

SYMBOLISM IN ROBERT PENN WARREN'S POEMS

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FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
MAULANA MALIK IBRAHIM STATE ISLAMIC
UNIVERSITY OF
MALANG
2018**

SYMBOLISM IN ROBERT PENN WARREN'S POEMS

THESIS

Presented to
Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang in Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree of SarjanaSastra (S.S)

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UNIVERSITY OF
MALANG
2018**

STATEMENT OF AUTHENTICITY

I declare that this thesis which I write to fulfill the requirement for SarjanaSastra (S.S) entitled Symbolism in Robert Penn Warren's Poems is truly my original work. It does no incorporate any materials previously written or published by another person except those indicated in quotations and bibliography. Hence, I am the only person who is responsible for this thesis if there is any objection or claim from others.

Malang, 30 May 2018



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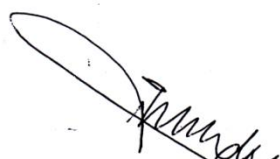
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MOTTO

“Laa Haula Wa La Quwwata Illaa Billaahi Al ‘Aliyyil ‘Adhime”

“There is neither might nor power except with Allah”

Nothing is impossible as long as we work hard and pray to God



DEDICATION

This Thesis is dedicated to:

My beloved father and mother

M. Suyuti and Thohiroh

My younger brothers and sisters

AinulYaqin, M. hasani, WardatulMuhlshoh, and FaiqotulHasanah

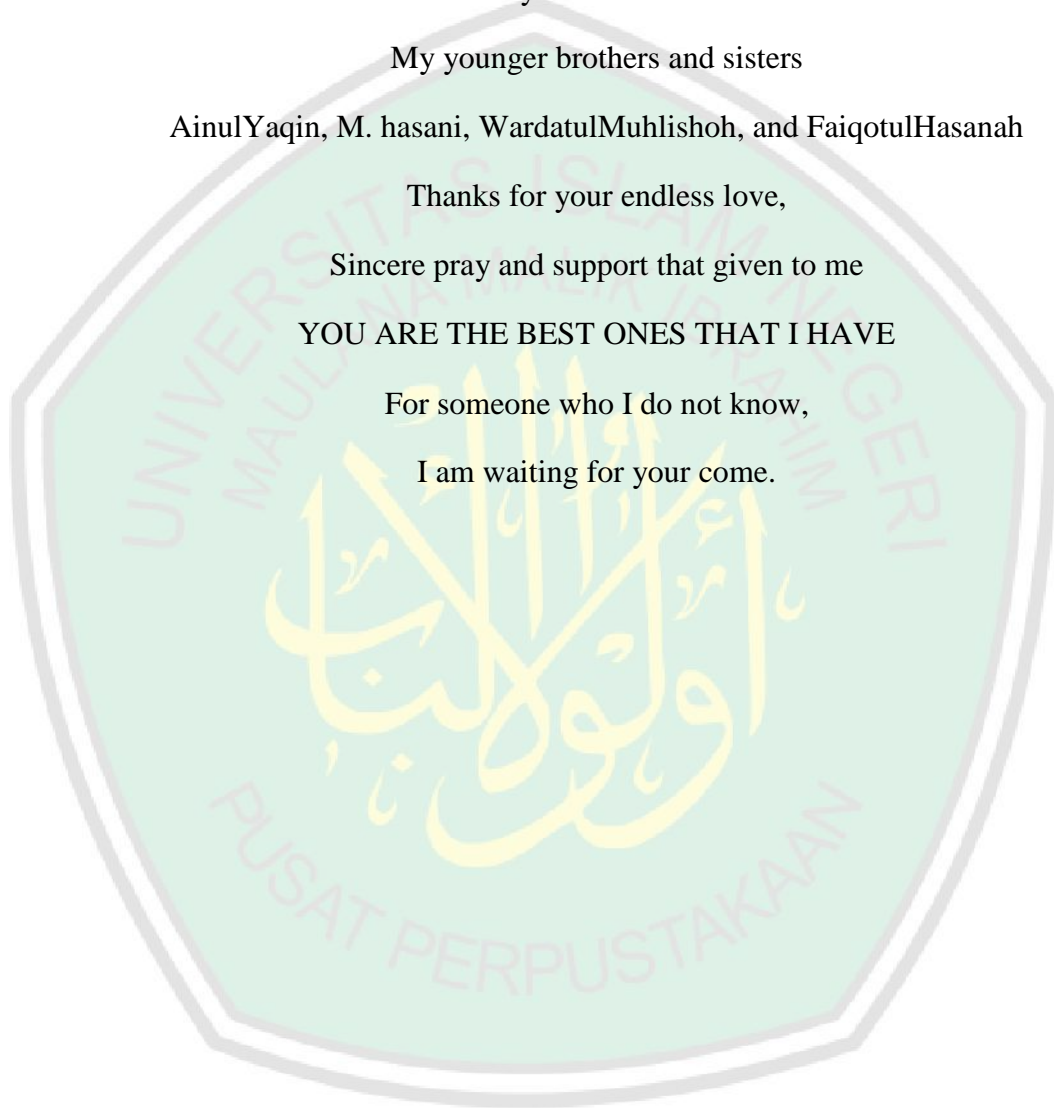
Thanks for your endless love,

Sincere pray and support that given to me

YOU ARE THE BEST ONES THAT I HAVE

For someone who I do not know,

I am waiting for your come.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Praise be to Allah, the most gracious, the most merciful, the God who has given me a power, so I can finish this thesis entitled Symbolism in Robert Penn Warren's Poems. His mercy and peace upon the Prophet Muhammad SAW who has guided us from the darkness to the lightness namely Islam.

Finishing this thesis is not easy for me. I must spent my time and think hardly in order to get the best work. Those does not come without helping from people around me. Through this occasion, I want to express any sincere thank to:

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And the last, I realize that this thesis is still far from perfection. I appreciate for all people who want to give me their comments. Hopefully, this work can give a valuable contribution to the field of literary criticism.

Malang, 30 May 2018

Khoiron

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CURRICULUM VITAE

ABSTRACT

Khoiron.2013. *Symbolism in Robert Penn Warren's Poems*.

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Key Words: Symbolism, Robert Penn Warren's Poems

Symbolism is one aspect in a poem which makes it fantastic, amazing, and beautiful. through symbolism, a poem becomes interesting to be read and imagined. symbolism also shows secret meaning. It will make a question in mind. Without symbolism a poem is less of meaning. Due to the fact, we need a best understanding to know the symbols, categories of symbols and also the symbolic meanings in a poem.

Based on the background, this study aims at describing symbols, categories of symbols and symbolic meanings in Robert Penn Warren's poems. In this case, the researcher uses semiotic approach which is used to analyze symbols in Robert Penn Warren's poems by applying Charles Sanders Pierce's Theory of symbols.

The data which is analyzed is taken in the form of words. Through the analyzing, the researcher found that there are three categories of symbols which are involved in Robert Penn Warren's poems. they are natural, private and conventional symbol. Natural symbols uses nature as symbol, private symbol is based on the poet feeling and thinking. Then conventional symbol is based on society agreement. The last, from those categories of symbols, the symbolic meaning that found is definitely connotative meaning.

The result of the analysis, in this research the researcher finally can prove that there are many symbols in Robert's poems. In "A way to Love God" the words shadow of truth categorized as natural symbol which has belief as the meaning, then pain of conscience (wound), moan (sad), darkness (failure) categorized as private symbol. in "true love" the words dirt road (bad situation), dark (failure), geese hoot (fear) categorized as private symbol, then northward (way), moon(sunny) stars (society) categorized as conventional symbol and sound (present something) as natural symbol. in "evening hawk" the words plane (noisy), the peak's black (dark), shadow (black), darkness (failure) categorized as private symbols, then avalanche (uproar), bat (cruel man), wind (cold), stalk (strong pillar) and hawk (strangeness) categorized as natural symbol while mountain (big) categorized as conventional symbol. in "mortal limit" the words hawk (died), black speck(solitude) gold (beautiful girl) categorized as private symbol, then purity (girl), snow (less of attention) categorized as natural symbol and the last dying (hopeless) and rot (corpse) categorized as conventional symbol.

Based on the finding, the researcher suggests to the reader and the next researcher who wants to make this study as reference. The further reseacher can analyze another poem which is same in the problem of the study. Then the further reseacher must be able to make his research more interesting and complete than this analysis.



ABSTRAK

Khoiron.2018. *Symbolism in Robert Penn Warren's Poems*.

Skripsi, Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Humaniora.

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Kata Kunci : Symbolism, Robert Penn Warren's Poems

Simbol adalah salah satu aspek yang membuat puisi menjadi menakutkan dan indah. Dengan simbol, sebuah puisi bisa menjadi lebih menarik untuk dibaca dan diimajinasikan. Simbol juga bisa menyiratkan makna tersembunyi. Hal itu dapat memancing pikiran kita untuk terus bertanya dan berfikir. Tanpa simbol, sebuah puisi akan menjadi kurang bermakna.

Berdasarkan pada fakta, kita harus memiliki pemahaman yang mendalam untuk mengerti simbol- simbol, kategori simbol dan juga makna dari simbol tersebut. Berdasarkan pada latar belakang, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan simbol, kategori simbol dan makna simbol pada puisi-puisi Robert Penn Warren. Dalam hal ini, peneliti menggunakan pendekatan semiotik dengan mengaplikasikan teori simbol dari Charles Sanders Pierce.

Data yang diambil adalah dalam bentuk kata-kata. Melalui analisa tersebut peneliti menemukan bahwa ada tiga kategori simbol yang tertera pada puisi Robert Penn yaitu natural, privat dan konvensional. Simbol natural menggunakan alam sebagai simbol, simbol privat adalah berdasarkan perasaan dan pemikiran sang sastrawan kemudian simbol konvensional adalah berdasarkan kesepakatan masyarakat. Dari kategori simbol yang ditemukan, makna simbol yang didapat adalah makna definitif dan konotatif.

