

**THESIS**  
**SYMBOLISM IN ROBERT FROST'S POEMS**

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**ENGLISH LETTERS AND LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT**  
**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND CULTURE**  
**THE STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF MALANG**  
**2008**

**THESIS**  
**SYMBOLISM IN ROBERT FROST'S POEMS**

**Presented to**  
**State Islamic University of Malang**  
**In Partial fulfillment of the requirements**  
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**2008**

**APPROVAL SHEET**

This is to certify that Eka Yuli Prastyarini's thesis entitled **Symbolism in Robert Frost's Poems** has been approved by the advisor for further approved by the board of examiner as the requirements for the degree of *Sarjana Sastra* (S. S) in the English Letters and Language Department.

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*MOTTO*

وَعَلَّمَ آدَمَ الْأَسْمَاءَ كُلَّهَا ثُمَّ عَرَضَهُمْ عَلَى  
 الْمَلَائِكَةِ فَقَالَ أَنْبِئُونِي بِأَسْمَاءِ هَؤُلَاءِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ  
 صَادِقِينَ

**”And He taught Adam all the names, then presented them to the angels; then He said: Tell me the names of those if you are right (Q. S Al Baqarah 31)”.**

## DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to:

*My beloved father and mother  
SUNARJO and CHUSWATI*

**My younger brothers  
Kurnia Dwi Risky and Alhimny Ilman Ahmadi Robby**

Thanks for your endless love,  
sincere pray and support given to me

**YOU ARE THE BEST ONES THAT I HAVE**

*For someone who I don't know,  
I am waiting for your coming.*

**All people who love and help me when I'm weak**

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Finally, 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, June 23, 2008

Eka Yuli Prastyarini



## ABSTRACT

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Symbolism is one aspect in a poem which makes it beautiful and colorful. Through symbolism, a poem becomes interesting to be read. Without symbolism a poem is less of meaning. Due to the fact, we need a good 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 Frost's poems.

To describe symbols, symbolic meaning and categories of symbols in Robert Frost's poems, the researcher uses semiotic approach. Semiotic 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 (Fananie, 2000: 139).

This research is conducted using a descriptive qualitative method because the researcher would analyze and interpret the symbolism in Robert Frost's poems. The data which analyzed is taking in the form of words rather than number. Through the analyzing, the researcher found that there are three categories of symbols which are involved in Robert Frost's poems. They are natural, private and conventional symbol. Natural symbol uses nature as symbol, private symbol is based on the poet feeling and thinking. Then conventional symbol is based on society agreement. Next, the dominant symbols that are used by Robert Frost is private symbol. The last, from those categories of symbols, the symbolic meaning that found is absolutely connotative meaning.

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

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>TITLE PAGE</b> .....	<b>i</b>
<b>APPROVAL SHEET</b> .....	<b>ii</b>
<b>LEGITIMATION SHEET</b> .....	<b>iii</b>
<b>MOTTO</b> .....	<b>iv</b>
<b>DEDICATION</b> .....	<b>v</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b> .....	<b>vi</b>
<b>ABSTRACT</b> .....	<b>viii</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b> .....	<b>ix</b>
 <b>CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION</b>	
1.1 Background of the Study .....	1
1.2 Problems of the Study .....	5
1.3 Objectives of the Study .....	5
1.4 Scope and Limitation of the Study.....	6
1.5 Significance of the Study .....	6
1.6 Definition of Key Terms .....	7
 <b>CHAPTER II: REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE</b>	
2.1 Literature .....	9
2.2 Poetry .....	10
2.3 Semiotics Literary Criticism.....	11
2.4 Symbol .....	14
2.5 Categories of Symbols .....	16
2.5.1 Natural Symbol .....	16
2.5.2 Private Symbol.....	17
2.5.3 Conventional Symbol .....	17
2.6 Meaning.....	18
2.6.1 Denotative Meaning .....	18
2.6.2 Connotative Meaning .....	19
2.7 Previous Studies.....	19

