future that come to the country as unenhanced as in the earliest settlement of the Westward.

#### 3.4.1 Diction

"we", people; or "we" are American (USA), Robert Frost used the first personal pronoun as well as "ours", to show its expressing thought is elastic. We can catch his main purpose about "we" and "ours" are aimed only for the American people.

But we were England's, still colonials,

The fact, they are mayority from England, their way of life

much influenced by England. Moreover, England is the bestknown as colonizer. As we have ever heard the slogan "Britain rules the world". North America is including her colony.

The poet emphasizes some specific words such as "we were ....." into this poem. He uses them frequently in several lines of the poem. Of course his aim is to make a clear understanding about what he wants to convey in this poem. "we were the land's" (line 1) is equal with "we were her people" (line 3). Then, he wants to convey that nowadays the land becomes possesed them. This is asserted by "But we were Englands" and "we were colonals" (line 5). There is no difference between hundreds years ago and the recent time. Both the colonizer and the land burdens the people of America with vorious taxes. He adds this assumption with "we were witholding from our land of living" and "we were witholding by something that made us weak" (lines 8 and 10). Then, until nothing more to give, they find the solution in "we were we gave ourselves outright" (line 12).

The title of "The Gift Dutright" which its idea is reflected in the whole poem, examplifies the way in which many poems of stature imply that is critical and affirmative attitudes at once at the same time. The importance of such "opposite implication" must be recognized if we are to understand the real functions of much of the ironic and ambiguous language of poetry.

#### 3.4.2 Imagery

A kind of visual imagery "To the land vaguely realizing westward" which supportes by the following situation that probably happens: "unstoried, artless, unenhanced, // Such as she was, such as she would become ". This subjective opinion make American people wonder: "Did it trully happen?". The fact is on contrary. Frost didn't mean to humiliate his own country, but actually, he provokes the reader's response.

#### 3.4.3 Figurative Language

#### a. Personification

There is Personification on these lines:

She was our land more than a hundred years

Before we were her people. She was ours

"She" as he refers to the motherland, his beloved country, as he conveys to all the citizen of America (USA), calls them to serve the devotion to the country, whatever or whenever it might be.

#### b. Synecdoché

Synecdoche is the use of part for the whole (Perrine, 1965:615). We can find it in line four. The use of two places: Massachussetts and Virginia, by the poet is to represent east side as the first frontier when their ancestors

came from England. Actually, the area of the first settlement is in the most parts in the east of North America such as: Connecticut, New Hampshire, Maryland etc.(Shadilly.1984:188).

The first irony that is:

But we were England's, still colonials,

This statements is actually opposite with the truth. United States is beginning to have significance enough so that they no longer feel inferior, colonial and crude (Cox,1957:164).

The second ironic that states the country would become unstoried, artless, unenhanced such as she was and such as she would become. On contrary, the truth is United States of America at the time became a Great Country. No other countries in this world will dare to underestimate USA. America is considered as developed country that had made many progress in every field: economy, industry, trade, transportation, telecomunication and so on. America full with hundreds of nations and tribes, progressive civilization etc.

Frost's way here is to give us images that paint the harsh truth as ironically as possible of what is valued (glorious country, freedom, wealth, joy, enlightment, the happiness of people). But the reader may find that the attention given to the structure of the poem is apparently irrelevant with the theme, if not positively ambiguity.

#### 3.4.4 Sound Effects

#### a. Alliteration

The words "we were ..." appear frequently in several lines. The appearances of 'w' sound so often brings us to discover that this set of alliteration can draws attention to the meaning. The poet uses the word to arise the climax in order to provoke his idea to the people.

The alliterations such as: land/living, fortwith/found, and salvation/surrender, constitute the meaning of the established pair. By mean of two words that already commonly related in meaning are also related by sound, and the effects is striking.

#### b. Assonance

In "ourselves/outright", the two words seem do not relate directly in meaning. But they seem to be a tendency for us in attempting to associate the meaning of the established pair, because their function to accomplish each other within the phrase.

In "unstoried/unenhanced" is an assonance and including an internal rhyme as well. These words suggest the same meaning and sound.

#### 3.4.5 Theme

The poem conveys one direct meaning. In the outline of its thought, then, "The Gift Outright" is such a kind of simple speech. Hence, the theme is of glory needs a great

sacrifice. It means the sacrifice for country's sake. It is an obligation to every American people.

It's important to know that, this poem "The Gift Outright", which is written in 1942, and it was read by Frost himself in the inauguration day of John Fitzgerald Kennedy as a president of United States of America in 1961. Although, the situation before or at the time the poem was made is different from situation at inauguration day, the writer realizes very much that the theme must be the same.

In his inaugural address, President Kennedy declared that "a new generation of Americans" had taken over leadership of the country. He said American would "...pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty." He told Americans: "Ask not what your country can do for you -- ask what you can do for your country." (1988:260).

Kennedy won world respect as the leader of the free world. He greatly increased United States prestige in 1962 when he turned aside the threat of an atomic war with the Soviet Union while forcing the Soviet to withdraw misiles from Communist Cuba. On the home front, the United States enjoyed its greatest prosperity in history. Black demands for civil rights caused serious domestic problems but black made greater progress in their quest for equal rights. During Kennedy's Administration, the United States made its first

manned space flights and prepare to send astronauts to the moon (1988:260).

If we relate with the poem, there is no doubt in our thought now, that's why Kennedy invited Robert Frost to read his poem in front of public at the inaugural day. Obviously, he has the same idea with Frost that is the young generations of America have to sacrifice themselves for their country's sake.

The readers, as the writer takes it, will hardly be disposed to argue with general statement of the theme of the poem as it is given in the foregoing account, and they will probably find themselves in accordance with this general estimate of the poem's value.

# CHAPTER IV CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

## 4.1 CONCLUSIONS

The four poems that the writer has chosen to be analyzed are the result of his arbitrary selections. He has done the analysis according to the title of this thesis "Stuctural Analysis of Robert Frost's Selected Poems", through the analysis of the elements that built up the poems.

Every person has his own idea and reason to express.

And so has the writer himself. We know that in analyzing poetry the students have rights according to his opinion, provided that it is suitable with the rules and theories.

Having analyzed the poems, the writer will make some conclusions based on the analysis of those selected poems such as: Frost's diction mostly simple and clear in expressing the meaning, so that it is easy to understand his intention. His imagery have ability to create the atmosphere of the fresh and vivid image. The presentation of figures of speech have peculiar characteristics in showing his quality as a famous poet. Although his sound devices are not the striking part, they take an important role in influencing the meaning of the poem as a whole. The themes which have relation with the messages of the poems mostly contain of life digest.

#### 4.2 SUGGESTIONS

There are some suggestions that the writer hopefully tries to convey the readers. Some Imagery and Figuratve Language that he reveals in these poems may not be very satisfying, so they should give their oppinion more broad by then. The analysis of rhythm and sound effects as well as the interpretation toward the selected poems are shallow or wrong at all, hence, the writer expects some critics or corrections.

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