Hasil dari analisa yang didapat oleh peneliti adalah bahwa peneliti menemukan ada banyak sekali simbol yang ada pada puisi Robert Penn Warren. Pada puisi "A way to Love God" kata "shadow of truth" dikategorikan sebagai simbol natural yang bermakna kepercayaan, sedangkan "then pain of conscience" (luka), moan (sedih), darkness (kegagalan), dikategorikan sebagai simbol privat. Pada puisi " True Love" kata-kata dirt road (situasi yang buruk), dark (kegagalan),

geese hoot (ketakutan) dikategorikan sebagai simbol privat, sedangkan northward (jalan), moon (cerah), stars (masyarakat) dikategorikan sebagai simbol konvensional dan sound (mengisyaratkan sesuatu) dikategorikan sebagai simbol natural. Pada puisi “evening hawk” kata- kata plane (bising), the peak’s black (gelap), shadow (hitam), darkness (kegagalan) dikategorikan sebagai simbol privat, kemudian avalanche (kegaduhan), bat (seseorang yang jahat), wind (dingin), stalk (pilar yang kuat) and hawk (kekuatan) dikategorikan sebagai simbol natural kemudian mountain (besar) dikategorikan sebagai simbol konvensional. Pada puisi “ Mortal Limit” kata-kata hawk (mati), black speck (kesendirian), gold (gadis cantik) dikategorikan sebagai simbol privat, kemudian purity (gadis), snow (kurang perhatian) dikategorikan sebagai simbol natural dan yang terakhir adalah dying (putus asa), rot (mayat) dikategorikan sebagai simbol konvensional.

Bedasarkan pada hasil analisa, peneliti menyarankan pada pembaca dan peneliti selanjutnya yang ingin menggunakan penelitian ini untuk bahan referensi bahwa peneliti selanjutnya dapat menganalisa puisi-puisi lainnya yang mempunyai kesamaan masalah yang ingin diteliti, kemudian peneliti selanjutnya juga harus bisa membuat penelitian ini lebih menarik dan lebih detil daripada penelitian ini.

الملخص

رمزية في قصائد روبرت بين وارن .خيران
أطروحة ، قسم اللغة الإنجليزية وآدابها ، كلية العلوم الإنسانية
الجامعة الإسلامية الوطنية مولانا مالك إبراهيم مالانج
اندروثي :المستشار
كلمات البحث: رمزية ، قصائد روبرت بين وارن

الرموز هي أحد الجوانب التي تجعل الشعر مذهباً وجميلاً. مع الرموز ، يمكن أن تكون قصيدة أكثر إثارة للاهتمام للقراءة والتخيل. يمكن أن تعني الرموز أيضاً المعاني المخفية. يمكن أن يثير عقولنا على الاستمرار في طرح الأسئلة والتفكير. بدون رموز ، ستكون القصيدة أقل معنى

بناءً على الحقائق ، يجب أن يكون لدينا فهم عميق لفهم الرموز وفئات الرموز وأيضاً معنى هذه الرموز. استناداً إلى الخلفية ، تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى وصف الرموز وفئات الرموز والمعاني الرمزية في قصائد روبرت بين وارن. في هذه الحالة ، استخدم الباحث أسلوباً شمولياً من خلال تطبيق نظرية الرموز من

البيانات المأخوذة هي في شكل كلمات. من خلال هذا التحليل وجد الباحثون أن هناك ثلاث فئات من الرموز المدرجة في شعر روبرت بن ، وهي خاصة طبيعية ، وتقليدية. تستخدم الرموز الطبيعية الطبيعة كرمز ، وتستند الرموز الخاصة إلى مشاعر وأفكار الكاتب ، ثم تعتمد الرموز التقليدية على اتفاق المجتمع. من فئة الرموز التي تم العثور عليها ، فإن معنى الرموز التي تم الحصول عليها هو المعنى النهائي و المعنى.

نتائج التحليل التي تم الحصول عليها من قبل الباحثين هي أن الباحثين وجدوا أن هناك العديد من الرموز في قصيدة روبرت بين وارن. في قصيدة "طريقة لحب الله" ، يتم تصنيف كلمة "ظل الحقيقة" على أنها رمز طبيعي يعني الثقة ، في حين يتم تصنيف "ألم الضمير" (الجرح) ، أنين (حزين) ، الظلام (الفشل) ، كرموز خاصة. في قصيدة "الحب الحقيقي" كلمات الطرق الترابية (الحالة السيئة) ، الظلام (الفشل) ، يتم (الخوف) كرموز خاصة ، في حين يتم تصنيف الشمال (الطريق) والقمر (شمس) (hese تصنيف الأوز والنجوم (المجتمع) كرموز يتم تصنيف التقليدية والصوت (تلميح في شيء) والرموز الطبيعية. في قصيدة

"الصقور المسائية" الطائرة (صاخبة) ، يتم تصنيف أسود الذروة (الظل) ، الظل (أسود) ، والظلمة (الفشل) كرمز خاص ، ثم الانهيار (الضوضاء) ، الخفافيش (شخص من الشر) ، والرياح (الباردة) ، يتم تصنيف ساق (عمود قوي) والصقر (قوة) والرموز الطبيعية ثم يتم تصنيف جبل (كبير) كرمز التقليدية. في قصيدة "حدود مميتة" الكلمات الصقور (ميتة) ، بقع سوداء (الوحدة) ، يتم تصنيف الذهب (فتاة جميلة) على أنها رموز خاصة ، ثم يتم تصنيف النقاء (الفتاة) والتلج (عدم الاهتمام) كرموز طبيعية والأخيرة تموت (اليأس) كرمز تقليدي ، يتم تصنيف

استناداً إلى نتائج التحليل ، يقترح الباحث القراء والباحثين اللاحقين الذين يرغبون في استخدام هذا البحث لمواد مرجعية يستطيع الباحث التالي تحليلها قصائد أخرى لها مشكلات مماثلة يجب دراستها ، ثم يجب على الباحث التالي أن يكون قادراً على جعل هذه الدراسة أكثر إثارة للاهتمام وأكثر تفاصيل هذه الدراسة.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Literature is stories, poems and plays (Culler, 1997:20). Base on the definition. Literature can be divided into several forms; they are novel, poetry and drama. In this occasion, the researcher focuses on one form of literature, namely poetry. Poetry is language that makes abundant use of figures of speech and language that aims to be powerfully persuasive (Culler, 1997:70). Like another literature forms, poetry also has 2 elements, intrinsic and extrinsic.

Symbolism is one of the intrinsic element which is so important to be understood. Symbolism is a symbol that has a meaning. In the broadest sense a symbol is anything which signifies something; in this sense all words are symbols (M. H. Abrams, 1971:206). Based on that definition, we can say that symbol is an aspect which exists in our life. We can not release from symbols like poetry which contains language. Symbol can give nice taste and good color for our life notably our ideas and creation such as novel, poem and drama. We can find many symbols that relate to our life such as symbol of love, sadness and happiness. As the example, in our society, true love is symbol of happy. People usually feel peaceful when men live with their wife. Another example of sadness symbol, people wear black clothes when they are attending a burial ceremony.

A poem consists of many symbols. We can find *shadow* as the symbol of secret and obscurity and may another possibility that we can find as symbol in

poem. The symbols used by the writers to express their ideas and feelings. Based on that statement, in this research, the researcher will try to find the symbols in *Robert Penn Warren's Poems* then also try to find the meaning and the categories of those symbols.

The researcher chooses Robert Penn Warren's poems because he was an American poet, literary critic and was one of the founders of New Criticism. He was also a charter member of the Fellowship of Southern Writers. He founded the influential literary journal *The Southern Review* with Cleanth Brooks in 1935. He received the 1947 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry in 1958 and 1979. He is the only person to have won Pulitzer Prizes for poetry¹. So, the researcher has strong curiosity what Robert wrote in his poem.

The other side, the researcher wants the readers can find imaginative characters and moments' portrayal and may feel what the character has experienced as though he involves in it. From this reason, the writer prefers to choose a poem and he is interested in analyzing it.

Understanding the symbolic meaning of poem is very interesting and incredible. Somebody will understand the poem deeply by knowing the symbols in Robert Penn Warren's Poems. It will be useless if someone does not know the symbolic meaning of poems. Someone will always have a question in his brain of what does the poem mean and what does the writer mean or what are the messages that the writer wants to show through the poem if he or she does not understand the symbolic meaning of the poem. It means that the symbolic meaning of poem is very important to be understood.

The researcher is interested in this poem after he reads finish these poems. The researcher feels that he will find many symbols in these poems. Then, the researcher will analyze the poems in this research that are "*True love*", "*A way to love god*", "*Evening Hawk*", "*Tell me a story*", and "*Mortal limit*". The poems which will be analyzed by the researcher tell about aspects in life. The aspects that covered in these poems are about love, affection, suffering, happiness, obstacle and spirit. Those aspects make this research colorful and it also gives interesting thing to the reader. Through these poems, we are not only can enjoy the form of language but also may be able to get solution in our problems. We can know about love by reading "*True Love*" than we can get our spirit and feel how is important way to help us finding love god after reading "*A Way to Love God*".

In addition, these poems are good, full of different language and full of meaning. It will make the reader always enjoy to read. Then, these poems consist of words which are not so difficult to be understood. Beside it has good and nice story. All those things are the reason for choosing these poems.

To conducting this research, the researcher takes three theses of students of Gajayana University as the previous studies. Zaenal Machmud, in his study entitled "*Symbolism and the Messages Found in Robert Frost's Poems*", discussed kinds of symbols and messages in Robert Frost's poems. In this thesis, Zaenal assumed that in Robert Frost's poems which analyzed by him consist of conventional, natural and private symbols, and then those poems also have deep messages that are beneficial for our life.

Other previous studies are the thesis of Retno Handayani on the title, "*Symbols used in William Blake's Poems*" and the thesis of Budiono which

has title “*An Analysis on the Symbolism of Hawthorne’s the Scarlet Letter: Semiotic Approach*”. From both studies, the researcher has similarity in the theory which is used, whereas different in the object which is researched by the researcher. Next, the contribution that the researcher gets from both researches are symbols that found by both researchers have different in meaning, between the symbolic meaning in the poem and the symbolic meaning in real life. It means that most symbols have connotative meaning and it depends on the writer, that’s why they assumed that some symbols are dominant symbols.

The researcher takes previous studies that explain symbols in poem. So the researcher feels interesting to analyze symbols in poem. Due to the considerations above, it is necessary for the researcher to do literary criticism on “Robert Penn Warren's Poems”.

