

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background of the study, the problem of the study, the objective of the study, the significant of the study, the scope and limitation of the study and the definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Study

Literature is the art of the works that can be in the forms of poetry, plays, short story, and novel. Those are interesting to read and to imagine the real situation that happens, even though in fiction. It also offers the readers amount of knowledge, experience, and feeling in the form of story and exciting narrative that can be read uncritically simply because they escape the problems and responsibility of everyday that differs radically from our own life.¹

Literature refers to the imaginative works make and read by people. Literature is simply another way we can experience the world around us through our imagination.² Literature created by writers to be enjoyed, understood, and utilized by the community. According to Wellek and Warren literature is the art of written works.³

Poems are one of literature genres, which use connotative words and have hidden meaning. Poem could describe nature, culture, love, life and

¹Wiyatmi, *PengantarKajianSastra* (Yogyakarta: PustakaPelajar, 2006),Page12.

²John H. Edward, *Outline of Literature* (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1968), Page 1.

³Rene Wellekand Austin Werren. *Theory Of Literature* (New York : Harcourt Brace Javonovich, 1971),Page 15.

social reality. Many poems like to play with the sound of language or offer an emotional insight by describing what they see in highly descriptive language. In the literature, the media is the language. In the poem, the language uses figurative or metaphorical language.⁴ There are many aspects in the poem, such as stanza, rhyme, and figures of speech. In this research, the writer intent to analyze the form and the meaning of metaphorical expression used in Kahlil Gibran poems

There are some aspects that we can analyze in the poetry like stanzas, rhyme, rhythm, figure of speech, and moral message. There are some kinds of figure of speech, for example simile, metaphor, synecdoche, metonymy, symbol, allegory, personification, and irony. Figure of speech is used to describe the feeling intensity of the poet, it can be explain concentrated meaning which describe something that is used long language to be short language.⁵ Dealing with the figure of speech, there is one kind of figure of speech that often used in daily activity, that is metaphor. Metaphor derived from the Greek which means to transfer. Metaphor is defined as a figure of speech, or something that we use to replace "normal" words in order to help others understand or enjoy our message. Making comparison in metaphor, it Koes not employ the word *like* or *as*, instead, likeness is suggested. It needs deep understanding in order to get the meaning of it by interpreting the distinction between the two objects, for example: *Life is rollercoaster*.

⁴Mary Oliver, *A Poetry Handbook* (USA, Beacon Press Harcourt Inc, 1994), Page 2.

⁵*Ibid.*, Page 5.

Metaphor is a distorting reality, so metaphor has a relation with the human perceptual system which influences the production of metaphor. In creating metaphor, the writer has desire to explore and to figure out the clues of meaning. The meaning is hidden in the metaphor words it self. So, in searching the clues of meaning in metaphor words, the writer uses her high imagination in order to find the clues of the metaphor's meaning based on human perceptual system. Then finding the inside meaning we use semantics because by using semantics, the metaphor words will be clearly and immediately revealed.

The metaphor cases can be found in the poem. Poem often has difficult word to understand, because sometimes the author used the implicit sentences. Poems usually have themes but the poem also tries to create an emotional effect and makean association between things and idea that are not related.

The researcher chooses metaphorical expression to analyze. Metaphorical expression in everyday language can give us insight into metaphorical nature of the concepts that structure our everyday activities.⁶ And metaphorical expression can makes the poem has a feeling and more beautiful. Metaphorical expression not only used in novel but also in the poem. The researcher will analyze the poems written by Kahlil Gibran. In this research the researcher chooses Kahlil Gibran because he composes some of the most heartfelt works that touched the heart of every reader, giving to the

⁶Alan ainsworth, *75 arguments*, (new York, McGraw Hill, 2006) page 28

reader the desire to put their thoughts on paper or anything else, until they could find handy splashing the thoughts. Khalil Gibran was a very serious seeker of Truth. He reaped what he sowed in Truth through inspiration and wisdom. He was a very well read man and his writings calms and soothes anyone who reads it. Almost all of the poems of Kahlil Gibran are heavenly, he can write so positively and beautifully about almost everything in life which is saddening from war to natural calamities. He is the master of metaphors.

The researcher chooses poems by Kahlil Gibran entitled "*The Prophet*", "*A Lover Call*", "*A Tear and Smile*", "*Song Of The Rain*". The researcher chooses four poems because Kahlil Gibran plays so many metaphors in those poems.