### **CHAPTER III: RESEARCH METHOD**

3.1 Research Design .....	24
3.2 Data Sources .....	25
3.3 Data Collection .....	25
3.4 Data Analysis.....	25

### **CHAPTER IV: DISCUSSION**

4.1 “The Telephone” .....	27
4.1.1 The Paraphrase of the Poem “The Telephone” .....	28
4.1.2 Analyzing Symbols, Categories of Symbols, Symbolic Meaning and Kinds of Meaning in Poem “The Telephone” .....	29
4.1.3 The Meaning of the Poem “The Telephone” Based on Symbolic Meaning .....	32
4.2 “Desert Places” .....	33
4.2.1 The Paraphrase of the Poem “Desert Places” .....	34
4.2.2 Analyzing Symbols, Categories of Symbols, Symbolic Meaning and Kinds of Meaning in Poem “Desert Places” .....	34
4.2.3 The Meaning of the Poem “Desert Places” Based on Symbolic Meaning .....	37
4.3 “The Silken Tent” .....	38
4.3.1 The Paraphrase of the Poem “The Silken Tent” .....	38
4.3.2 Analyzing Symbols, Categories of Symbols, Symbolic Meaning and Kinds of Meaning in Poem “The Silken Tent” .....	39
4.3.3 The Meaning of the Poem “The Silken Tent” Based on Symbolic Meaning .....	43
4.4 “Com In” .....	44
4.4.1 The Paraphrase of the Poem “Come In” .....	44
4.4.2 Analyzing Symbols, Categories of Symbols, Symbolic Meaning and Kinds of Meaning in Poem “Come In” .....	45
4.4.3 The Meaning of the Poem “Come In” Based on Symbolic Meaning .....	50

4.5 “The Most of It” .....	50
4.5.1 The Paraphrase of the Poem “The Most of It” .....	51
4.5.2 Analyzing Symbols, Categories of Symbols, Symbolic Meaning and Kinds of Meaning in Poem “The Most of It” .....	52
4.5.3 The Meaning of the Poem “The Most of It” Based on Symbolic Meaning .....	58

## **CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION**

5.1 Conclusion.....	59
5.2 Suggestion .....	60

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

## **APPENDIX**

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

Discussing literature is very interesting. Much new information and knowledge can be gotten from literature. Knowledge about someone's life story; about war etc are the examples. Literature also can change someone's life even the world. Through literature, people can be changed by touching their sensitivity. It is common phenomenon while someone is sad, angry and happy because influence of literature. The readers of novel and poem can be so sad or happy when they read the novel and poem then the audiences of drama performance can be so sad when they enjoy it.

According to Abrams (1971:3) literature is the inspiration of the life that is legalized in the written language and carries the sense of humanity. It is an artificial word of the author; therefore literature can be called as the artificial of its creator. Through literature, we can express our feelings and ideas in the form of beautiful language. We can write our sadness and happiness which we feel in the form of literature. In conclusion, literature is a part of our life and can not be separated with our life.

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. Intrinsic elements discuss about theme, character, setting, rhythm etc. In other hand, the discussions of extrinsic elements are sociological, political, cultural background etc. Next, the researcher will focus the discussion on one of intrinsic elements that is symbolism.

Symbolism consists of symbols. 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. Symbol can give nice taste and good color for our life especially our creation such as poem, novel and etc. We can find many symbols that relate to our life such as symbol of love, sadness and happiness. As the example, in our society, black color is symbol of sadness. People usually wear black clothes when they are attending a burial ceremony. Another example, people must stop their car when the traffic light is red.

A poem consists of many symbols. We can find flower as the symbol of women and may another possibility that we can find as symbol in poem. The symbols that are used by the poets are to express their ideas and feelings. Based on that statement, in this research, the researcher will try to find the symbols in Robert Frost's poems then also try to find the meaning and the categories of those symbols.

