

**THE EFFECT OF SETTING ON THEMES OF ROBERT FROST'S  
SELECTED POEMS**



PERPUSTAKAAN P. ... HASANUDDIN	
Tgl. Terima	12-9-02
Asal Dari	Dak - dstn
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**A THESIS**

Submitted To The Faculty of Letters Hasanuddin University  
In Partial Fulfillment Of The Requirements To Obtain  
Sarjana Degree In English Departemen

**By**  
**FITRIYANI**  
**Registered Number**  
**F211 98 019**

**HASANUDDIN UNIVERSITY**  
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**FAKULTAS SASTRA**

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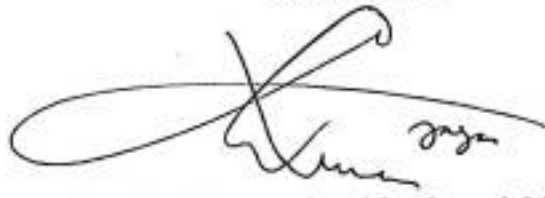
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FAKULTAS SASTRA

Pada hari ini Kamis tanggal 25 July 2002, Panitia Ujian Skripsi menerima dengan baik Skripsi yang berjudul :

**"THE EFFECT OF SETTING ON THEMES OF ROBERT FROST'S  
SELECTED POEMS"**

Yang diajukan dalam rangka memenuhi salah satu syarat ujian akhir guna memperoleh Gelar Sarjana Sastra Jurusan / Program Studi Sastra Inggris pada Fakultas Sastra Universitas Hasanuddin.

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She hopes this thesis might be usefull for those students in English Department. Any suggestions and supports conveyed, dealing this writing improvement will be a great gratification.

**Wassalamu alaikum Wr.Wb**

Makassar July 2002

**The writer**

"Terbungkus rapi untuk mani dan papi terkasih

Semoga ini adalah awal dari langkahku demi  
menujudkan terdahan mimpi yang kalian rajut, hingga  
senja di Jannatullah tersenyum memanggil"

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pendukung lainnya tanpa harus terkungkung oleh teori struktural murni yang mengedepankan analisa secara intrinsik sebagai totalitas dalam memandang karya sastra.

Dari proses pencarian tema dan setting, penulis menarik benang merah diantara keduanya, yaitu seperti yang telah dipaparkan sebelumnya bahwa ada korelasi antara setting dan tema. Tema sebagai ide didalam benak Robert Frost, lahir melalui bahasa alam sebagai setting fisik dan akhirnya keduanya membentuk hubungan timbal balik dengan tujuan akhir menggugah hati dan fikiran pembaca untuk memahami konsep keabadian, pilihan dalam hidup, kewajiban menunaikan janji dan kebenaran yang disampaikan sang penyair.

Sebagai penutup, penulis kembali menekankan bahwa media puisi sebagai salah satu karya sastra mampu mengubah pemikiran pembacanya. Melalui permainan dan keindahan kata serta latar yang diciptakan oleh unsur dalam puisi termasuk juga penyair, tema atau gagasan terselubung penyair dapat diadopsi oleh penikmat dan pemerhati puisi. Disinilah salah satu kekuatan karya sastra, tak seorangpun mampu menyangkal bahwa kata-kata mampu memutarbalikan sebuah konsep bahkan sebuah peradaban sekalipun.

## ABSTRACT

Dalam karya sastra, setting merupakan satu elemen pembentuk cerita yang sangat penting, karena elemen tersebut akan dapat menentukan situasi umum sebuah karya. Walaupun setting dimaksudkan untuk mengidentifikasi situasi yang tergambar dalam karya, keberadaan elemen setting hakikatnya tidaklah hanya sekedar menyatakan dimana, kapan, dan bagaimana situasi peristiwa berlangsung, melainkan juga berkaitan juga dengan gambaran tradisi, karakter, pemikiran, perilaku sosial dan pandangan masyarakat pada waktu karya itu ditulis. Dari kajian setting akan dapat diketahui sejauh mana kesesuaian dan korelasi antar unsur dalam karya. Karena itu, fungsi setting dalam sebuah karya tidak dapat dilepaskan dari masalah lain seperti tema, bahasa, medium sastra yang digunakan, dan persoalan-persoalan yang muncul yang kesemuanya merupakan suatu bagian yang tidak terpisahkan.

Dalam karya puisi misalnya, memang secara jelas setting tidak begitu dibicarakan, namun ia tetap memiliki kekuatan penuh dalam mempengaruhi unsur lain dalam puisi, misalnya tema atau gagasan pokok penyair. Setting sebagai latar fisik sekaligus non fisik mampu mengakomodir sebuah ide sehingga ide tersebut dapat diterima baik oleh pembaca.

Hal ini dapat dilihat dalam kajian pengaruh setting terhadap tema pada beberapa puisi karya Robert Frost. Sebagai penyair yang begitu dekat dengan alam karena profesinya sebagai petani, alam sebagai latar fisik begitu menonjol dalam beberapa karyanya. Melalui bahasa-bahasa sederhana dan bernuansa material-material yang ada di alam secara fisik misalnya tanah, batu, pepohonan, salju dan air, Frost dengan lugas menyampaikan idenya.

Mengingat puisi adalah salah satu karya sastra yang memiliki kompleksitas bahasa dan makna, maka dalam menganalisis puisi *The Road Not Taken*, *Stopping By Woods In A Snowy Evening*, *Nothing Gold Can Stay* dan *For Once Then Something*, penulis menggunakan pendekatan Strukturalisme Genetik yang mampu melihat dua sisi, Intrinsik dan Ektrinsik karya. Dengan metode ini penulis lebih leluasa untuk melihat puisi itu sendiri dan catatan kehidupan Robert Frost, serta unsur

## CHAPTER ONE

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 BACKGROUND

Poetry is known as a literary genre. As a literary genre, it uses as the medium of expression of the poet's feeling and thought. It is also written in pattern of live, rhyme and another elements.

Poetry is also known as a literary genre that is used by the poet as a vehicle of his deep feeling and thought to be taken by the readers. The feeling may be sadness, happiness, anger or joy. The thought is of course, the poet's vision about certain situation of thing that appears in the poet's time and place where he lives or a universal thing likes human being, love, goodness, or nature.

Poem, in a very beautiful language brings us the feeling and thought of the poet. A reader may read it just to enjoy the sound effect that appears beautifully. In other words, he can read it just for entertainment and nothing more. It is not to say that the sound is nothing, it is sometimes very meaningful in some poems. However, some readers often try to move to the center of the poem, which is the theme of the poem. They will exploit all their abilities and knowledge of the language where the poem is written that may be social life, nature condition, or even the biography of the poet including his philosophy and religion, as the additional information to support the conclusion after analyzing the poem itself. They will apply their ability of

imagination to share the poet's imagination that appears in the poem or to understand the imagery.