1.2 Statements of the Problems

Based on the background of the study, the problems of this study are stated below:

1. What categories of symbols are found in Robert Penn Warren's Poems?
2. What symbolic meanings are found in Robert Penn Warren's Poems?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Related to the problems of the study, the objectives of this study are formulated as follow:

1. To find categories of symbols in Robert Penn Warren's Poems
2. To find symbolic meanings in Robert Penn Warren's Poem

1.4 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of the study is only researching the intrinsic element. This study focuses on semiotic approach, especially symbolism in Robert Penn Warren's Poems. In this study, the researcher will research about symbol, categories of symbols and symbolic meanings found in Robert Penn Warren's Poems. In addition, the poems that will be analyzed by the researcher are "*True love*", "*A way to love god*", "*Tell me a story*", "*Mortal limit*" and "*Evening Hawk*". The limitation of this study is the researcher does not research the Robert Penn Warren's Poems which has similarity in theme. It makes difficulty in analysis process because the symbols that will be found is a poem and is not in novel.

1.5 Significance of the Study

Related to the result of this study, the researcher expects that his research can give both theoretical and practical contribution on the area of literature.

Theoretically, the result of this study finds that symbols in poem are different with symbols in real society. In poem, the meanings of symbols depend on the author and the reader. Sometimes the meaning of the symbols that appears between the author and the reader are different. The reader can interpret the meaning of the poem different with the meaning that the writer means. In contrast, the meanings of symbols in real society must be the same between one person to another person, that is why symbols in society usually have conventional meaning, meaning which has agreement from the people around that place. So, a symbol in poem may have multiple interpretations. In contrast, a symbol in reality has one

interpretation which is conventioned by the society. Through the result of this study, the researcher expects that his research can enrich theoretical knowledge based on literary studies especially in symbolism theory.

Practically, the research gives result that there are symbols in poem which are full of meaning. The meaning of those symbols implement about the reality. There are many lessons that we can take from it. In addition, this study is expected to give experience and available knowledge for the researcher.

1.6 Research Method

Here, the researcher explains about the research methodology which are used to analyze this poem, they are research design, data source, data collection and the last is data analysis.

1.6.1 Research Design

In this research, the researcher uses literary criticism. Criticism is an academic activity which should be viewed as the expression of the researcher's point of view of what is happening in the poem of Robert Penn Warren. In this case, the researcher attempts to conduct a discussion on literature including the analysis, the description. As well as the interpretation of a literary work by paying special attention to the concept of symbolism. The researcher, in this study, applies Charles S. Pierce's theory of symbolism. The writer uses symbolism as a device of literary criticism, since Robert Penn Warren's poems consist of many symbols which are really interesting to explore. The researcher also describes, symbolic meaning and categories of symbols in Robert Penn Warren's poems. In

describing symbolic meaning and categories of symbols, the researcher uses semiotic structuralism approach. Semiotic approach is the approach which is based on understanding the meaning of literary work through the sign (fananie,2000:139). Then, the researcher will analyze the data based on the literary criticism and the semiotic structuralism approach. the researcher classifies the data based on the definition and the categories of symbols. The researcher knows and understands that words are symbols. Then the researcher will classify that symbol into some categories.

1.6.2 Data Sources

The data sources in this research are from Robert Penn Warren's poems. The researcher analyzes those poems which are taken from the source "From New and Selected Poems 1923-1985 by Robert Penn Warren , published by random house Copyright 1985 by Robert Penn Warren used by permission of William Morris agency, inc., on behalf of the author ". That consist of poems from Robert Penn Warren's poems which analyzed by researcher are " *A Way to Love God* ". " *True Love* ", " *Tell Me a Story* ", " *Evening Hawk* ", and " *mortal limit* ". The researcher classifies the data based on the definition and the categories of symbols. The researcher knows and understands that words are symbols. Then the researcher will classify that symbol into some categories.

1.6.3 Data Collection

The data collection is taken from words, phrase, sentences and expression in Robert Penn Warren's Poem. The researcher does some activities to get the

data. First, the researcher reads carefully and understands deeply this poem. Second, he selects the data which are related with the problems of the study. Third, the researcher makes record the data by classifying the symbols and describing the meaning of those symbols. Finally, the researcher makes conclusion of the study.

1.6.4 data analysis

After getting the data from Robert PennWarren's Poems, the researcher will analyze the data by doing several steps. First, the researcher paraphrase the poems, then notices that several words consist of symbol and then translates them. The researcher learn to let them relate on their own terms, hadrons to hadrons, paints surface to paint surface and the researcher begins to make progress (dillard, 1983:168).

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

Definition of key terms is necessary for researcher. It will help fully to make understanding and easy in research that related on this study. So the researcher gives definition of key terms.

Semiotic is one of approaches in literary criticism which focus on the meaning of literary work through the sign (Fananie, 2000:139).

Meaning is signification of the words, the interpretation of sentences, or what a speaker is intending to convey in acts of communication (Kempson, 1977:12).

Sign is something which represent something else and it is in the form of experience, though, feeling, idea etc (Nurgiantoro, 1998:40).

Symbol is anything which signifies something (Abrams, 1971:206).

Symbolic is images or incidents that the poem themselves have crumbled under the weight (Landy, 1979:57).

Symbolism is using of symbols to represent things, especially in art and literature (Budiono, 1998:10).

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter discusses some theories which are related to the study of symbolism. Those theories are about semiotics literary criticism, symbolism, and categories of symbols which consist of natural, private and conventional symbols. This chapter also explains about meaning which is divided into 2 kinds of meaning, denotative and connotative meaning.

2.1 Semiotics Literary Criticism

The term “semiotic” was coined at the close of the nineteenth century by the American philosopher Charles Sanders Pierce to describe a new field of study. Semiotics is the study of sign process (semiosis), or signification and communication, signs, and symbols, both individually and grouped into sign system. Semiotics or semiology (semiotic studies) includes the study of the meaning of something is instructed and understood. Next, literary semiotics, like semiotics in general, come in both formalist and cultural editions(to oversimplify somewhat) (Hawthorn, 1994:182 and 184).

Semiotics comes from greek’s word, “semion” which has meaning sign. Semiotics is literature research model which focus on sign (Endraswara, 2003:64). Semiotics relates with literature because while we study about language, we can not see separated with the signs and the media of literature. So, in literature there are sign and we can study the signs through semiotics.

“According to Pierce, a sign is something which stands to somebody for something in some respect or capacities, A sign thus stands for something (its object); it stands for something to somebody (its interpretant); and finally it stands for something to somebody in some respect (this respect is called its ground) (Hawkes, 1932;126-127).

Pierce uses three relations to differentiate the relationship between sign and reference. The first is **icon**, similarity relationship, as the example: photo, map etc. The second is **index** which shows about the relation which has near existence. As the example is sad and happy face. The third is **symbol** which shows the conventional relationship, as the example: white and green color (Nurgiyantoro, 1998:41 and 42). In addition, the icon, is something which functions as sign by means of features of itself which resemble its object: the index, is something which functions as sign by virtue of some sort of factual or causal connection with its object: and the symbol, something which functions as sign because of some rule of conventional or habitual associations between itself and its object. (Hawkes, 1932:127-128)

In Piercian terminology, sign consists of three categories; icon, index and symbol

In the icon, the relationship between sign and object manifests a similarity or fitness of resemblance proposed by the sign, to be acknowledged by its receiver. For instance, a diagram or a painting has an iconic relationship to its subject as it resembles it. In the index, the relationship between sign and object is concrete, actual and causal kind. For instance, a knock on the door is an index of someone's presence, the sound of a car's horn is a sign of the car's presence in the same mode, smoke is an index of fire, a weathercock is an index of the direction and signified is arbitrary. The utterance of the word “tree” is a

symbol of the tree itself: its relationship to an actual tree remains fundamentally arbitrary or sustained only by the structure of the language in which it occurs, and which is understood by its interpretant, and not by reference to any area of experience beyond that (hawkes,1932:128-129).

Based on Pierce's classification of sign above, it can be explained in a simple definition. First, **icon** is a sign whose signifier bears a close resemblance to the thing or object they refer to. Take for instance, a photograph of someone is highly iconic since it really looks like him or her. Another example is such onomatopoeic words as whisper, crush, splash, cling, cock-a-doodle-doo, meow, etc. By simple definition, an icon looks like its signified. In fact, there is no real connection between an object and an icon of it other than its likeness (Budiman, 1999:49)

Second, **index** is a sign whose signifier is associated with a particular signified. In other words, an index has a causal or sequential relationship to its signified. Indeed, an icon invents something visible that indicate something invisible. We may not see a fire, but we can see its smoke which indicates that a fire is burning. In similar, sadness cannot be seen physically, but we can perceive it and, thus, see the tears indicate it. Footprints on the ground, for instance, are an index that someone has passed it through. As a matter of fact, the connection between an index and its signified is logic and inseparable (Budiman,1999:50-51)

Finally, **symbol** is defined as a sign that has no natural relationship between the signifier and the signified and their meanings. In other words, a symbol is formed arbitrarily by cultural conventional. Based on

Pierce's terminology, a symbol can also be called as words, names, or even labels. For instance, the word "stick"; these five letters are not in the least like a stick, nor is the sound with which they are associated (Budiman, 1999: 108-109).

Next, semiotics approach is developing from structural approach. In structural approach, symbol is based on the beauty of language, in contrast, semiotic approach is based on understanding the meaning of literary work through the sign. That statement is based on the fact that language is a sign system and sign is combination between two aspects which cannot be separated, those are significant and signifier. Significant is formal aspect or sign voice and signifier is conceptual or meaning aspect (Fananie, 2000:139).

2.2 Symbol

Symbol is something that is gotten in our life example: language is sign to communicate with other people. We use symbol to represent something and it can make something beautiful.

Pierce defines symbol as:

A sign which refers to the object that it denotes by virtue of a law, is usually an association of general ideas, which operates to cause the symbol to be interpreted as a referring to that object (Aminuddin, 1995: 182).