Understanding the symbolic meaning of poem is very amazing. Someone will understand the poem deeply by understanding the symbols in that poem. It will be nothing if someone does not know the symbolic meaning of poem. Someone can not catch what does the poem mean and what does the poet mean or what are the messages that the poet wants to show through the poem if she or he does not understand the symbolic meaning of the poem. It means that the symbolic meaning of poem is very important to be understood.

Robert Frost's poems which will be analyzed by the researcher are the famous poems of Robert Frost which are very beautiful and full of meaning. The researcher is interested in those poems after she read those poems whereas just at glance. The researcher feels that she will find many symbols in those poems. Next, the poems which will be analyzed in this research are "The Telephone", "Desert Places", "The Silken Tent", "Come In" and "The Most of It".

The poems which will be analyzed by the researcher tell about aspects in life. The aspects that covered in those poems are about love, loneliness, happiness, obstacle and spirit. Those aspects make this research colorful and it also gives interesting thing to the reader. It may be able to give big contribution to the reader. Through those 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 "The Telephone" than we can get our spirit and feel how is important the person near with us after reading "The Most of It".

In addition, those poems are not too long. So it can not make the reader lazy to read. Then, those poems consist of words which are not so difficult to be understood. All those things are the reason for choosing those 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 fact, this research is same as the researcher’s thesis; in contrast the researcher analyzes different poems with Zaenal Machmud. Zaenal Machmud analyzed Robert Frost’s poems which have titles, “The Road Not Taken”, “The Over Bird”, “Fire and Ice”, “Stopping by Wood on A Snowy Evening”, “Once by the Pacific”, “Design”, “The Draft House” and “Departmental”. In other hand, the researcher analyzes Robert Frost’s poems which have titles, “The Telephone”, “Desert Places”, “The Silken Tent”, “Come In” and “The Most of It”. 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. Different with Zaenal’s thesis, in this research, the researcher just researches the symbols found in Robert Frost’s poems than the categories and the symbolic meaning are found in Robert Frost’s poems.

Other previous studies are the thesis of RetnoHandayani 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 poet, that's why they assumed that some symbols are dominant symbols.

Due to the considerations above, it is necessary for the researcher to do literary criticism on "Symbolism in Robert Frost's Poems".

### **1.2 Problems of the Study**

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

- (a) What symbols are found in Robert Frost's poems?
- (b) What categories of symbols are found in Robert Frost's poems?
- (c) What symbolic meanings are found in Robert Frost's poems?

### **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

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

- (a) To find symbols in Robert Frost's poems
- (b) To find categories of symbols in Robert Frost's poems
- (c) To find symbolic meanings in Robert Frost's poems

#### **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 Frost's poems. In this study, the researcher will research about symbols used by Robert Frost, categories of symbols and symbolic meanings found in Robert Frost's poems. In addition, Robert Frost's poems that will be analyzed by the researcher are "The Telephone", "Desert Places", "The Silken Tent", "Come In" and "The Most of It".

The limitation of this study is the researcher does not research Robert Frost's poems which have similarity in theme. It makes difficulty in analysis process because the symbols that will be found may not in the same discussion. Next, those poems also have different period in process conducting it. "The Telephone" wrote in 1916, "Desert Places" is in 1936, and then "The Silken Tent", "Come In" and "The Most of It" are in 1942. Those differences may be able to influence the symbols that the poet uses. It is because different period will create different theme and of course will influence in using symbols.

#### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

Related to the result of this study, the researcher expects that her 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 poet means. In contrast, the meaning symbols in real society must be 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 multi 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 her research can enrich theoretical knowledge based on literary studies especially in symbolism theory.

Practically, the research gives result that there are symbols in poems 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. Then this research also can give information and opportunity for further analysis on a similar subject, so that this study can be used as a reference for further researchers who are interested in conducting similar studies.

### **1.6 Definition of Key Terms**

In order to make understanding in reading this study, it is necessary for researcher to give the definition of some key terms that related on the study.