There is a thought that a poet wants to communicate in his poem. *Tarrigan* (1985:10) says that a poet who is creating a poem without theme is doing nothing. It becomes the base for the readers to discover the theme.

As mentioned above, poetry is a literary genre and as a literary genre, it uses a language as the medium. The question now is what kind of language is used in a poem. *Perrine* (1983:517) gives the following answer "Poetry might be defined as a kind of language that says more intensely than ordinary language." Therefore, it can be concluded that language of poetry is different from ordinary language. Language used in a poem is connotative, as *Luxemburg* says that literature expresses a thing through connotation (1986:6). The poet may also use imagery, metaphor, symbol or even myth. It means that the poet seldom communicate the theme directly.

Because the poet seldom communicates the theme directly, the reader can not discover the theme as easy as to find out the characters in the same works. He must activate his knowledge of the language in which the poet is written to discover the meaning.

This writing talks about the background where the poem is written or setting of Robert Frost selected poems. However, the writer will not discover it structurally as if the other writing texts do. The writer has found that the settings of those selected poems are the same-nature-. What she wants to do is to find out the effect of nature on themes of Robert Frost selected poems.

Every one who concentrates in literature studies must know Robert Frost as one of the famous writers in poetry. No one denied they wanted to analyze his poems, including the writer. She intends to have a long discovery with some of Frost's poems. They are :

☞ Stopping by woods on a snowy evening

☞ The road not taken

☞ For once then something

☞ Nothing gold can stay

Robert Frost in his poems talked about his daily activity as a farmer who always closed to the nature. In other words, nature is the setting of his some poems especially setting of place. Knowing the setting is very important in order to discover the theme. The effects of nature on themes of Robert Frost's selected poems are the topic of the discussion in this thesis.

In writing this thesis, the writer intends to apply a newest and the most famous approach by Lucien Goldman. That is Genetic Structuralism . He thought in analyzing literary works need a collaboration of two approaches. They are intrinsic (inside factors) and extrinsic (outside factors) that is why the writer uses this genetic structuralism. She thinks no body can guess what literary works or poets are talking about by only seeing from one factor, such as intrinsic. You need two ways in analyzing because literary works are multiintrepetable.

Based on the explanation above, these are reasons for choosing topic:



1. She is interested in choosing the poem (selected poems) as the object of her study because the language of the poem is the most disordered language among the literary works. However, it contains condensed poetic values, so although just analyzing short poems, you can get a large amount of aesthetics.
2. In this study, the writer takes selected poems one of the great poet which has been familiar to the students of English Department in all over the world (Ronald et, al: 1980). Some learned critics have told the works of Robert Frost. His works are mostly easy to be understood because most of his objects are factual. He also wrote in simple way, so they can be read by all classes of people.
3. Setting and theme are aspect of poetry that has closely relationship. Theme as the basic one can create intrinsic elements. However, sometimes setting can also be the one, which can bring those elements come true. Then, by analyzing the relationship between those basic factors we can find out the message, which are conveyed by the author.

## **1.2. IDENTIFICATION OF PROBLEMS**

1. The theme of each poet.
2. Robert frost always used nature as setting in his works
3. Physical and psychological environment of Robert Frost
4. The concept of nature intends to influence the theme in general.
5. Robert Frost tried to emphasize the simplicity as the message of his selected works.

### **1.3 SCOPE OF PROBLEMS**

According to the title, many problems could appear. Therefore, the writer limits the topic in analyzing the subject matter - nature- in what case it influences the theme in Frost's works. In details, the reader will find in problems and analization.

#### **PROBLEMS**

1. What is the theme of
  - Stopping by woods on a snowy evening
  - The road not taken
  - For once then something
  - Nothing gold can stay
2. What is the function of setting on the themes of those selected poems?
3. How is the effect of setting on themes of those selected poems?
4. What is the message that is conveyed by Robert Frost?

### **1.4. OBJECTIVE OF WRITING**

- 1.4.1. In order to find out the theme of those selected poets.
- 1.4.2. To find out the function of setting in themes of each poems
- 1.4.3. To describe and explain about the effect of setting on themes of those selected poems.
- 1.4.4. To reveal the message that is conveyed by Robert Frost.

### **1.5. SEQUENCE OF PRESENTATION**



In order to arrange the thesis as a scientific work, the systematic sequences are:

CHAPTER I: is an introduction that consists of background of writing, scope of problems, objectives of writing, and sequence of presentation.

CHAPTER II: consists of theoretical background and the author. The theoretical background consists of theory of poetry, setting, and theme. Writing text about the author and his works, some comments about the author.

CHAPTER III: deals with the methodology that used by the writer in analyzing her object of writing.

CHAPTER IV: deals with the analysis of themes and the effect of setting on themes as the object of this thesis and they will be explained by describing and using Genetic Structuralism approach.

CHAPTER V: is the conclusion of what has been analyzed about the effect of nature on themes, according to the previous chapter.

## CHAPTER II

### THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

#### 2.1 What is poetry?

Talking about poetry, as a literary work, would be rather difficult than any other literary works such as prose.

Many readers who have no trouble in understanding and enjoying prose may find a little bit difficult to enjoy poetry. What is going on? Some say because of its language packages into condensed language. That is true. However, it is not the only reason- anybody who considers the language of poetry is just the same to the other literary works would find any trouble in enjoying a poem.

Nevertheless, for both poetry and prose, which apply language as their medium to bring a sense and perception of life, to widen and sharpen our contacts with the existence, have their own characteristics. A poet in creating his works uses intellectual meaning, where a word sometimes presents some images. It means more than what does it is said. Its language once more, more interpretable than the languages of prose which only brings a particular meaning at once.

So far, to define poetry definitely, is still little bit different among the critics and literarians, based on how they take point of view about poetry. *Laurence Perrine* a literary critic in his book "Literature: Structure, Sound and Sense" sees poetry from its language. He said that poetry might be defined as kind of language that says more intensely than ordinary language does ( Perrine ,1965: p.553) and then let us consider two definitions of poetry below, that treat poetry as something has immense power to

affect the reader's mind. According to Emily Dickinson, one of the greater American poets:

"If I read a book and it makes my body so cold no fire can ever warm me. I know that is poetry. If I feel physically as if that top of my head were taken off, I know that is poetry. " (Bode; 1983:p.90)

Poetry, as she said, is symbolized as great as full magical power of bible. It is simply similar to what Richard Ledere, Chairman of English Department of St. Paul's school New Hampshire said:

" Poetry is the heart beat of life. Poems are life transmitted into diamonds, compact and indestructible." (Carlsen. 1975: p.849)

Poetry is beautifully metaporized to 'diamond' that is compact and destructible. It is taken from the heartbeat of life.