This research also has relation with the previous study which is conducted by other researchers. The other researcher which has relation with the research had been done by Nurdiana Sholihaty from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta with the title *Metaphorical Expressions on everlasting love songs*⁷. She classified the databased on human perceptual systems by Michael C. Haley. The object of the study was metaphorical expression in English Love Song. The data for this study are taken from the Everlasting love songs that contain metaphor.

⁷Nurdiana sholichati, *Metaphorical Expressions on everlasting love songs*. (Surakarta: universitasmuhammadiyah Surakarta 2013)

The other researcher is by Sutrisno entitled "*A Semantics Study of Metaphor Language used in the Josh Groban closer album*". describing metaphorical expression on Josh Groban song lyrics in the Josh Groban closer album. She classifies the data based on Human perceptual system by M.C Haley. Then, He applies semantic approach in order to get the inside meaning of it. He found thirty one Metaphor expressions in these songs. There are sixteen Abstract concept expression, two Energy metaphor expression, seven terrestrial metaphor expression, one animate creature expression, one substance metaphor expression and last four man/human expression That is the reason for the writer intends to conduct a research on analysis of poems especially Kahlil Gibran's poem entitling "**The Analysis of Metaphorical Expressions In Kahlil Gibran's Poems.**"

B. Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the research, the researcher formulates the problems as follows:

1. What are the meanings of the metaphorical expressions in Kahlil Gibran's poems?
2. What kinds of metaphorical expressions that found in poems written by Kahlil Gibran?

C. Objective of the Study

Based on the research questions, it is necessary for the researcher to state the purpose of the research as follow;

1. To describe the meaning of the metaphorical expressions in Kahlil Gibran's poems.
2. To describe what kinds of metaphor that found in poems written by Kahlil Gibran.

D. Scope and Limitation

In order to make this research focused, the researcher made scope and limitation to this research. This point is important to make the researcher clear and will not had difficulties to do this research. This research focused on Kahlil Ghibran's poem and limited to the characteristic of metaphorical expression based on Michael C.Halley Human Perceptual System and the form of Metaphorical expression.

E. Significance of the Research

The results of the research bring advantages for the reader of this thesis to obtain more experience in figure of speech especially in symbol. The researcher hopes that the results of this research will be useful in some ways, they are:

1. The researcher hopes that the research will be useful for the readers and could give contribution to the larger body of knowledge especially in metaphorical expression.
2. The researcher hopes that the research will be useful especially for university students who want to know more about metaphoric expression and we hope this research could improve the reader's knowledge of

understanding the metaphorical expression used in Kahlil Gibran Poems collection.

3. This research is hopes to be able to be used as a reference and to give information for another researcher when they do the same research in other literature study.

F. Definition of The Key Terms

Definition of key terms is very important in this thesis. It aims to avoid misunderstanding and misinterpretation. The terms are necessary be defined are as follow:

1. Literature

Literature according to Spadlex as quoted by Moleong, is the knowledge which is earned by human beings arise conduct and it is used to reflect and express experience.⁸ Another opinion said that literature is one of the great creative and universal means of communicating the emotional, spiritual, or intellectual concerns of mankind.⁹

2. Poem

Poem is merely to give pleasure and those who belong to the latter consider that poem should teach besides giving pleasure. Other mean poem is an imaginative awareness of experience expressed through meaning, sound, and rhythmic language choices so as to evoke an emotional response. Poem has been known to employ meter and rhyme,

⁸Lexy J Moleong, *Metodology Penelitian Kualitatif* (Bandung: RemajaRosdakarya, 2000), Page 13.

⁹The Encyclopedia of Americana, Vol. 22:559

but this is by no means necessary. Poem is an ancient form that has gone through numerous and drastic reinvention over time. The very nature of poem as an authentic and individual mode of expression makes it nearly impossible to define.¹⁰

3. Metaphor

A metaphor is a figure of speech that refers to something as being the same as another thing for rhetorical effect. It may provide clarity or identify hidden similarities between two ideas. Where a simile compares two items, a metaphor directly equates them, and does not use "like" or "as" as does a simile.

¹⁰Mark Flanagan, *Contemporary Literature Expert*,
<http://contemporarylit.about.com/cs/literaryterms/g/poetry.htm>, accessed on August 20, 2015.