**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 (Nurgiyantoro, 1998:40).

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

**Symbolic** is images or incidents that the poems 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 about some theories which related to the study of symbolism. Those theories are about literature, poetry, semiotics literary criticism, symbol, and categories of symbol which consist of natural, private and conventional symbol. This chapter also explain about meaning which is divided into 2 kinds of meaning, denotative and connotative meaning.

#### **2.1 Literature**

There are many definitions about literature. Every people have their definition. They define literature with different sentences and languages, whereas those definitions have similarity in meaning.

Every country has different words to say literature. British uses “literature”, France uses “litterature”, In Germany using “literatur” and in England using “letterkunde”. In contrast, those words come from Greek language, “literature” which has meaning linguistic and poem (Fananie, 2000:4).

Base on the statement above, it is not appropriate if literature has meaning as linguistic and poem. In fact, literature is not just about poem but also many things which are written (Fananie, 2000:4).

According to Fananie (2000:6), in global, literature is fiction which is as the result of creation base on spontaneous emotion that is able to show esthetic aspect based on language or meaning aspect. In addition, literature is a speech act or

textual event that elicits certain kinds of attention (Culler, 1997:27). Then, according to Bressler (1999:12) the definition of literature from the concept that it is simply a written work that contains certain qualities to a definition that must include the dynamic relationship of the actual text and the readers. Literature is simply another way we can experience the world around us through our imagination (Jones, 1986: 1)

In another definition, Literature also has meaning as stories, poems and plays (Culler, 1997:20). From the definition, literature can be divided into three forms; they are poetry, drama and novel. Poetry is primarily an expression of the poet's emotions. The clearest statement of this viewpoint is a comment by Wordsworth that "poetry is the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (Peck and Coyle, 1984:11). Next, Drama is public thing acted on a public stage, and focuses on public question of the social and political organization of society (Peck and Coyle, 1984:75). In another definition, drama is one of literature genre which is in the form of dialogues. The final form of literature is novel, as the definition, novel is long work with a great amount of detail on every page (Peck and Coyle, 1984:103).

## **2.2 Poetry**

Having similarity with literature, poetry also has many definitions. According to Culler (1997:70), poetry is language that makes abundant use of figures of speech and language that aims to be powerfully persuasive. In poetry, there are groups of lines which called stanzas. Every stanza usually has beautiful

sound which is called rhyme. Base on that statement, poetry is literature form which has beautiful form and language. Then Peck and Coyle (1984:12) have definition, poetry is complicated way of writing about experience, its basic subject matter is usually far from complicated.

Poetry is about the experience of the poet. In poetry, it can be about love, death, nature and religion. Any kinds of poet's feeling can be as the topic of poetry. Peck and Coyle (1984:11) explain that poetry is primarily an expression of the poet's emotions. Because poetry is poet's emotion and it has complicated form, it makes studying poetry is perhaps difficult. In contrast, Peck and Coyle (1984:14) say that studying poetry becomes much easier if we know that we can always start by looking for this sort of pattern in the text, for a fairly obvious and straightforward opposition, for example, the unhappiness of doubt set against the joy of confident religious faith.

While we are studying about poetry, to make understanding in it, we must know about the grammatical rule and also the symbols on the poetry. In addition we also understand in the form of the poetry, such as about the rhythm and rhyme. It is also important for us to understand about the meaning of the poetry especially in connotative meaning. After we know anything about the poetry, perhaps it can make poetry is easy to be understood.

### **2.3 Semiotics Literary Criticism**

The term semiotic was coined at the close of the nineteenth century by the American philosopher Charles Sanders Peirce to describe a new field of study of

which he was the founder, and semiotics traces its descent from this point. 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 signs (Endraswara, 2003:64). Semiotics relates with literature because while we study about language, we can not be separated with the signs and the media of literature is language itself. So, in literature there are sign and we can study the signs through semiotics.