Those three different definitions will harmonize beautifully between each others. It is true that the poet exploited words economically, saying something more intense than the ordinary language does. In addition, what the exploited words do is to present a sense and a perception of life. Within language, the poet with his own stores of felt and imagined experiences, observes, selects, combines and recognizes them into poems. Poetry, then, exists the significant experiences for readers in which the reader can participate and that poem may give him a greater awareness and understanding of his world. Anyway, reading a poem will allow us, through imagination, to live more fully, more deeply more richly and with greater awareness.

## 2.2. What is the theme?

Explanation of theme is very important. It will help readers, especially the writer to analyze the theme of Robert Frost's poems.

In the previous chapter, it has been mentioned that the center of poem is the theme. However for further understanding, the writer presents some explanations of theme from different books in this chapter.

Theme -hunting is a favorite activity of critics and students of fiction. Indeed, the experience of reading the literary works such a poem might lead one to believe that writing or understanding a literary work is a simple way of finding a clever disguise for some ideas. Moreover, why should a writer so disguise his ideas. Apparently, to give us something to do.

According to *William Kenney* an assistant professor of English Manhattan College

"What we need in understanding of theme is we shall be dealing with three basic questions: What do we mean by theme? How do we determine the theme of a particular story? What is the importance of theme in fiction?" (Kenney:1966:p.88)

From that theory, we find out that in observing the theme there are some basic aspects that we must concern about. In this chapter, the writer wants to show the readers about the answer of those questions to help in the development of such an understanding.

### *2.2.1 The Meaning of Theme*

*William Kenney* stated that to put the matter simply, theme is the meaning of a literary work. It is not 'hidden' and it is not illustrated. Theme is the meaning a literary work release; by the theme we mean the necessary implications of the whole story, not a separable part of a literary work. ( Kenney.1966;p.91)

Then, *Carlsen* wrote

" Theme is the main idea or concept of literary work and usually not stated directly" (Carlsen.1975)

This theory shows us about how the theme is appeared. It is always stated indirectly to give readers a job and to measure their instinct on literature. Actually, Carlsen's theory is used in observing the theme of a poem because theme of a poem always stated indirectly but some critics such as William Kenney use it in observing the theme of any kind of literary works, he stated,

" Literary works are an union, they must analyze by any kind of theory of literature" (Kenney. 1966)

So, in literature there is no specific theory, as long as that theory can help the readers find the intrinsic factors of a literary works."

Another critic, *Sudjiman* said,

" Tema adalah alasan yang paling pertama penyair untuk menulis, biasanya bermula berupa konsep abstrak lalu menjadi nyata melalui suara dan penggambaran (penulisan)" (Sudjiman.1984:p.25) .

Furthermore, theme of fiction sometimes comes from experience. Most of the writer of literary work wants to make some kind of sense out of their experience. Through their works, they want to show who they are, where they stand and also they want to know what their relations are to other men (the readers) and to the universe. Theme is the equivalent in fiction to this normal human impulse. Theme in fiction is what the author is able to make of total experience rendered. And although there will be something general in the theme of a work of fiction, there will always be something unique there as well.

Then, one definition is given by *Reaske*:

" 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. Most of the images, in other hands are designed to present the central theme or main idea of the poem. The theme is the poet's reason for writing in the first place. It is always an abstract concept which becomes concrete through the idiom and imagery." ( Reaske.1966:p.42)

There some important things that can be derived from the definition above, they are theme as central concept of a poem, theme as basic idea, theme as the poet's reason for writing in the first place, and theme as an abstract concept becomes concrete through the idiom and imagery. Therefore it can be concluded that a poet in writing his poems, bases on the theme and he develops it through his poems. Because the theme is still abstract, he makes it concrete through imagery and idiom.

### *2.2.2 Discovering theme*

Theme is the total meaning discovered by the writer in the process of writing and by in the process of reading. The statement of theme in a sentence or two that one may while discussing a literary work can be no more than useful simplification, a way of pointing to the more complex experience of the literary work as a whole.

If this is so, the process of discovering theme must be a complex one. There is no easy way out to it. We can not ask the writer what his theme is. If he answers us, he can give us as we have seen only a simplification of the total meaning of his work. If the theme could be so easily expressed, he would not have had to write his work.



We can discover the theme of a literary work only by a thorough and responsive reading of the story, including a constant awareness of the relations among the parts of a work and of the relation of parts to whole. It means, a literary work is a big thing that can not be analyzed separately.

### 2.2.3 *Theme in Fiction*

It is possible to overestimate the importance of theme in fiction. When this happens, we have the view, discussed earlier, that the work of fiction is simply the illustration of a theme. It is also possible to understand its importance. This is what is involved in the view of fiction as meaningless escape.

Theme we have known is the reflection in fiction of the human desire to make sense of experience. Fiction is in fact one of the way by which we make sense of experience. Experience is formless ( Tarigan,1985:p.87). By giving form to experience in fiction, the writer clarifies the meaning of experience for himself.

The understanding of experience we can hope to derive from fiction is not identical with that we derive from for example science. This discipline is properly abstract. Nevertheless, fiction has the concreteness of experience itself. It imposes meaning of experience, not by abstract statement but by its form. Fiction offers us a kind of wisdom that not to be derived from science or even the experience itself. The theme of fiction is entirely incarnated in the concrete experience of fiction.

*Kenney* in *How to Analyze Fiction* wrote:

"Theme has still further importance in fiction" ( Kenney,1966:p.100)

This indicated that theme can not be left behind when we talk about intrinsic factors of literary work. Theme is the ultimate unifying element in fiction.

### 2.3 What is setting?

Everything can happen at somewhere and at sometime. The element of fiction which reveals to where and when of events we call setting. In other words, the term setting refers to the point in time and space at which the events of writing process occur.

According to *Brook* in *Tarigan*:

"Latar adalah latar belakang fisik, unsur ruang dalam suatu cerita. Dalam konteks latar termasuk segala yang berkaitan dengan tempat, waktu, musim, periode, dan kejadian disekitar proses kreative itu berlangsung." ( *Tarigan*.1985;p.136)

Then *Carters* stated:

"Setting is the place and time of the story, to set the scene the writer attempts to create in the reader's visual imagination the illusion of a solid world in which the story takes place." ( *Carlsen*.1987;p.1369)

Actually, in a poem, setting is not too much to be performed, maybe because in a poem there is no a clear explanation about the time, social condition and the place. However, it does not prevent the writer for choosing the effect of setting on selected poems.