A symbol is anything which represents something else in a completely arbitrary relationship. This principle of arbitrariness means that there is no natural relationship between the signifier and the signified. In other words, their relationship much depends on the observer, or more precisely, what the observer thinks about. For example, there is no exact reason why a rose could be called a

rose. It is only because we, in our language group, agree that it is called a rose. Its sequence of sound refers to the flower in the real world. In addition, Kenney in his book, *How to Analyze a Fiction*, describes:

A symbol is basically a kind of image, differing from other images in the use to which it is put (1966: 66).

The use of symbol is an attempt to evoke those many human experiences and areas that ordinary language cannot deal with. Indeed, by using the symbol, the level of meaning will be added in it as well as some concrete and objective reality. Furthermore, symbols are ideas, and whenever we use one, we are only pointing to the idea behind that symbol. It can include all words, sentences, books, and other conventional signs which exactly work in the same way in relation to the concept they serve. Additionally, a symbol has an important function in our real life that it enables us to reveal all sorts of things of ideas, feelings, and thoughts, which are not in the form of physical objects. We interpret symbols according to a rule or a habitual connection (Pierce, 1931, as cited in Chandler, 2002).

Symbol is sign which has meaning relationship with the arbiters. To signify, it is appropriate conventional society. Next, ordinarily, a symbol does not directly reveal what it stands for; the meaning must be deduced from a close reading of the poem and an understanding of conventional literary and cultural symbols (Roche, 1988:20).

A symbol, then, is an image so loaded with the significance that it is not simply literal, and it does not simply stand for something else; it is both itself and something else that it richly suggests, a kind of manifestation of something

too complex or too elusive to be otherwise revealed (Barnet, Berman and Burto, 1993:471).

An addition explanation is about the characteristic of symbol. One of the characteristics of a symbol: that it will be read somewhat differently by different people; that, even when the main thrust of the symbol is clear and agreed – upon, the emphasis given one aspect over another will vary from reader to reader. Where an allegory is precise, a symbol is suggestive. Its purpose is rather to set our minds in motion than to be too rigid about their destinations. In this, it fits well with much twentieth – century thought about poetry, and has become a favorite device with many a modern poet (Landy, 1979: 57).

For the poet, the danger with the symbol – as with any other poetic device – lies in its overuse; for the reader, it lies in a tendency to see symbols where they do not exist. Many would – be poets have so overloaded their poems with “symbolic” images or incidents that the poems themselves have crumbled under the weight; and many critics have indulged themselves (Landy, 1979: 57).

Based on explanation above, we can say that symbol is sign which has meaning, represent something else and every people will have different interpretation or different meaning while they read a symbol.

2.3 Categories of Symbols

Based on the definition that symbol in literature is the sign which the author creates to make a meaning based on the author’s expression. So, generally symbols classified into three, they are natural, private and conventional symbol.

2.3.1 Natural Symbol

Barnet, Berman and Burto (1993:470-471), natural symbols, recognized as standing for something in particular even by people from different cultures. Natural symbol usually uses the word that related to the nature. As the example is a forest often stands for some sort of mental darkness or chaos, a mountain for stability a valley for a place of security and so on. In addition, natural symbol also has meaning as words which express about natural reality symbols as the life projector. That symbol can be as animal life, water, air, forest, phenomena and so on (Fananie, 2000: 100-101).

2.3.2 Private Symbol

According to Abrams (1971:206), Private or personal symbol is exploiting widely shared associations between an object or event or action and a particular concept. Another definition of private symbol is word which express about symbol which specifically made and used by the poets to express their unique or their style in writing poem (Fananie, 2000: 101).

The meaning of private symbol is based on the author, that is why, it is very difficult to the reader to catch the meaning of the symbol.

2.3.3 Conventional Symbol

Conventional or public symbol is term that refers to symbolic objects of which the further significance is determinate within a particular culture (Abrams, 1971:206). Then Barnet, Berman and Burto (1993:471) say that

conventional symbols which people have agreed to accept as standing for something other than them. People agreement makes the meaning of conventional symbol is common and it makes the reader is not difficult to catch the meaning of conventional symbol. Conventional symbol also mentioned as blank symbol. Blank symbol is word which expresses about symbols which have universal meaning, so the readers are not so difficult to interpret the meaning of it (Fananie, 2000: 100).

2.4 Meaning

Meaning is the signification of words, the interpretation of sentence or what a speaker is intending to convey in acts of communication (Kempson, 1977:12). In communication, meaning is a very important aspect. The communication becomes successful if the person who communicates with us understands what we mean. Literature is communication media for the author to the reader. Through literary work, the author makes communication with the reader. So, the meaning is very important to get message from the author. Without knowing the meaning of the literary work, the reader does not know what the author means. In literature, we usually find kinds of meaning, there are denotative and connotative meaning.

2.4.1 Denotative Meaning

According to Kenney (1966:60), a word denotation is simply its dictionary meaning. Then Hadi (2004:85) says that denotative meaning is referential meaning. In addition, denotative meaning is the essential meaning of the

word (Reaske,1966:31). Next, denotative meaning also has meaning as the real word, this is often the kind of the definition that is given in dictionary (Ahmadin, ---:20). From the definition above, we can say that denotative meaning is the real meaning which we can find in the dictionary.

2.4.2 Connotative Meaning

Connotative meaning is symbolic meaning (Hadi, 2004:85). Then according to Kenney (1966:60), connotations are the suggestions and associations aroused by it. Next, according to Reaske (1966:31), connotative meaning is the suggested or possible meaning of a word. According to Ahmadin (----, 20), connotations arise as words become related with certain characteristic of items to which they refer, or the association of positive or negative feelings to which they evoke, which may or may not be indicated in a dictionary definition. After the explanation above, we can know that connotative meaning is the meaning which can not be found in dictionary and it is based on positive or negative feelings.

2.5 Previous Studies

In this study, the researcher takes three kinds of previous study. The first is “Symbolism In Robert Frost’s Poems” which is conducted by Eka Yuli Prastyarini, the student of UIN MALIKI Malang. In his research, Eka focused on Symbolism In Robert Frost’s Poems. In Eka’s analysis, she thinks that in Robert Frost’s poems which are analyzed by her, consist of three categories of symbols; they are conventional, natural and private symbols. In addition, Robert Frost’s poems which are analyzed by Eka also have symbols that relate to the reality.

Those contributions can help the researcher to conduct his research. Robert Frost's poems which are analyzed by the researcher probably also consist of three categories of symbols. In another side, Eka's research explains about many things which related to her thesis, such as about definition of symbol, semiotic and also explains about categories of symbols. All those explanations become reference for the researcher in conducting his research.

As the previous study, Eka's thesis has different such as the object. The researcher uses Robert Penn Warren's Poems but the theory that used is same.

In contrast, Robert Penn Warren's Poems which analyzed in this research are different with Eka's object which analyzed Robert Frost's poems. In addition, some aspects that are explained in this research are same as some aspects that are explained by Eka but the explanation in this research is improvement from Eka's explanation, so the explanation in this research broader than the explanation in Eka's research.

The second is the research about "Symbolism used in William Blake's Poems" which is conducted by Retno Handayani from Gajayana University. Her research is focused on symbols in William Blake's poems. Through her thesis, Retno explains about symbols and symbolic meaning in William Blake's poems. In contrast, the researcher's thesis is focused on symbols in Robert Penn Warren's Poems. In his thesis, the researcher does not only explain about symbols and symbolic meanings but she also explains about categories of symbols in Robert Penn Warren's Poems. From the statement above, it is clearly that both researchers have difference in objects which analyzed and also in problems of the study which is conducted.

Beside the difference, between both researchers also have similarity in conducting their thesis. Both of them use symbolism as the theory. They also have similarity in analyzing symbolic meaning. Based on symbolic meaning, Retno's says in her thesis that Blake uses connotative meaning and some of connotations are purely personal. In another hand, the symbolic meanings in William Blake's poems have different meaning with the meaning in reality. Symbols in William Blake's poems signify other words that indicate sign. Through Retno's statement above, the researcher gets contribution which helps his research. Some aspects which written by Retno also written by the researcher, as the example, Retno and the researcher write about symbol and kinds of meaning. In contrast, the researcher's explanation is broader than Retno's explanation.

In addition, Retno's thesis also gives contribution in the form of idea. Based on Retno's statement about connotative meaning, the researcher conducts this thesis which has purpose as the following research. Through his thesis, the researcher wants to strengthen Retno's thesis about connotative meaning. The researcher wants to give evident about words which become symbols always has connotative meaning. Is the statement true or not? The answer will be conducted by the researcher.

The last is "An Analysis on the Symbolism of Hawthorne's the Scarlet Letter: Semiotic Approach" which is conducted by Budiono, the student of Gajayana University. He analyzed about symbolism, the symbolic meanings of the main character and also symbolic meanings of the events and natural phenomenon in the novel *The Scarlet Letter*.

In his research, Budiono shows that Nathalie Hawthorne's uses symbols mostly as dominant symbol. Hawthorne uses symbols in her novel *The Scarlet Letter* depends on her self. In addition, the researcher also shows that a word may be interpreted not only as a symbol but also interpreted as double symbols. As the example, in Budiono's thesis, he conducts Hester Prynne as symbol of subservience or dedication, in another hand, Hester also as symbol of powerful adherent of the Quaker. The explanations above are the contributions which are gotten by the researcher from Budiono's thesis. Next, those contributions open the researcher's assumption. The researcher thinks may be in Robert Penn Warren's Poems also consist of dominant symbols and also a word which has interpretation as double symbols.

Next, as the similarity, Budiono's thesis and the researcher's thesis are same in the theory which is used, that is symbolism. In contrast, both researchers have difference in object which is analyzed. Budiono analyzes a novel, *The Scarlet Letter*, and then the researcher analyzes poems, Robert Penn Warren's Poems. Both researchers also have difference in problems of the study. In Budiono's thesis, we do not find categories of symbols but in the researcher's thesis, we will find categories of symbols.

Due to some researches above, the researcher conducts this research, focusing on symbolism that can be found in Robert Penn Warren's Poems.

CHAPTER III

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In this chapter, the researcher would like to answer the problems of the study which have been stated in chapter I by presenting the data and analyzing the data. the reseacher tries to analyze robert penn warren's poem s by presenting the symbols, categories of symbols, sybolic menaing and kinds of meaning. In analyzing these poems, the reseacrhер does some steps, those are pharaphrase the poem, analyze categories of symbols, symbolic meaning and kinds of meaning.

