

**FIGURE OF SPEECH EXPRESSED  
IN *MARY OLIVER'S POEMS***

**THESIS**

**Presented to  
State College for Islamic Studies (STAIN) Kediri  
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements  
for the Degree of *Sarjana* in English Language Education**



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Demikian agar maklum dan atas kesediaan Bapak kami ucapkan banyak terima kasih.

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## MOTTO

“As I walked out the door toward the gate that would lead to my freedom, I knew if I didn’t leave my bitterness and hatred behind, I’d still be in prison.”<sup>1</sup>

By Nelson Mandela

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<sup>1</sup><http://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/english>

## **DEDICATION**

This thesis is dedicated for:

My beloved parents, my father Sumarsono (Alm) and my mother Kiptiyah thanks for your advice, support, and motivation to reach my aspiration in my life.

My beloved wife Lisa Yulita Sari, S.Pdi and my son Roland Ibrahim Al Hakim, I love you so much

My Family,  
My Uncle H. Solikin, ST. and his Family. My father in law Subangi. My brother Didik S, ST and his wife Chandra FM. My brother M. Yokky, Erik Kurniawan, My brother Agus S, ST. and his family. My brother H. Fatkur, M. ST. and his family

My beloved advisor,  
Ibu Toyyibah, SS.,M.Pd and Pak Burhanudin Syaifulloh, M.Ed,  
thanks for your suggestion, advice, and motivation

My lecturers in STAIN Kediri,  
who had taught during the study in the English of Education

My best friends,  
(Kayubi, Imam Suhadaq, Neni, Ipo, Zunif, M. Khoirul Anam) and all of  
my friends,  
thanks for your help, suggestion and support me in everything I do.

## ABSTRACT

Prastyo, Angga. 2014. *Figure of Speech Expressed in Mary Oliver's Poems*. English Department, Faculty of Education, State College for Islamic Studies (STAIN) Kediri 2014. Advisor 1) Toyyibah, SS, M.Pd. 2) Burhanudin Syaifulloh, M.Ed.

### **Key word: figures of speech, poems**

Poems are one of literature genres, which uses connotative words and have hidden meaning. Poems describe nature, culture, love, life and 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 Poems, the language uses figurative or metaphorical language. So, the reader must be clear about language that is used in poems. There are many aspects in the poems, such as stanza, rhyme, and figures of speech. In this research, the researcher would analyze the kinds of figures of speech, the message in the figures of speech and what kinds of figures of speech mostly used in the poems. Therefore, the following problems are proposed (1) what kinds of figures of speech used in *Mary Oliver's Poems*? (2) What are the messages of figures of speech used in the *Mary Oliver's Poems*?

The research design of this study is literary study. Literary study is an analyze in which read selected text, such as a poem, novel, short story and basically write a paper about it. Based on the title Figure of Speech Expressed in *Mary Oliver's Poems*, the writer uses qualitative data analysis to answer the thesis questions, because the writer analyzes, describes, and phrases the Mary Oliver's poems on the basic theories of stylistic. The instrument of this study is the writer himself. In this case the writer participates actively in collecting and analyzing the data. The data are collected from three collected poems by Mary Oliver; those are Red Bird, Thirst, and Why I wake Early. The data which have been collected are further analyzed in the following procedure: (1) the writer determines the meaning of the author in the Poems, and then interprets the meaning with the writer's own understanding by referring to the theories of figures of speech (2) the writer analyzes the figures of speech in every stanza by stanza, by connecting their meanings with those of other lyric in the same stanza, (3) the writer make a conclusion after doing the two steps above.

The writer found that the most dominant figures of speech used by the author is personification. It could be seen in the result of the writer's analysis. The writer found 35 lyrics expression of personification. The second figure of speech used by the author is allegory (21 lyrics), hyperbole (12 lyrics), repetition (10 lyrics), anthropomorphism, symbol, and antithesis each of them

are 7 lyrics, metaphor (6 lyrics), simile (5 lyrics), and finally the least figure of speech is allusion only one lyric.

The writer interprets the messages of figures of speech in the poems that the most dominant is personification. The author expresses her feeling through the nature; make the nature become alive like human being. All of the data shows that the author always uses the nature as subject or an object to make poems to express her feeling. Personification is the most frequently used in the 12 data Poems by Mary Oliver that the writer analyzed. Personification should follows by similar figures of speech to make the poems perfect, those are allegory, hyperbole, anthropomorphism, symbol, metaphor, allusion, synesthesia, repetition, and antithesis.



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

All praise to Allah, the most gracious, the most merciful, who has given me the great blessing and guidance. So that I can complete this thesis well, although I realize that it is no perfect.

I would like to express my special thanks for Dr. Nur Chamid, M.M. as a principle of STAIN Kediri. My sincere gratitude to Toyyibah, SS., M.Pd and Burhanudin Syaifulloh, M.Ed, who give me advice, suggestion and guidance, thank you very much. I would like also to thank all of my lectures in STAIN Kediri. Thanks for a lot of giving me the knowledge as long as I study in this college.

I have to thank for all of my friends in English Department who have given me advice and support and suggestion. My deepest gratitude to my parent, family, friends, and all whose named cannot be mentioned here who always support me in everything I do.

Finally, researcher hopes the readers could contribute criticism and suggestion to improve this thesis.

Kediri, 27 September 2014

**The Writer**

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