Talking about setting, it is not only talk about physical factors such as time, and place, setting in general talks about anything that have relationship with a work.

Clearly, *Sumartjo and Saini* said:

"Latar bukan hanya menunjukkan tempat dan waktu tertentu, melainkan juga hal-hal yang esensial dari suatu kelompok yang berbau psikology seperti wawasan berfikir rakyatnya, kegilaan mereka, dan kecurigaan mereka yang tercermin dari tingkah laku dan gaya hidup mereka." ( *Jan Van*.1986:p.76)



About the importance of setting is expressed by *Abrams*:

"Dalam karya sastra, setting merupakan satu elemen pembentuk cerita yang sangat penting, karena elemen tersebut akan dapat menentukan situasi umum sebuah karya" (Fananie.2000.p 97)

*Jacob Sumardjo* in *Apresiasi Kesusastraan*, wrote.

"Karena dari kajian setting terlihat korelasi antara situasi sosial, pandangan masyarakat, setting dalam sebuah karya sastra tidak bisa dilepaskan dari masalah lain seperti tema, bahasa dan medium sastra yang dipakai sebab semuanya adalah satu bagian yang tidak terpisahkan." (Sumardjo.1986.p.76)

In the same book, *Jacob* said again about the relationship between setting and another elements in a literary works:

"Setting yang berhasil haruslah mampu mengintegrasikan dan membentuk tema, gaya, implikasi atau kaitan filosofis dalam sebuah karya." (Sumardjo.1986.p.76)

From that theory, the writer decides to analyze the theme and setting of Robert Frost's selected poems especially about the effect of setting on those poem's themes.

Now, because in the next chapter the writer will analyze about the effect including the functions of setting on the development of theme, She intends to show her readers about some notes about functions of setting that stated as follow

In *How to Analyze Fiction*, the writer found two functions of setting they are setting as metaphor and setting as atmosphere.

### 2.3.1 Setting as Metaphor:

Sometimes in fiction we encounter details of setting that, seem to function as a projection of the internal factors such as theme and characters. When a setting acts and brings a new meaning not only as setting physically, it means the setting use its metaphorical setting. There is no literal explanation about that, just take an example in one of Frost's poem- **Stopping By Woods On A Snowy Evening**- nature as a setting becomes a projection of the condition of the people at that time. That poem inspired by the snow that fallen down, if we can see the meaning of that moment, we can state that nature with his snow describes how the condition of people at that time, cold, be worried, but they can feel the beauty of a snowy evening. That beauty can also feel by their horse. Frost is so clever in describing winter but actually winter is not his aim, he want to tell the reader about the people's feeling when winter comes and they must go somewhere so they can not enjoy the beauty of a snowy evening. Winter as a part of nature phenomenon can do its metaphorical function perfectly.

### 2.3.2 Setting as Atmosphere:

A further function of setting, related to but not identical with its metaphorical function is the creation of atmosphere. Atmosphere has been more talked about than defined and because it refers to the suggested rather than the stated, it may be impossible to define satisfactorily. It is as the air breathed by the reader as he enters the world of the literary work. It is a kind of mood or emotional suggested primarily by the setting and helping to establish the reader's expectations.

The two functions of setting on themes of Frost's selected poems are presented in the next chapter.

Lastly, setting may be the dominant element in a work of fiction. However, setting never exists by itself. It is always part of an artistic whole and must be understood. Some readers may turn to fiction for what it can tell them of other times and place. This is a legitimate interest in itself and one that fiction can satisfy. But an interest in setting divorced from the other elements of fiction is a historical or sociological, not a literary interest. A literary interest will always concentrate overall work.

#### 2.4 Biography of Robert Frost

As poets go, Frost (1874-1963) was no longer younger when he published his first book of poems, "A boy's will" in 1913. Though born in San Francisco, he came from a New England family, which returned to New England, when he was ten. Like many other writers, he had a brief brush with college then supported himself by various means, ranging from shoe making to edit a country newspaper. However he had been brought up on a farm and he liked farming. Most of all, he liked to write but he could not support himself by writing. He moved to England where he issued his first book and found an appreciation for his work he had not found in America.

At the outbreak of World War I, Frost went back to farming in New Hampshire. Thereafter, although he made many journeys and frequent visits elsewhere, he considered the farm his home and its activities remained the focus of his poetry.

Frost's verses became part of a great tradition, shaped by the Roman poet Vergil, of what is called *Bucolic poetry* - poetry about farming. However, though he used farm situations in much of his poetry, he gave them a wide appreciation. He might

Write about stepping on a rake and describe the feeling when it hit him, but he used the accident to show how life gives readers and him self bruises.

Some talents in poetry are used up early, but not Frost's. He continued to publish fine poetry for fifty years. He reached the height of his popularity after World War II. If America of the 20th Century had a national poet, it was Frost. He was chosen to read one of John. F Kennedy, the 1st poet ever so honored (derived from highlights of American literature)

Though Robert Frost spent most of his life in New England, where nine generations of his ancestors had lived, he was a nationally known figure. And as a four-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize in poetry, he did much to winner acceptance for modern poetry.

Much of Frost's works seem to grow naturally from the changing seasons, the wooded mountains and the rugged farm north of Boston. But in spite of that he often used the New England setting, he was not primarily either a nature poet or a local colorist. (Use of details to make a description of a place scene, or time realist). Instead, his setting becomes a background for the unfolding of the drama of human situation.

Like the New Englanders, he wrote about and like most modern poets-, Frost left much unsaid. His apparently simple poems often turned out to be rich in hidden meaning. A fine storyteller, he often gave only the facts of an episode and left it to the readers to relate the meaning of the episode to their experience.

Beside of his simplicity in writing his works, he was also always avoid extremeness, as Mark Van Daren has stated:

"Mr. Frost's place is and always has been singularly central. He has nothing to do with extremes where most of our shouting has been heard... there is ignoble way of avoiding extremes." (Mark Van Daren, 1936:14)

Lastly, about *Romanticism* as Robert Frost's period. *Romanticism* is one of literature period which stated 'reveal feeling is the most'. To reveal ideas and his feeling, the poet always describes the real life in a beautiful form. Therefore, reader's heart will be aroused by reading *romanticism* works. *Romanticism* believed that human was born in natural goodness, if they were changed, that is the duty of *romanticism* poets to call them back. And, that is what Frost has done. Through his simple words and ideas, he intends to put human back into their original position.