3.1 “AWay to Love God”

Here is the shadow of truth, for only the shadow is true.
And the line where the incoming swell from the sunset Pacific
First leans and staggers to break will tell all you need to know
About submarine geography, and your father's death rattle
Provides all biographical data required for the *Who's Who* of the dead.

I cannot recall what I started to tell you, but at least
I can say how night-long I have lain under the stars and
Heard mountains moan in their sleep. By daylight,
They remember nothing, and go about their lawful occasions
Of not going anywhere except in slow disintegration. At night
They remember, however, that there is something they cannot remember.
So moan. Theirs is the perfected pain of conscience that
Of forgetting the crime, and I hope you have not suffered it. I have.

I do not recall what had burdened my tongue, but urge you
To think on the slug's white belly, how sick-slick and soft,
On the hairiness of stars, silver, silver, while the silence
Blows like wind by, and on the sea's virgin bosom unveiled
To give suck to the wavering serpent of the moon; and,
In the distance, in *plaza*, *piazza*, *place*, *platz*, and square,
Boot heels, like history being born, on cobbles bang.

Everything seems an echo of something else.

And when, by the hair, the headsman held up the head
Of Mary of Scots, the lips kept on moving,
But without sound. The lips,
They were trying to say something very important.

But I had forgotten to mention an upland
Of wind-tortured stone white in darkness, and tall, but when
No wind, mist gathers, and once on the Sarré at midnight,
I watched the sheep huddling. Their eyes
Stared into nothingness. In that mist-diffused light their eyes
Were stupid and round like the eyes of fat fish in muddy water,
Or of a scholar who has lost faith in his calling.

Their jaws did not move. Shreds
Of dry grass, gray in the gray mist-light, hung
From the side of a jaw, unmoving.

You would think that nothing would ever again happen.

That may be a way to love God.

From *New and Selected Poems 1923-1985* by Robert Penn Warren, published by Random House. Copyright © 1985 by Robert Penn Warren. Used by permission of William Morris Agency, Inc., on behalf of the author.

3.1.1 Categories of Symbols in “A Way to Love God”

This poem tells about love. Love to God is very difficult, how people can find a way to love god. People just believe that god is exist. They just predict God like shadow and it is true. Shadow is like nature which gives known to the people by what they must know. It is kind of beliefs and how to remember the God, it is not easy because people seldom know the god. they even did not know how to love the God. People will looked revolution of world. They hear the stars and mountains moan in their sleep. But in day, they do not remember anything except in the night. However they will forget with moan.

In this poem, there are three categories of symbol those are natural, private and conventional symbol. The words which are included to natural symbol are *shadow of truth*, then the words *moan*, *darkness* and *pain of conscience* are private

symbol. The last category is conventional symbol and the words which are included to that category are the word *crime*, *submarine* and *death rattle*.

As the reason, why *shadow of truth* is natural symbol and the other words are private and conventional symbol? *shadow of truth* is mentioned as natural symbol because it is part of nature. We can find it and recognized as standing for something in particular even by people from different culture.

Next is about private symbol. The words which included to private symbol are *moan*, *darkness* and *pain of conscience*. The reason for those words are included to private symbol because their meaning are based on the poet. Robert Penn Warren uses the words for representing his feeling which related to the content of the poem '*A Way to Love God*'. He may use the same word in his other poems but it will have different meaning because private symbol will produce different meaning if it is in different poem or poet. That explanation also happens in the word *darkness* and *pain of conscience*.

In addition, the words *death rattle*, *submarine* and *crime* are mentioned as conventional symbol because people have agreed to accept those words as standing for something other than them. Those words have meaning which common and some people have understood about it. As the example, people have understood that crime symbolized fear. It is because people have agreed that the characteristics of crime can show up the fear, that is why crime symbolized fear.

3.1.2 Symbolic meanings in “A Way to Love God”

The next discussion is about the symbolic meanings in a poem a way to love god. In this poem the researcher finds that the first symbols is shadow of truth. It has symbolic meaning as belief. The reason is because the situation in

shadow of truth shows about belief to the god, love, and happy. There are many people that sometimes forget about god, they do not aware about something around them. They must remember the god and love him. It is belief. In other hands there are many things which symbolize to remember god. This condition makes belief situation.

The second symbols is pain of conscience. It symbolized wound. If people do something to someone and he does not remember again about something that they did to him, it will become wound in their hearts. Beside that, wound will be felt by someone if the world begins to forget him. It shown by stars and mountains moan in their sleep. By daylight, they remember nothing. But when the night comes , they remember that there is something they cannot remmber. That is moan.

The third symbols is moan. It symbolized sad. When people hear moan, they usually want to sad and bewail something. People who are happy will become sad if they hear moan. With moan, people can feel sadness.someone who has power to do anything will be weak if there is moan. People will not be strong and somethimes they will sad from moan. Those are the reasons of sad as symbolic meaning of moan.

Darkness symbolizes failure. Everyone cannot do anything if he is in darkness. In darkness, someone cries becuse he feels scare. That is why somebody hates darkness. Those condittions are same as failure. People are scare with failure. They do not want to get failure. They hate failure.if people get failure, they usually cry and finally people do suicide.

In addition, this is a poem which is about love. Love to god is very difficult how people can find a way to love god. People just believe that god is. They just predict god like shadow and it is true. Shadow is like nature which gives known to the people by what they must know. They want to love god although they do not really know how the way to love God is.

Next, people will look revolution of the world, they hear the stars and mountains moan in their sleep. but in day, they do not remember anything except in the night. They are near with forgetting to love god. In contrast, that condition does not make to love god. He always tries to find a way to love god and finally he get is.

3.2“True Love”

In silence the heart raves. It utters words
Meaningless, that never had
A meaning. I was ten, skinny, red-headed,

Freckled. In a big black Buick,
Driven by a big grown boy, with a necktie, she sat
In front of the drugstore, sipping something

Through a straw. There is nothing like
Beauty. It stops your heart. It
Thickens your blood. It stops your breath. It

Makes you feel dirty. You need a hot bath.
I leaned against a telephone pole, and watched.
I thought I would die if she saw me.

How could I exist in the same world with that brightness?
Two years later she smiled at me. She
Named my name. I thought I would wake up dead.

Her grown brothers walked with the bent-knee
Swagger of horsemen. They were slick-faced.
Told jokes in the barbershop. Did no work.

Their father was what is called a drunkard.
 Whatever he was he stayed on the third floor
 Of the big white farmhouse under the maples for twenty-five years.

He never came down. They brought everything up to him.
 I did not know what a mortgage was.
 His wife was a good, Christian woman, and prayed.

When the daughter got married, the old man came down wearing
 An old tail coat, the pleated shirt yellowing.
 The sons propped him. I saw the wedding. There were

Engraved invitations, it was so fashionable. I thought
 I would cry. I lay in bed that night
 And wondered if she would cry when something was done to her.

The mortgage was foreclosed. That last word was whispered.
 She never came back. The family
 Sort of drifted off. Nobody wears shiny boots like that now.

But I know she is beautiful forever, and lives
 In a beautiful house, far away.
 She called my name once. I didn't even know she knew it.

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3.2.1 Categories of Symbols in “True Love”

In this poem, we will find someone who has love to the girl. He knows her from far away. He is interested in because she has different physic with him. He has limited. He is ten, skinny, red-headed. But the girl is slick-faced and beautiful. He really loves her, he feels there is nothing like beauty as like her. It stops his heart. It thickens the blood, stop the breath and it makes fell dirty. You need a hot bath. Then, next two years, the girls call his name. He feels happy, but the girl must get marriage with another man and he looks it. He asks himself, will he cry if something happens to her? after her wedding, she does not come back again to her family. He does not meet her, he still remembers about her beauty and her

calling his name. He imagines that the girl is beautiful forever and she lives in a beautiful house.

There are five symbols that found in this poem those are heart raves, beauty, brightness, dirty, slick-faced. Those words are labeled as symbol because all those words stand for something else, they also have meaning which is not in general, in contrast they have meaning which depends on the text and it can not be found in dictionary. In here, the researcher just finds two categories of symbol, they are private and natural symbol. The words which labeled as private symbol are the words heart raves, beauty and brightness, it because the meaning of those words are based o the poet, that is Robert penn warren. The reader or another poet cannot give the exact menaing of those words, they just can assume the meaning based on the text.

In addition, those words will have different meaning if it is used by other poets and in other poems. That is why the meaning of those words is not always one meaning but it will have meanings based on the text and the poet.

Next is about natural symbols. The words which are included to natural symbol are dirty and slick-faces. The reason for those words as natural symbol because they recognized as standing for something in particular even by people from different cultures. Those words are related to the nature. Besides that, those words also are located in nature and we can find those words in nature.

3.2.2 Symbolic meanings in “True Love ”

In this discussion, the researcher finds that some words have similar symbolic meaning. It is because the characteristics of those words are almost same. As the example, the words beauty, brightness, and slick-faced have similar

symbolic meaning and the symbolic meaning of those words are beautiful. those words have beautiful as symbolic meaning because the characters of those words show about a beauty. Beauty is precious. Generally precious is pure.

Both beauty and brightness have similar characteristics, both of them show about a beauty. Brightness is shiny and white. Brightness will be still shiny and white although there is no girl meaning in beauty. Based on the explanation above, it is appropriate for the researcher to mention beauty and brightness as the symbol of beauty and white.

In addition, slick-faced is also symbol of beauty, the reason is because slick-faced are color. The girls that have slick-faced are beautiful girls. The girls usually use her beauty to make the boys are interested. They use it as weapon to conquer the boys. Based on the characteristics of slick –faced, the researcher writes slick-faced as the symbol of beauty.

The next symbols is heart raves. It symbolizes love. Heart raves will come when someone looked a beautiful girl. It will grow over in his heart. If love is in heart, it can make your heart stop. It thickens your blood, it stops your breath, and it makes you feel dirty. It is the reason why heart raves symbolizes love.

The last is dirty word. It symbolizes disappointed. Dirty is like feces that all people do not like it. It is abominated by them. Even they do not want to see it. In the poem, dirty means disappointed because in love of course there is a wound that is love can not be get and lost.