According to Pradopo (2003:119), semiotics is the science about signs. This science argues that social and culture phenomena are as signs. Semiotics studies about systems, rules and conventions that make signs have meaning. In addition, semiotics sometimes used as semiology, the science systematically studies about signs and symbols (Luxemburg, Bal and Weststeijn, 1984:44). Luxemburg, Bal and Weststeijn also say literature is secondary sign, so semiotics literature studies about natural language which is used in literature (1984:45).

Teeuw (2003:47) argues that semiotics as the science which research's any systems of sign. This science become more popular and broad, it does not research about language and literature but also the science of art (esthetic).

There are two persons who have influence in semiotic theory, Ferdinand de Saussure and Charles Sanders Peirce. Both of them have their explanation about sign (Nurgiyantoro, 1998:39).

Saussure says that language which is as sign system has two elements which cannot be separated, they are *signifiant* and *signifie*. Signifiant is in the form of



voices or alphabet. Then signifié is conceptual element, idea or meaning which is in the significant (Nurgiyantoro, 1998:43).

According to Peirce, something is mentioned as sign if it represents another thing. A sign which is called by *representamen* must represent something which is called *object* or *denotatum*. Peirce uses three relations in differences 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, Pradopo also has similar definition about icon, index and symbol. According to Pradopo, *icon* is sign which shows about the natural relationship between significant and signifié. The relationship is similar relationship, as the example photo is the sign of people who are in the photo and tree's picture is sign about tree (Pradopo, 2003: 120).

*Index* is sign which shows about causal relationship, that is the relationship about cause and effect between significant and signifié. As the example, smoke signs about fire etc (Pradopo, 2003: 120).

*Symbol* is sign which shows there is no natural relationship between significant and signifié, the relationship is arbitrary. The meaning of that sign is based on conventional. As the example, mother is a symbol and the meaning of mother is based on the society. British mention *mother*. France mention *la mere* etc (Pradopo, 2003: 120).

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 signifie. Significant is formal aspect or sign voice and signifie is conceptual or meaning aspect (Fananie, 2000:139).

## **2.4 Symbol**

Symbol can not be separated from our life. We usually use symbol in our life to represent something and it can make something beautiful. As the example, we use flower as the symbol of woman etc.

According to Abrams (1971:206), in the broadest sense a symbol is anything which signifies something; in this sense all words are symbols. In discussing literature, however, the term symbol is applied only to a word or phrase that signifies on object or event which in its turn signifies something, or has a range of reference beyond it self. Whereas, Landy (1979:55) says that a symbol is a single, static image. It can be any sort of thing, person, and animal or object it must, while keeping its own identity, “stand for” or suggest something of wider or deeper significance. Usually – though not always – the symbol is concrete or “real”, while the thing symbolized is an idea or abstraction.

A symbol is basically a kind of image, differing from other images in the use to which it is put. A literary symbol is simply the author’s attempt to name those

many areas of human experience that ordinary language, literal or figurative, is inadequate to deal with. The symbol, while evoking a concrete, objective reality, also suggests an additional “level of meaning” beyond that reality. The writer’s use of symbol is continuous with the process of language that we know (Kenney, 1966:66).

In addition, according to Peck and Coyle (1984:71 and 72), symbol is an object which stands for something else (e.g. a dove symbolizes peace). In a poem it is a word which, while signifying something specific, also signifies something beyond itself. Then, according to Reaske (1966:108), symbol is some picture or representation which is repeated over and over again.

Different with the definition before, Endraswara (2003:65) says that symbol is sign which has meaning. Symbol is sign which have meaning relationship with the arbiter 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 additional 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 indulge themselves (Landy, 1979: 57).

Base 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.

## **2.5 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.

### **2.5.1 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).

### **2.5.2 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 words 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.

### **2.5.3 Conventional Symbol**

Conventional or public symbol is terms that refer 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 words which express about symbols which have universal meaning, so the readers are not so difficult to interpret the meaning of it (Fananie, 2000: 100).

## **2.6 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 very important aspect. The communication becomes success 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.