## CHAPTER III

### METHODOLOGY

Methodology is primarily directed to obtain as many as possible data, which support the steps of the analysis. In carrying out this analysis, it needs several methods. The writer has tried to complete with the requirements of the scientific work through the process of collecting data by using the following procedures:

#### 3.1 Library Research

Before starting to write, she has collected some data from several resources, which were relevant to the title. Data and materials are obtained partly from lectures, reading some books of literature in library and other written materials which have relationship with the data needed to support her thesis. The primary data comes from the original text of selected poems and the secondary data are all the data which are required to support the object of research such as Poetry And Prose Appreciation For Overseas Students, Telaah Sastra, How To Analyze Fiction, etc.

#### 3.2 Data Cards

Those cards function as theory or quotation cards. By using those cards, the writer does not recall many books she needs anymore, just use her cards.

#### 3.3 Approach

She uses Genetic Structuralism approach as main method to analyze the object which starts in identifying intrinsic factors of selected poems (in this case: theme) and then discover the extrinsic factors. Finally, she will try to find the relationship of both

factors, which are stated as the effect of nature on themes. In details will explain as follow.

### *3.3.1 Intrinsic Approach*

Having reserved all the data required, the writer then starts investigating the materials-the selected poems- in detail, she starts from finding the theme of each poems and then finding the effects of nature on those themes.

### *3.3.2 Extrinsic Approach*

To know thoroughly her materials, she also has to view it from its outside. The writer also tries to find out any extrinsic material that support her thesis such as the biography of Robert Frost, the writing text about how Frost wrote his works in the past by the influence of his family, his environmental society and also his experience as a farmer in New England.



## CHAPTER IV

### ANALYSIS

#### 4.1 The Theme of Selected Poems

##### 4.1.1 For Once Then Something

###### FOR ONCE THEN SOMETHING

Other taught me with having knelt at well-curbs	
Always wrong to the light, so never seeing	
Deepr down in the welt than where the water	
Gives me back in a shining surface picture	
Me myself in the summer heaven godlike. ....	5
Looking out of a wreath of fern and cloud puffs.	
<i>Once</i> , when trying with chin against a well-curb,	
I discerned, as I thought, beyond the picture,	
Through the picture, a something white, uncertain,	
Something more of the depthd- and then I lost it. ....	10
Water came to rebuke the too clear water.	
One drop fell from a fern, and lo, a ripple	
Shook whatever it was lay there at bottom,	
Blurred it, blotted it out. What was that whiteness?	
Truth? A pebble of quartz? For once then something.....	15



**For Once Then Something** is one of Robert Frost's poems that convey about the truth. By using nature's material he tells his feeling, his thought and his anxiety when he thinks the truth has gone.

This poem contents with one stanza and 15 lines. In finding the theme of this poem, the writer uses paraphrase method which allows the writer to remake the poem into prose form and also she divides the poem into two parts. The paraphrase of **For Once Then Something** is presented below:

**Line 1-6**

*Other taught me having knelt at well curbs  
Always wrong to the light, so never seeing  
Deep down in the well than where the water  
Gives me back in a shining surface picture  
Me myself in the summer heaven godlike.  
Looking out of a wreath of fern and cloud puffs*

From line 1-6, the writer finds, there is someone who taught at well curbs, he always sees the lie and makes him thought that lie is the really truth.

One day, when he is studying at his 'well-curbs' he sees something shining deep down in the well. A shining surface picture, that is what he sees. He is so surprised of that, by seeing that picture he feels as happy as when summer comes with a wreath fern and cloud puffs.

**Line 6-15**

*Once, when trying with chin against a well-curb,  
I discerned, as I thought, beyond the picture,*

*Through the picture, a something white , uncertain*  
*Something more of the depth and then I lost it.*  
*Water came to rebuke the too clean water.*  
*One drop fell from a fern, and lo, a ripple*  
*Shook whatever it was lay there at bottom*  
*Blurred it, blotted it out. What was that whiteness?*  
*Truth? A pebble of Quartz? For once then something.*

At another time, (*once ... ..* ) he discerns another thing beyond the picture. Something white, but uncertain. Eventhough it is blurry, he feels peace when he sees it. More peacefully than when he saw the first thing. (Acct. *Something more of the depth.....line 9*)

Sadly when he tries to concentrate to the second thing, it has gone. (*..... and then I lost it*). Based on line 11-14, water comes to rebuke it, blurred it and blotted it out.

He is so sad, he can not identify what exactly picture is. He just guessed and hoped, what he saw was the truth not just a pebble of quartz.

From that simple paraphrase, the writer tries to discover the theme. Actually, the key of this poem lay on lines 7-11, but you can not deny another sentences, because a poem is an unity. At line 1-6 the writer finds, the speaker (I) acts as someone who never finds the truth he wants. He looks for that truth everywhere even at a well curb. By only saying *other taught me with having knelt at well-curbs*, Frost wants us to feel how hard the speaker's effort to find the truth. Frost uses 'a well curb'

as symbol of place because he thinks a well with its clean water can not hide anything.

That is proved by looking down into the well, he sees a shining surface picture that makes him happy. A shining surface picture here by the writer calls the clean water (*line 3*), but water is not something that Frost wants to show.

*Once*, is an opening word of line seven, through this line, the speaker discerns another thing beyond the water. Something white and uncertain, he tries to find that thing. Sadly, *water comes to rebuke it, blurred it and blotted it out.*

**Line 14-15 said:**

..... *What was the whiteness?*

*Truth? A pebble of quartz? For once then something*

When the white thing has gone, the speaker asks himself whether it is a truth or only a pebble of quartz. The writer tries to answer his question as follows, According to the writer, the white thing that has gone is the truth not only a pebble of quartz. Why? If it is only a pebble of quartz why it must disappear? It is a thing, it cannot go anywhere, but it does.

Furthermore, if a pebble of quartz acts as a connotation it must mean the truth. Because they have the same criteria, both of them are the hardest things to find. And that is the reason why the speaker taugh in a well-curb.

Finally, the writer comes to the last sentence, 'For once then something'. She finds, behind this sentence, there is the theme. For once the something is one of phylosopy thought which means behind a moment there is a truth. Truth can be found at unpredictable place, therefore do not ever give up to find it. The speaker

sees a shining surface picture then beyond that picture; there is another thing call the truth. Therefore, behind a moment there is a truth to find.

#### 4.1.2 Nothing Gold Can Stay

##### NOTHING GOLD CAN STAY

Nature's first gree is gold  
Her hardest hue to hold  
Her early leaf's a flower  
But only so an hour  
The leaf subsides to leaf  
So eden sank to grief  
So dawn goes down to day  
Nothing gold can stay

Nothing Gold Can stay consists of one stanza with eight lines. In addition, all of lines are constructed by simple sentences. The writer divides those lines into two parts. She goes to analyze line 1-4 first then the others. As a clue, Frost uses hyperbola as his figurative language in Nothing Gold can stay.