Next discussion is about kind of meaning. All symbols in the poem “True Love” have meaning as connotative meaning. The reason is because the meaning of those symbols are not usual meaning. It is not dictionary meaning. It is just

meaning which suggested by the researcher bade on the content of the poem. The meaning of those words is just possible meaning. Another people may have different meanings about those symbols, in contrast those meanings must be appropriate with the content of the poem.

In addition, this poem tells about someone who was less of attention. He was usual man, same as another man. In contrast he thought that he is falling in love, a man that could love the girl by himself. someday, there was a girl who makes him interested. She was a girl who is beautiful. Someone was falling in love. He was very happy because the girl called his name. He always remembered that. But he knew that the girl must marriage with other man. He realized about it. He did not cry because he is satisfied by himself. The girl ever accosted him by calling his name. It was nough for him, true love was not always talked to the girl. It was enough for having inside in heart.

3.3 “Tell Me A Story”

Long ago, in Kentucky, I, a boy, stood
By a dirt road, in first dark, and heard
The great geese hoot northward.

I could not see them, there being no moon
And the stars sparse. I heard them.

I did not know what was happening in my heart.

It was the season before the elderberry blooms,
Therefore they were going north.

The sound was passing northward.

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3.3.1 Categories of Symbols in “Tell Me AStory”

“Tell Me AStory” is a poem which tells about restless that is experienced. In this poem, we can find the unenjoyable situation. I, a boy, stood by a dirt road, in first dark, and heard the great geese hoot northward, those show scary and full of restless. The bad situation is more complete by no moon and start sparse. The situation makes the heart is worry.

Here, the researcher finds seven symbols, they are *dirt road*, *dark*, *geese hoot*, *northward*, *moon*, *start* and *sound*. All those words become symbol because those words stand for something else and signify something specific. Those words signify something which different with usual word, word which is in the dictionary. That is why those words have meaning which can not be found in dictionary.

Based on the categories of symbols, in this poem the researcher finds three categories of symbols, they are private, conventional and natural symbol.

The symbols that include to private symbols are *dirt road*, *dark*, and *geese hoot*. those words include to private symbol because those words are exploitig widely shared associations between an object and a particular concept. The choosing of those words as the symbol is based on the poet. We can not find those words in other poems or perhaps we can find those words in other poems but it will have different meaning because the meaning of those words is based on the poet. That is why the meaning of private symbols is difficult to be found rather than the meaning of natural and conventional symbol.

Beside private symbol, in that poem also there is conventional symbol. the words which include to conventioanl symbol are *northward*, *moon*, and *start*.

Those words include to conventional symbol because people have agreed to accept those words as standing for something other than them. The agreement from people or society makes the meaning of those words is common and it is not so difficult for the reader to find the meaning of those words. As the example, the word *northward*, from that word, people have agreed that northward symbolizes direction because in northward, people know the location, they will not get lost and they also choose the right direction.

The last category of symbol is natural symbol. The word which include to natural symbol is *sound*. Sound becomes natural symbol because it recognized as standing for something in particular even by people from different cultures. Sound is related to the nature. We can find sound in nature especially in the morning when the geese out of sound, sound can not be separated from the geese, geese is the part of nature, it means sound also is a part of nature.

3.3.2 Symbolic meanings in “Tell Me A Story ”

In this poem every symbol has different symbolic meaning. The words tell me a story symbolized restless. According to the researcher , the characteristics of tell me a story is same as restless. Tell me a story is people that are feel restless and confused what happen to them. They do not know what is feeling in heart. Based on the explanation above, the appropriate meaning for the words tell me a story in this poem is restless.

The words dirt road symbolize bad situation. From those words, we can know that although the condition is not clear because dirt that close the road. It makes the road bad and unclear. In another part, from the next sentence, we can suggest that dirt road exactly symbolize bad situation, that is from line 1,2, and 3

*Long ago, in kentucky, i, a by, stood
By a dirt road, in first dark, and heard
The great geese hoot northward*

From that sentences, we can know that I, a boy stood by a dirt road and heard geese hoot. People usually stand in dirt road and listen the geese hoot in bad situation and of course in unhappy condition. Baed on the explantion before, it is appropriate for the reseracher suggests dirt road as symbol of bad situation.

Dark symbolizes failure. People can not do anything if the situation is dark. In dark condition, some people cry because they feel scare. That is why many people hate darkness. Those conditions are same as failure.

Many poele are scare with failure. They do not want to get failure. They heart failure. Poeple get failure, they usually cry and get panic. After that they can not think clearly then they can not do anything and finally people do suicide.

From the explanation before, we can know that dark and failure have similarity in the characteristics, so it is appropriate if dark symbolizes failure.

Next is the words geese hoot. Those symbolizes fear. People usually feel fear when they hear geese hoot in the night. That condition shows about restless and fear. Those are the reason of the researcher as his suggestion for the symbolic meaning of the word geese hoot.

The word northward in this poem symbolizes a way. It is because the northward is direction that can not see by eyes. Related to the poem, northwars means a way and direction. We can call norhward is a way.

Another symbol is the word moon. The symbolize meaning of moon is sunny. From the sentence:

"I could not see them, there being n moon"

We can know that the character in the poem wants to be a moon in order to be able to look something. But the character can not see anything because of no moon, based on those reasons, the researcher suggest sunny as the symbolic meaning of moon.

The next symbol is stars. It symbolizes of society. Stars always appears together with other stars. Stars never appear individually. they are so many and make the sky are full of color. It is same as society. There are many people in the society and the society always make the environment are full and crowded.

The last symbol is sound. Sound symbolizes present something because sound usually exist in the place that is happening. when the situation is still silent, sounds can make us blank and shock if it comes suddenly, in this poem, the poet tell about something that makes unhappy. It is imposible for poet who feel happy. From the statement above, it is clear that sound symbolizes bad condition.

All symbols in the poem "tell me astrory" have connottive meaning. The reason is because those symbols have meaning which can not be found in dictionary. those meanings are possible meaning. the reseracher suggest the meaning of those symbols based on the content of the poem. So although just possible meaning, but the reseacrher has tried to makes those meanings can be accepted and of course those meaning are coherence with the content of the poem.

In addition, this poem tells about restless that is experinced. In here, we can find the unenjoyable suituation, i, a boy, stood by a dirt road, in first dark, and hear the great geese hoot northward, this show scary and full of restless. Someone who walks in th e night and not see anything but just listen the geese hoot,. He

feels restless in his heart. Those situation are more complete by no mon and strats
sparse. Those make the heart is worry.

3.4 “EVENING HAWK”

From plane of light to plane, wings dipping through
Geometries and orchids that the sunset builds,
Out of the peak’s black angularity of shadow, riding
The last tumultuous avalanche of
Light above pines and the guttural gorge,
The hawk comes.

His wing
Scythes down another day, his motion
Is that of the honed steel-edge, we hear
The crashless fall of stalks of Time.

The head of each stalk is heavy with the gold of our error.

Look! Look! he is climbing the last light
Who knows neither Time nor error, and under
Whose eye, unforgiving, the world, unforgiven, swings
Into shadow.

Long now,
The last thrush is still, the last bat
Now cruises in his sharp hieroglyphics. His wisdom
Is ancient, too, and immense. The star
Is steady, like Plato, over the mountain.

If there were no wind we might, we think, hear
The earth grind on its axis, or history
Drip in darkness like a leaking pipe in the cellar.

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3.4.1 Categories of Symbols in “EVENING HAWK”

The poem “Evening Hawk” tells about a disarray situation and an uproar condition. The condition of the place was uncomfortable and uproar. Hawk comes when plane, wings dipping through geometries and orchids that the sunset builds.

The peak's black angularity of shadow rides and breaks avalanche, and the light on pines and the guttural gorge. That condition was same in the past.

In addition, in that condition, the hawk was very hair-raising. His wings down another day and his motion is the honed steel-edge. People hear the crash less fall of stalks of time. Their mistake made the head of each stalk is heavy.

That condition made people is afraid. The hawk is climbing the last light. He does not know the time. His eyes are like unforgiving the world by swings into shadow. All of condition is in the past.

Now the condition is not like in the past. It is more stabil. The last bat now cruises in his sharp hieroglyphics. His wisdom is ancient and immense. The star is steady, like plato is on the mountain. The condition happened in their surrounding and it made them scare, if there is not wind people might think, hear the earth grind on its axis, or history drip in darkness like a leaking pipe in the cellar. They felt scare with their own evening hawk.

Analyzing the poem "Evening Hawk", the researcher finds ten symbols, they are *hawk*, *plane*, *the peak's black*, *shadow*, *avalanche*, *bat*, *mountain*, *wind*, *stalk* and *darkness*.

Those words are mentioned as symbols because those words stand for something else which has different meaning with the first meaning, that is the meaning which can be found in the dictionary.

After getting many symbols in that poem, next the researcher classifies those symbols into several categories. The first is private symbols. The words which include to private symbols are *plane*, *the peak's black*, *shadow* and *darkness*. Those words include to private symbol because there are no people who

agreed to accept those words as standing for something other than them. The meaning of those words above are based on the poet, those words will have different meaning if it is used by other poets.

The second is natural symbol. The words which include to natural symbol are *hawk*, *avalanche*, *bat*, *wind*, and *stalk*. Those words are mentioned as natural symbol because those words show the nature, it can be an event like night or it can be something which exist and related to the nature like wind and avalanche. If we find those words in other poems, it will have same meaning because those words recognize as standing for something in particular even by people from different cultures. For example, *wind*, people will understand that wind is noisy, cold and it shows about disarray.

The third is conventional symbol, that is *mountain*, the word included to conventional symbol because people have agreed to accept the word as standing for something other than them. the agreement from people or society makes the meaning of the word is common and it is not so difficult for the reader to find the meaning of the word. As the example the word mountain, from that word, people have agreed that mountain symbolizes big something because in mountain, people know the big one.

3.4.2 Symbolic meanings in “Evening Hawk”

In this poem, evening hawk is the condition which is uproar. There, hawk comes when plane, wings dipping through geometries and orchids that the sunset builds. The peak’s black angularity of shadow rides and breaks avalanche, and the light on pines and the guttural gorge. There are not sign that shows silent. The situation shows fear, people feel afraid when they look the hawk which brings the

shadow. The hawk was very hair-raising, his wings down another day and his motion is the honed steel-edge. People hear the crash less fall of stalks of time. Their mistake made the head of each stalk is heavy. The situation show about disarray that is no enjoyable and happy.