*Line 1-2 stated*

*Nature's first green is gold*

*Her hardest hue to hold*

*Her early leaf's flower*

Through these lines, the poet wants to show how nature's first colour is. Frost uses green instead of colour at first line just for coloring his first sentence. For the writer, by saying nature's first colour is gold not green because green is a familiar

colour, everybody knows it but gold is another thing. Gold in human's life is a such of beautiful colour, lux and expensive. (The same idea said at line 2). Then line three presents nature's early leaf is flower, according to Biology, flower comes after leaf but in this poem, Frost changes the normal activity. He puts flower as the first moment then the leaves. It indicates how beautiful nature is. By putting word gold as nature's first colour which is hardest to hold and flower acts as nature's first leaf, Frost expects amazement from the reader. The oddity brings a willing from the reader to continue their reading in this poem, that is what Frost and another poets need.

*But only so-an hour ... .. 4*

This is a sad sentence. Frost shows his disappointed trough this sentence, when he finds nature change in an hour. In an hour, everything can happen.

**Line 5-8.**

*The leaf subsides to leaf*

*So Eden sank to grief*

*So dawn goes down to day*

*Nothing gold can stay*

The *leaf subsides to leaf*, it means no flower anymore. *So Eden sank to grief- Eden*, which is stated so much pretty in the bible, has changed according to the poet just like when he says *so dawn goes down today*. What does it mean what does the poet want to describe?

By reading this poem thoroughly, the writer finds frost' willing. He wants the reader to realize, in an hour everything can happen, some beauties can change drastically when the creator wants it happen. He warns you to be aware of yourself

and your surroundings, do not be proud of yours because they all are not yours. He will ask them back someday.

From that changing process, you can see nothing can be immortal even gold. Again, Frost uses gold in his poem to show the reader how precious it is and to show the exalting of gold by human being. Gold as representative of the precious thing can make human being forgot themselves, they act like God and claim themselves as God who has the immortality. Sadly, they are not.

One thing that Frost wants to stress here is the immortality. Through the last sentence, nothing gold can stay-he wants to show that nothing can be eternal but God. Therefore, the human does not have any rights to be proud and act as God. Everything can be changed, today you are in a good position, who knows tomorrow? Once, do not be proud of yours ! Frost closes his poem by nothing gold can stay and that is the reason why he warns you for not doing such away.

#### 4.1.3 The Road Not Taken

##### THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveller, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth .....5

Then took the other, as just as fair  
And having perhaps the better claim  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear

Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them raelly about the same .....10

And both that morning equarly lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way  
I doubted if I should ever come back.....15

I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I-  
I took the one less travelled by  
And that has made all the difference. ....20

The Road Not Taken is a poem about choices in life. It consists of 4 stanzas and each of it consists of five sentences.

**Line 1-15**

*Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveler, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth*



Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them raelly about the same .....10

And both that morning equarly lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way  
I doubted if I should ever come back.....15

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**Line 1-15**

*Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveler, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth*



*And having perhaps the better claim  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear  
Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same*

*And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way  
I doubted if I should ever come back.*

The speaker (I) finds two roads diverge in a yellow wood but he can not travel them at the same time. As a traveler, he must choose which way he wants to take. Then he looks down one as far he can to where it bent in the undergrowth. Actually, he can not choose because those roads are really about the same, then as just as fair he chooses one way which is grassy. He hopes, he chooses the right way. Before the speaker decides the way, He tells himself that he will explore one and then come back and explore the other, but finally he knows, he shall probably be unable to do so.

**Line 16-20**

*I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I-*

*I took the one less traveled by*

*And that has made all the difference*

By the last stanza, the writer finds, the speaker finally explores one of two roads and his choice will make all the difference.

The writer realizes that the poet is talking about something more than the choice of paths in a wood, for such a choice would be relatively unimportant. While this choice is one that will make a great difference in the speaker's life and that he will remember with a sigh. *"I shall be telling with a sigh, somewhere ages and ages hence"*

From this poem, the writer considers life is always full of choices. Robert Frost by using roads as material in his poem wants to show us the choice in life. When the speaker finds two roads, Frost conveys how to choose the way. You must interpret the speaker's choice of roads as a symbol for any choice in life between alternatives that appear almost equally attractive but will result through the years in a large difference. *"And that has made all the difference"*

The writer comes to the theme of this poem. Frost uses a kind of figurative language- symbol-in conveying his thought about choice in life. He warns readers to realize about choices in the real life and their consequences when they are chosen.

#### **4.1.4 Stopping by Woods in A Snowy Evening**

##### **STOPPING BY WOODS IN A SNOWY EVENING**

Whose woods these are think I know  
His house is in the village though  
He will not see me stopping here

To watch his woods fill up with snow

My little horse must think it queer .....5

To stop without a farmhouse near

Between the woods and frozen lake

The darkest evening of the year

He gives hi harness bells a shake

To ask if there is some mistake .....10

The only other sound's the sweep

Of easy wind and downy flake

The woods are lovely, dark and deep

But I have promises to keep

And miles to go before I sleep .....15

And miles to go before I sleep

This poem tells about the rural country in America sometime in 19<sup>th</sup> century where the area fills with or fulls of snow without sunshine blazing on it. This natural moment is taken by Robert Frost as a tool to convey his idea, which is, showed trough an analization as follows:

**Line 1-4**

*Whose woods these are think I know*

*His house is in the village though*

*He will not see me stopping here*

*To watch his woods fill up with snow*

Frost begins to describe the speaker stops in by woods because of the snow fills up the woods. The speaker thinks, the moment when snow drops and falls on the woods is beauty. He does not want to make this pass suddenly and meaningless. In his mind, he will take that moment and make it last forever because it is precious to forget and it has a mystery behind its beauty.

**Line 5-12**

*My little horse must think it queer*

*To stop without a farmhouse near*

*Between the woods and frozen lake*

*The darkest evening of the year*

*He gives his harness bells a shake*

*To ask if there is some mistake*

*The only other sound's the sweep*

*Of easy wind and downy flake*

With his horse who must feel wonder of his decision to stop, the speaker enjoys the time when the whitest and the coolest thing fills the woods. His horse is described through figurative language-personification-that give the attributes of a human being to an animal. That horse thinks why his boss must stop without any house near, between the woods and frozen lake in the darkest evening of the year.

Sadly the horse just can think and express his wonder by giving his harness bells a shake. However, he does not hear find any answers but sound's the sweep of easy wind and dawning flake. This stanza describes how tight relationship between the horse and the speaker. The horse can feel his boss's wonder.

#### Line 13-16

*The woods are lovely, dark and deep*

*But I have promises to keep*

*And miles to go before I sleep*

*And miles to go before I sleep*

In the last stanza, frost describes the woods so lovely, dark and deep. From the term of lovely, dark and deep that is given to describe the woods, the writer thinks Frost uses another figurative language-Hyperbole-that give convincing effect. By those terms, readers feel so surprise and convince to what the poet tells. They get a best imagination of woods and the situation, which becomes dark overwhelming the speaker's feeling, and then arise a great feeling of silence and loneliness yet enjoyable even, they can feel that there is a mystery behind the time when snow comes in the snowy evening. Finally, they agree with the speaker for stopping there. Back to the speaker, because of his wonder, he stops for a while to satisfy himself.

Suddenly, the speaker realizes himself. He has a promise to keep!! He knows that promise needs to keep, it is a necessary. Then he must go, leave all those beauty before something bad happen to himself and to something that he make promise with. The writer does not find what promise it is but she is sure it deals with something emergency. Finally, the speaker continues his journey that still far away for a promise.

Frost does not simply set out to describe how pretty when the snow fills the woods but to make readers consider how when someone has a responsibility or a promise to keep whereas he is enjoying an exiting beauty.

In this chance the poet wants to say that however your condition is, whether sad or comfortable, you must always keep in your mind that you have many responsibilities or promises to do to your country, family or even to your self.

#### **4.2 The Function of Setting on Themes of Selected Poems**

As mention in the theoretical Background, setting has two functions they are as Metaphor and as Atmosphere. These two functions are not analyzed thoroughly in this thesis because that is not the aim of this thesis. What the writer wants to do is to show the readers that setting with its functions can also mean another new meaning not only as physically such place and time, especially in some Robert Frost' poems.

##### *4.2.1 As metaphor*

When a setting acts and brings a new meaning not only as setting physically, it means that setting use its metaphorical function.

In Frost poems such as **For Once Then Something** and **The Road Not Taken**, their setting become something more than setting physically. Nature in this case a well, in **For Once Then Something** physically acts as place when the speaker are trying to find the truth but actually nature here is not just talking about place. It brings a new meaning call a symbol. Symbol of a moment that hides another moment or meaning.

Symbol is also brought by nature as setting in **The Road Not Taken**. Nature in this case road is not just showing a simple path that must be chosen, more than that, nature acts a symbol of choices.

#### *4.2.2 As Atmosphere*

Based on the theoretical background above, the function of setting as atmosphere has been more talked about than defined. It is a kind of mood or emotional suggested primarily by the setting and helping to establish reader's expectation.

In **Stopping by Woods In A snowy Evening**, for example, Frost puts nature especially winter to stimulate reader's mood and then he can establish their expectation. When readers read that poem, they are persuaded to feel or imagine how when winter comes. Frost limits his readers to imagine only about winter not another one, therefore they can feel what the speaker feels and finally they can understand what the poet wants to reveal.

This also happens in **Nothing Gold Can Stay**, Frost asks readers to imagine nature's first existence or condition. When readers can imagine it successfully, lastly, they also can find the theme of this poem.

#### **4.3 The Effect of Setting on Themes**

According to Jacob Sumardjo's theory (*Sumardjo, 1986:76*) that say about the relationship between setting and another elements in a literary work including the theme, the writer tries to analyze setting's effect on themes of Frost' selected poems.



After reading and finding the theme, the writer sees nature gives a great influence to the themes of those selected poems. And then the writer divides into three effects of setting on themes as follows:

#### **4.3.1 Symbolization Effect**

Nature can symbolized anything. It can be seen at **For Once Then Something** as the first poem, that the writer sees has a correlation between setting with its theme. At a well curb, there is the too clean water and who knows behind that water there is the truth, which is symbolized as a something white and uncertain. (*Line 9*). Nature with its material (*a well and water*) can give Frost an idea to convey his principle about the truth, which is the hardest thing to find.

Then, **Nothing Gold Can Stay**. In this poem, Frost takes nature to explain how the immortality is. By putting nature and its materials such as *gold, flower, leaf, Eden* and also one of nature phenomenon- *so dawn goes down to day*- as symbols of human being who always claims themselves are immortal. The poet asks the readers to imagine how nature changes into bad condition in a second. By imaging those moments, Frost can bring his ideas come into reader's mind. It means the theme of immortality is conveyed by the nature. Nature gives symbolization effect to the immortality thought.

Furthermore, the writer steps to another two poems are **The Road Not Taken** and **Stopping by Woods in A Snowy Evening**. In **The Road Not Taken** Frost puts paths that symbolizes choices in life. Nature or in this case paths mean not only as a way or track made for or by people walking (Oxford Advanced learner's Dictionary:1995 p.849) but it is more than what people say and see. Paths can be a

tool of saying alternatives. By creating nature as setting in *The Road Not Taken*, Frost gives a symbolization effect to the theme of choices in life that he brings.

Then, in *Stopping By Woods in A Snowy Evening*, Frost once more takes one of nature's material as setting, that is woods when winter comes in the evening. This beautiful setting gives a symbolization effect because woods and winter can bring readers to an understanding of responsibility to fulfill a promise; of course, through Frost's ability in arranging words.

Therefore, in symbolization choices in life, immortality, promises and truth, nature with its material gives colour to them. Nature is more than what human always looks: it can bring another meaning besides its ordinary function and meaning. For nature can be something precious and beautiful, it becomes representative or symbol of Frost's concepts.

#### 4.3.2 Natural Effect

The themes of those selected poems are talking about life whether about choices, promises or even immortality. Some poets who bring those ideas express through ordinary words, which describe the real life of human being, but it is different with Robert Frost. He expresses those ideas by nature's vocabularies. It can be seen in one of his poems, *Stopping by Woods in A Snowy Evening*. From his first sentence until the end, he uses nature's material, such as woods, snow, frozen etc. Then words road, well, water, nature, flower in his other poems. Why does he do such a way?

One thing he wants to show by doing that oddity is to give natural effects. This is based on Frost's biography that tells Frost as a farmer, he conveys his thought

by what he always does. Stepping on a rake and describes the feeling when it hit him, walking in snowy evening whereas he is in a hurry to meet someone, and another moments in his life. He translates those moments to bring his ideas and hopes his readers are easy to understand his poems.

Eventhough, he uses nature's vocabularies instead of romantic words, his beauty does not miss. Indeed, that is his criteria as one of a great poet in romanticism period that nobody can match or imitate him.