Hawk is a symbol that shows strangeness. People do not know what will happen after the hawk come. It is look like a calamity that will break a place. The situation will be panic. It is the reason why hawk symbolize strangeness.

The word plane symbolizes of noisy. Plane is something that fly and its make a noisy situation, if there is a plane, the situation is silent at the first then will be uproar and bad sound. No good situation even silent in noisy condition.

Another symbol is the peak's black, it symbolizes of dark. The peak's black is silent, dark and scary. When it looked, there is no voice that we can speak. There is no people at the peak's black because people usually climb the peak in the morning, that is why the peak's black symbolizes of dark.

Shadow symbolizes black and dark. Shadow usually does not appear. It is look like clear but not really clear. Shadow makes people scary and shock or even kills them. It is why the word shadow in the poem symbolizes dark.

The word avalanche symbolizes uproar. The avalanche is noisy, disarray and scary. In the avalanche, there is snow that is freezing and become ice. That condition makes the avalanche uproar and scary. In addition, there is no people who live in a avalanche. People usually live in city or village. The condition makes the word avalanche in the poem symbolizes uproar.

Next is about the word bat. It symbolizes cruel man. Man and bat are human, they have similar existence, those are as god creation. In contrast, the

position of them are different. The position of a man is higher than bat, otherwise a man has similar position as bat when man become cruel. Based on the explanation before, we can know that the word bat symbolizes cruel man.

The word mountain symbolizes of a big. Mountains always appear big by standing alone. Mountain seldom appears together. It shows individually and will be looked big on the field. It is same as arrogant people. There are people in the world who feel strong and big. They live alone that there are no other people who want to live with them because they make restless.

Another symbol is wind, it symbolizes cold. Wind will come by sound. It will make people feel cold and noisy. Wind also can break the house and makes uproar anywhere. It makes people not happy, they feel unsafe in their home. In addition, wind can give a disease even kill people. It is the reason why wind symbolizes cold.

Next is stalk. It is symbol of a strong pillar. In the real condition, stalks is part of tree which is strong and always support the part of tree as like flowers and leaves. Based on that statement, we can give meaning stalk as strong pillar. In this poem, the word stalk is the thing which is held by the character when the character leaned the head because in this poem does not discuss about a tree, so a stalk is something strong which can be used by someone who feel leaning, a stalk here can be a strong pillar.

The last symbol is darkness, it symbolizes failure. People cannot do anything if the situation is dark. In dark condition, some people cry because they feel scare. That is why many people hate darkness. Those condition are same as failure. Many people are scare with failure, they do not want to get failure. If

people get failure, they usually cry and get panic, then they cannot think clearly and cannot do anything then finally do suicide. From the explanation above we can know that dark and failure have similarity in the characteristic, so it is appropriate if dark symbolizes failure.

All symbols that have been found by the researcher in this poem have connotative meaning. Those because all of symbols in this poem are suggested. We cannot find those meaning in dictionary. All meaning above are suggestion meaning from the researcher based on the context of the poem.

In addition, this poem is about people who felt uproar. They live in noisy situation. In their surrounding was no silent and quit, they did not have good situation and peaceful. They did not know that their disarray will be less or more. In contrast, they felt their disarray will be more because no situation that can be lived by them because the situation is not friendly. The bad situation will not felt people in good condition. all that condition made they felt scare with their disarray. It was very sad if people must live in disarray forever.

3.5 “Mortal Limit”

I saw the hawk ride updraft in the sunset over Wyoming.
It rose from coniferous darkness, past gray jags
Of mercilessness, past whiteness, into the gloaming
Of dream-spectral light above the lazy purity of snow-snags.

There—west—were the Tetons. Snow-peaks would soon be
In dark profile to break constellations. Beyond what height
Hangs now the black speck? Beyond what range will gold eyes see
New ranges rise to mark a last scrawl of light?

Or, having tasted that atmosphere's thinness, does it
Hang motionless in dying vision before
It knows it will accept the mortal limit,
And swing into the great circular downwardness that will restore

The breath of earth? Of rock? Of rot? Of other such
Items, and the darkness of whatever dream we clutch?

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3.5.1 Categories of Symbols in “Mortal Limit”

In this poem, we can find someone who looked a hawk into far place. In this journey, he was in leaning condition. Then, when he saw a hawk, he was restless with life in world. He explained like the hawk ride updraft in the sunset over Wyoming *it rose from coniferous darkness, past gray jags of mercilessness, past whiteness, into the gloaming* *Of dream-spectral light above the lazy purity of snow-snags*. It shows that he is really worried. He tried to ask about west and snow would soon be in dark profile to break constellation. *Beyond what height Hangs now the black speck? Beyond what range will gold eyes see New ranges rise to mark a last scrawl of light?*. He was not quit. He thought that the mortal limit will be less after the atmosphere was broken. He also thought that the world was not friend with people. All people would be died and they would be limited that live in the world. The earth, rock, and rot can not help them.

After reading “Mortal Limit” and analyzing words and sentences in that poem, the researcher finds eight symbols. There are *hawk, purity, snow, black speck, gold, dying, rot* and *restore*. First symbol is the word *hawk*, it becomes symbol because that word stands for something else, the word hawk is actually not a hawk in general it is not a bird, why is it not as a bird? the reason is because there are no words or evident that show out anything related to the bird. There is no a flying word. In the poem, hawk is explained by rising from coniferous

darkness, past gray jagss of mercilessness, past whiteness,into the gloaming, it is not really a bird that can do like that.

As the symbol, hawk includes to private symbol, it is because the word hawk does not include to the nature and there are no people who agreed to accept hawk as standing for something other than them. The meaning of the word hawk is based on the poet. That is Robert PennWarren, the word hawk may be only used by Robert Penn Warren and it is not used by other poet.

The symbolic meaning of hawk is dead. The researcher interprets dead as the meaning of the word hawk from the word dying, restore and also from the sentences in line 9 until 12 in third stanza;

*Or, having tasted that atmosphere's thinness, does it
Hang motionless in dying vision before
It knows it will accept the mortal limit,
And swing into the great circular downwardness that will restore*

From those sentences, we can know that there is someone who has not died and that died is about corpse is buried into the great circular downwardness. Next, about restore here is not restore in general but restore which is same with died. We can know that restore here is died. It shows from line 12 in third stanza. In line 12 second stanza, the word “restore” it means that restore here has other meaning, that is died.

3.5.2 Symbolic meanings in “Mortal Limit”

In this poem, the word hawk has connotative meaning because the meaning of hawk here cannot find in the dictionary. If we look for the meaning of the word hawk in the dictionary, we cannot find hawk as died but hawk here will be as a bird.

The second symbol is purity. Purity becomes a symbol because purity here signifies something. Purity here is not purity in general. It is not purity in nature but it is something else or it can be a person who has a beauty and also good looking likes purity. Purity is a part of the nature and it is god creation. Based on the statement before, we can assume that the word purity which is in the poem “mortal limit” is natural symbol.

In addition, the word purity here has symbolic meaning as a girl. Purity symbolizes a beauty, and as a beauty of course there is a good place. Next, as the characteristics of a good place, in general, a good place is beautiful, attractive, good looking etc. those characteristics are same as the characteristic of purity, those are beautiful, good looking, full color, fragrant. Based on the explanation above, it is enough for proving that purity is symbolic meaning from a good place.

After knowing about symbolic meaning of the word purity, now we will discuss about kind of meaning of purity. Purity in this poem has connotative meaning, it is because the meaning of the word purity here cannot find in dictionary but we just can suggest the meaning based on the content.

Next is the word snow, it is natural symbol. Snow symbolizes of less attention. Snow is cold and it makes dark situation. If there is snow, the sun does not give warmth and the light of sun is not bright and it makes dark situation. No warmth and cold in loneliness condition shows that it is less of attention.

Another symbol is black speck as private symbol. It symbolizes of solitude. Night is silent, dark and scary. When night comes, there is no voice that we can hear. There are no people at night because people usually sleep at night, that is why night symbolizes of solitude.

The next of private symbol is the word gold, it symbolizes beautiful girl. According to the researcher, the characteristic of gold is same as beautiful girl. Gold is soft, expensive, comfortable and many people want and interested in it. It is good looking. Beautiful girl is also good looking. She has good mark and the important one is many people interested in her and also want to be near with her. Based on the explanation above, the appropriate meaning for the word gold in this poem is beautiful girl.

Dying symbolizes hopeless. it makes someone fear and scary if it happens to him. Dying comes suddenly without inviting. Dying also makes someone dark and cold. He cannot see the world and feels it again. He feels that he does not do anything. Those are very miserable. It is the reason why dying is symbolizes by hopeless and it is a conventional symbol.

The word rot symbolizes corpse, rot is something that is bad smell. It is in bad place or garbage. Rot is scent that is in field. It is shown in the last stanza in line 14:

*The breath of earth? Of rock? Of rot? Of other such
Items, and the darkness of whatever dream we clutch?*

From those sentences above, we can know that rot means bad smell and of course that has bad smell in corpse. Corpse is got in the field and it is dark which makes dream in clutch losses. Rot is conventional symbol that every people know about the meaning of rot that it is a corpse.

As the last, the words rot has connotative meaning because in this poem, the poet does not use the meaning of a rot based on the dictionary but it based on

the content of the poem. If we give dictionary meaning for the word rot in this poem, it will be disconnected with the content of the poem.

In addition, this poem tells about someone who looked a hawk. He was in leaning condition. When he saw a hawk, he was restless with life in the world. He was really worried. He tried to ask about west and snow would soon be in dark profile to break constellation. Beyond what height hangs now the black speck? Beyond what range will gold eyes see. New ranges rise to mark a last scrawl of light? He was not quit. He thought that the mortal will no less after the atmosphere was broken. He also thought that the world was not friendly with people. All people would be died and they would be limited that live in the world. Actually, he was afraid that dead would come and take him.

In bad condition, he still remembered dead although it was unclear. He still asked about the breath of earth? Of rock? Of rot? Of other such items, and the darkness of whatever dream we clutch? Although he did not know when the dead would come.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter consists of conclusion and suggestion. The conclusion is about symbols used in Robert Penn Warren's poems. Then the suggestion is about the expectation about his thesis.

4.1 Conclusion

Based on the discussion in chapter IV, the researcher has two conclusions. The first conclusion shows that symbols are in the form of noun. It can be any sort thing, person and animal. In a poem "*A Way to Love God*" we can find the words *shadow of truth*, *pain of conscience*, *moan* and *darkness* which categorized into natural and private symbol and also all of them have connotative meaning. In a poem "*tell me a story*" we can find the words *beauty*, *brightness*, *slick-faced*, *heart raves*, and *dirty* which categorized into natural and private symbol and also of them have connotative meaning. Then in a poem "*true love*" we can find the words *dirt road*, *dark*, *geese hoot northward*, *moan*, *stars*, and *sound* which categorized into private, conventional and natural symbol and also they have connotative meaning. The next in a poem "*Evening Hawk*" we can find the words *plane*, *the peak's black*, *shadow*, *avalanche*, *bat*, *mountain*, *wind*, *stalk*, *darkness* and *hawk* which they categorized into natural and private symbol. And the last is a poem "*mortal limit*" which there found the words *hawk*, *purity*, *snow*, *black speck*, *gold*, *dying* and *rot* which categorized into natural, private and conventional symbol and also they have connotative meaning.

In addition, as the result of the analysis, Robert Penn warren is very great poet. His poems are full of symbol. We can know that Robert Penn warren often uses private symbol in his poem. It means that he uses symbols as dominant symbol. He uses symbol based on his feeling and interpretation. It makes Robert's poem are really difficult to be understood. It is difficult for us to catch the meaning on those symbols but in his poems are very interesting to be read and analyzed. All symbols which were found by the researcher in these poems show about connotative meaning.

4.2 Suggestion

Through this thesis, the researcher expects that this study will be useful for further researcher who wants to conduct the same research, especially in analyzing the author's work which uses symbolism.

Next, the researcher realizes that his thesis may be far from being perfect. He expects that someone will give good comment to make his research becomes better. If someone wants to discuss about symbols, he must understand first about the definition of symbols and the theory that used. The word which categorized as symbol must be suitable with symbol's definition.

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APPENDIXES

A. “A Way to Love God”

Here is the shadow of truth, for only the shadow is true.
 And the line where the incoming swell from the sunset Pacific
 First leans and staggers to break will tell all you need to know
 About submarine geography, and your father's death rattle
 Provides all biographical data required for the *Who's Who* of the dead.

I cannot recall what I started to tell you, but at least
 I can say how night-long I have lain under the stars and
 Heard mountains moan in their sleep. By daylight,
 They remember nothing, and go about their lawful occasions
 Of not going anywhere except in slow disintegration. At night
 They remember, however, that there is something they cannot remember.
 So moan. Theirs is the perfected pain of conscience that
 Of forgetting the crime, and I hope you have not suffered it. I have.

I do not recall what had burdened my tongue, but urge you
 To think on the slug's white belly, how sick-slick and soft,
 On the hairiness of stars, silver, silver, while the silence
 Blows like wind by, and on the sea's virgin bosom unveiled
 To give suck to the wavering serpent of the moon; and,
 In the distance, in *plaza, piazza, place, platz*, and square,
 Boot heels, like history being born, on cobbles bang.

Everything seems an echo of something else.

And when, by the hair, the headsman held up the head
 Of Mary of Scots, the lips kept on moving,
 But without sound. The lips,
 They were trying to say something very important.

But I had forgotten to mention an upland
 Of wind-tortured stone white in darkness, and tall, but when
 No wind, mist gathers, and once on the Sarré at midnight,
 I watched the sheep huddling. Their eyes
 Stared into nothingness. In that mist-diffused light their eyes
 Were stupid and round like the eyes of fat fish in muddy water,
 Or of a scholar who has lost faith in his calling.

Their jaws did not move. Shreds
 Of dry grass, gray in the gray mist-light, hung
 From the side of a jaw, unmoving.

You would think that nothing would ever again happen.

That may be a way to love God.

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The summary of analyzing symbols, categories of symbols, symbolic meanings and kind of meaning.

symbols	Categories of symbols	Symbolic meanings	Kinds of meaning
Shadow of truth	Natural symbol	Belief	Connotative meaning
Pain of conscience	Private symbol	Wound	Connotative meaning
Moan	Private symbol	Sad	Connotative meaning
darkness	Private symbol	Failure	Connotative meaning
crime	Conventional symbol	Fear	Connotative meaning
submarine	Conventional symbol		Connotative meaning
Death rattle	Conventional symbol		Connotative meaning

B. “True Love”

In silence the heart raves. It utters words
Meaningless, that never had
A meaning. I was ten, skinny, red-headed,

Freckled. In a big black Buick,
Driven by a big grown boy, with a necktie, she sat
In front of the drugstore, sipping something

Through a straw. There is nothing like
Beauty. It stops your heart. It
Thickens your blood. It stops your breath. It

Makes you feel dirty. You need a hot bath.
I leaned against a telephone pole, and watched.
I thought I would die if she saw me.

How could I exist in the same world with that brightness?
Two years later she smiled at me. She
Named my name. I thought I would wake up dead.

Her grown brothers walked with the bent-knee
Swagger of horsemen. They were slick-faced.
Told jokes in the barbershop. Did no work.

Their father was what is called a drunkard.
Whatever he was he stayed on the third floor
Of the big white farmhouse under the maples for twenty-five years.

He never came down. They brought everything up to him.
I did not know what a mortgage was.
His wife was a good, Christian woman, and prayed.

When the daughter got married, the old man came down wearing
An old tail coat, the pleated shirt yellowing.
The sons propped him. I saw the wedding. There were

Engraved invitations, it was so fashionable. I thought
I would cry. I lay in bed that night
And wondered if she would cry when something was done to her.

The mortgage was foreclosed. That last word was whispered.
She never came back. The family
Sort of drifted off. Nobody wears shiny boots like that now.

But I know she is beautiful forever, and lives
In a beautiful house, far away.
She called my name once. I didn't even know she knew it.

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symbols	Categories of symbols	Symbolic meanings	Kind of meaning
Beauty	Private symbol	Beautiful	Connotative meaning
Brightness	Private symbol	White	Connotative meaning
Slick-faced	Natural symbol	Beautiful	Connotative meaning
Heart raves	Private symbol	Love	Connotative meaning
dirty	Natural symbol	disappointed	Connotative meaning

C. “Tell Me A Story”

Long ago, in Kentucky, I, a boy, stood
By a dirt road, in first dark, and heard
The great geese hoot northward.

I could not see them, there being no moon
And the stars sparse. I heard them.

I did not know what was happening in my heart.

It was the season before the elderberry blooms,
Therefore they were going north.

The sound was passing northward.

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Symbols	Categories of symbols	Symbolic meanings	Kinds of meaning
Dirt road	Private symbol	Bad situation	Connotative meaning
Dark	Private symbol	Failure	Connotative meaning
Geese hoot	Private symbol	Fear	Connotative meaning
Northward	Conventional symbol	way	Connotative meaning
Moon	Conventional symbol	Sunny	Connotative meaning
Stars	Conventional symbol	Society	Connotative meaning
Sound	Natural symbol	Present something	Connotative meaning

D. “EVENING HAWK”

From plane of light to plane, wings dipping through
Geometries and orchids that the sunset builds,
Out of the peak’s black angularity of shadow, riding
The last tumultuous avalanche of
Light above pines and the guttural gorge,

The hawk comes.
 His wing
 Scythes down another day, his motion
 Is that of the honed steel-edge, we hear
 The crashless fall of stalks of Time.

The head of each stalk is heavy with the gold of our error.

Look! Look! he is climbing the last light
 Who knows neither Time nor error, and under
 Whose eye, unforgiving, the world, unforgiven, swings
 Into shadow.

Long now,
 The last thrush is still, the last bat
 Now cruises in his sharp hieroglyphics. His wisdom
 Is ancient, too, and immense. The star
 Is steady, like Plato, over the mountain.

If there were no wind we might, we think, hear
 The earth grind on its axis, or history
 Drip in darkness like a leaking pipe in the cellar.

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Symbols	Categories of symbols	Symbolic meaning	Kind of meaning
Plane	Private symbol	Noisy	Connotative meaning
The peak's black	Private symbol	Dark	Connotative meaning
Shadow	Private symbol	Black and dark	Connotative meaning
Darkness	Private symbol	Failure	Connotative meaning
Avalanche	Natural symbol	Uproar	Connotative meaning
Bat	Natural symbol	Cruel man	Connotative meaning
Wind	Natural symbol	Cold	Connotative meaning
Stalk	Natural symbol	Strong pillar	Connotative meaning

Hawk	Natural symbol	Strangeness	Connotative meaning
Mountain	Conventional symbol	Big	Connotative meaning

E. “Mortal Limit”

I saw the hawk ride updraft in the sunset over Wyoming.
 It rose from coniferous darkness, past gray jags
 Of mercilessness, past whiteness, into the gloaming
 Of dream-spectral light above the lazy purity of snow-snags.

There—west—were the Tetons. Snow-peaks would soon be
 In dark profile to break constellations. Beyond what height
 Hangs now the black speck? Beyond what range will gold eyes see
 New ranges rise to mark a last scrawl of light?

Or, having tasted that atmosphere’s thinness, does it
 Hang motionless in dying vision before
 It knows it will accept the mortal limit,
 And swing into the great circular downwardness that will restore

The breath of earth? Of rock? Of rot? Of other such
 Items, and the darkness of whatever dream we clutch?

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Symbols	Categories of symbol	Symbolic meaning	Kinds of meaning
Hawk	Private symbol	Died	Connotative meaning
Purity	Natural symbol	Girl	Connotative meaning
Snow	Natural symbol	Less of attention	Connotative meaning
Black speck	Private symbol	Solitude	Connotative meaning
Gold	Private symbol	Beautiful girl	Connotative meaning
Dying	Conventional symbol	Hopeless	Connotative meaning
Rot	Conventional symbol	Corpse	Connotative meaning

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