First, Natural effect in **Nothing Gold Can Stay**. This poem conveys immortality thought of its poets who uses nature's material in saying it. The natural effect appears at the first time since his (Frost) first sentence in **Nothing Gold Can Stay** (*.. nature's first green is gold*) then gives the same effect to the theme. **Immortality** is not an ordinary concept, it is a lux one but by saying it through simple words, Frost makes it easier and more natural to understand.

Second is **The Road Not Taken**. This poem talks about choice<sup>n</sup> in life through a natural way of saying. Frost just takes two roads diverged in a yellow wood as his symbol in saying his willing. He uses road not the other thing because he wants the readers understand what he means as easy as possible. He does not want to make readers are drowning in confusion if he uses a high level of language, so he uses words and physical background which are close to them- nature-. About The theme that he conveys, he makes it familiar to the reader therefore they can take Frost's idea and apply it. Of course, this success is supported by nature as its setting that give the theme natural effect.

creates

Third is **For once then Something**. Nature is close to the human's thoughts and activities for example searching of truth. Theoretically, truth is known as a hardest thing to find but it does not mean there is no truth in the world. Frost tells his opinion of truth by creating **For Once Then Something** that show how truth can be found. In it, he tells that truth can be found in a well behind the too clean water (*.... I discerned as I thought beyond the picture....*). It means nature; in this case, a well hides a truth. Now what does nature give to the theme of truth? For the writer, nature also gives the theme *a natural effect*, through nature's vocabularies, theme is affected naturally. Readers are easy to know the poet's willing by imaging the simple or natural background in **For once Then Something**. In their minds, there is a new concept that, in fact, truth can also be explained through nature.

Fourth, is **Stopping by Woods In A Snowy Evening**. Frost treats the same with the other three poems to this poem. He- once more- uses nature's material in saying his concept. At this time, he puts *snow, woods, and evening* to support his idea about '**responsibility to the promise**'. Natural effect appears in it clearly because he describes how beauty an evening when there is snow fills the woods.

The theme that he brings is familiar to everybody but not many people fulfill their promises. Seeing this habit, Frost says his protest by using setting which is close to him and of course his object/readers - nature-. By putting nature especially a moment when winter comes in the evening, Frost feels more easy to adopt this idea into readers mind. Because, they also know about nature and winter but they forget about a duty to fulfill a promise. Then, he combines what readers know about nature

itself with their ignorance of fulfill a promise. And the result, the readers understand what Frost means. Now, You can see the effect of nature in conveying the theme.

#### **4.3.3 Stressing Effect**

The last effect that is brought by nature as setting on themes of Robert Frost's selected poems is *stressing effect*. Actually, this effect has the same case with one of the function of setting - *setting as atmosphere*- it can not be defined. Stressing effect deals with mood and imagination of readers when they read a poem.

The writer has mentioned that **Nothing Gold Can Stay, The Road Not Taken, For Once Then Something, and Stopping By Woods In A Snowy Evening** by Robert Frost take nature as their physical setting. By giving a stressing effect, nature does not allow readers to imagine another one but nature. It affects the reader's imagination, they are like come into one room calls nature and it gives them a limitation of thought.

Frost itself does not mean to limit his reader's mind in putting nature as setting in most of his works. However, he realizes it or not his setting helps readers to understand what he says, it stresses the theme.

From those three effects of setting on themes, the writer can say that setting gives a great influence to the theme. Setting can give the theme a nice colour, not only act as physical background.

#### **4.4 Messages of The Poem**

From deeply reading, the writer finds some messages that Frost says through his poems, as follows

- 1). Nothing can be immortal but God as the creator.

- 2). Life is full of choices. Therefore in facing the choices, think twice before deciding and be ready for its consequences.
- 3). You must realize that every moment hides another moment and meaning.
- 4). However your condition is whether sad or comfortable, you must keep in mind that you have responsibility to the promises you made.
- 5). Something dark and cold is not always horrible, it can be lovely.
- 6). Do not try to keep what you can do today till tomorrow. Prevent from doing what the speaker in **The Road Not Taken** thinks..... "*I kept the first for another day.*"
- 7). Try for not hurt somebody, you may on the top today but who knows tomorrow. Nothing gold can stay.



## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION

From the analysis of nature's effects on themes of Robert Frost's selected poems, the writer can conclude as follows

*First, The Road Not Taken* is a poem (Written on 1914), which talks about choices in life through nature's vocabularies or materials. Frost in his poem shows that two roads diverged in a yellow wood represents the condition when someone must stay between two choices. The two alternatives have their own consequences, and he must take it.

*The Road Not Taken* takes a wood as its place gives some effect to the theme of choices in life that Frost brings. Natural effect makes readers feel so close with nature and easy to understand what Frost says, this happens when stressing effect comes. Symbolization effect itself put nature as a symbol of choices in life. Readers does not imagine the real path but more than that, they imagine how when they are staying in two choices.

*Second is Stopping By Woods In A Snowy Evening.* The theme of a poem, which is written on 1923, is responsibility to fulfill the promise. Nature also gives three effects on it, natural effect, symbolization effect and stressing effect. One thing that the writer can conclude from this poem is Frost wants the readers realize theirself to fulfill the promise they made, because when human can not fulfill what he has said, he does not have any rights to accept a honor as human anymore.



*Third is Nothing Gold Can Stay* (Written on 1923). In this poem, nature takes an important role to reveal immortality thought. The materials such as flower, leaf, and even Eden act as something that changed in a wink of eyes.

Frost with his special setting wants to give his poem a natural effect; symbolization effect and stressing effect. No one deny, nature can be anything and can tell human what he or she needs to know. Frost as a poet can change language of nature into people's language to show his thought successfully.

*Fourth is For Once Then Something* (written on 1926). It tells about the truth that can find in an impossible place. Through this poem Frost raises a question about the existence of truth. Frost wonders if human never were able to find the truth as a hardest thing to find. He composes *For Once Then Something* as a manifestation of the world's situation. Human never understand the meaning of a moment that God given. They just blame someone else or even God for their destiny. They can not see what behind a moment that happen to them. Is it just a pebble of quartz? Alternatively, a truth? Sadly, human does not understand that truth can be hidden by unpredictable thing and Frost gives human a shock to realize it.

*Fifth*, Frost as a romanticism period poet always writes works depends on the reality with simple words. His ideas about immortality, choices in life, responsibility and truth are conveyed by simple words and natural setting based on his experiences as a farmer. He always uses nature or farm situation in most of his poems. However, it does not give bad effect to his works, in fact it gives his works a wide appreciation.

Sixth, poem can also be a learning medium to people who forget theirself besides as a subject in a college. By reading a poem people can train himself to understand critics or warning that said by a poet. Therefore, the writer can say that a poet can reveal what in his mind without telling it directly and irritate somebody. The poet can criticize anything through his talent in arranging words.

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