### **2.6.1 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.

### **2.6.2 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 evokes, which may or may not be indicated in a dictionary definition.

After get 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.

## **2.7 Previous Studies**

In this study, the researcher takes three kinds of previous study. The first is “Symbols and the Messages Found in Robert Frost’s Poems” which is conducted by Zaenal Machmud, the student of Gajayana University. In his research, Machmud focused on kinds of symbol and messages in Robert Frost’s poems. In Machmud’s analysis, he thinks that in Robert Frost’s poems which are analyzed by him, consist of three categories of symbols; they are conventional, natural and private symbols. In addition, Robert Frost’s poems which are analyzed by

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

As the previous study, Machmud's thesis has some similarities to the researcher's thesis, such as the object and the theory that are used. Both researchers use symbolism as the theory and Robert Frost's poems as the object. In contrast, Robert Frost's poems which analyzed in this research are different with the poems which have been analyzed by Machmud. In addition, some aspects that are explained in this research are same as some aspects that are explained by Machmud but the explanation in this research is improvement from Machmud's explanation, so the explanation in this research broader than the explanation in Machmud's research.

Beside similarity, between Machmud and the researcher's thesis also have differences. In Machmud's thesis, he does not include meaning as his problem of the study but he includes message as his problem. Different with Machmud, the researcher conducts meaning as problem of the study but she does not include message as problem of the study. According to the researcher, message is something private, every person can get different message from literary work. If we show message which is gotten from our mind in our research, it is same as we



force someone to be same as our opinion and forbid them to have their interpretation. Based on the explanation above, it is appropriate for the researcher to conduct symbolic meanings as problem of the study in her research than message.

The researcher conducts this thesis to make Machmud's research become better. In Machmud's research, he does not explain about kinds of meaning in his analyzing. After he finds the symbolic meaning, he does not explain anymore about kinds of meaning. It is denotative or connotative meaning. Based on that problem, the researcher will analyze symbols in Robert Frost's poems by showing categories of symbols and also symbolic meaning including kinds of meaning.

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 Frost's poems. In her thesis, the researcher does not only explain about symbols and symbolic meanings but she also explains about categories of symbols in Robert Frost'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 her 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 her 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 Frost 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 Frost'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. From that difference, it makes the researcher's thesis more complete and interesting than Budiono's thesis.

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

## **CHAPTER III**

### **RESEARCH METHOD**

To make this research easy to be understood, it needs to the researcher presents research design, data sources, data collection, and data analysis.

#### **3.1 Research Design**

In this research, the researcher observes symbolism in Robert Frost's poems. In this study, the researcher uses descriptive qualitative research. It based on the definition of the qualitative research, a research method which the data collected take the form of words or pictures rather than number (Miles and Huberman, 1994:89). In this study, the researcher describes symbols, symbolic meaning and categories of symbols in Robert Frost's poems.

To describe symbols, symbolic meaning and categories of symbols in Robert Frost's poems, 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).

Next, the data will be analyzed based on the literary criticism and the approach which is used by the researcher. The researcher classifies the data based on the definition and the categories of symbols. The researcher knows that some words are symbol. It is from the definition of a symbol. After knowing that word includes to a symbol then the researcher will classify that symbol into some categories.

### **3.2 Data Sources**

The data sources in this research are from Robert Frost's poems. The researcher analyzes those poems which are taken from the book "An Introduction to Literature". That book consists of poems from many famous poets. The poems which analyzed by researcher are "The Telephone", "Desert Places", "The Silken Tent", "Come In" and "The Most of It".

### **3.3 Data Collection**

The data collection is taken from words, phrase, sentences and expression in Robert Frost's poems. As the steps to get the data, the researcher does some activities. First, the researcher reads carefully and understands deeply those poems. Second, she selects the data that 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.

### **3.4 Data Analysis**

After getting the data from Robert Frost's poems, the researcher will analyze the data by doing several steps. First, the researcher makes paraphrase the poem, then notices that these tools and objects of thought are symbols and translates them, as the researcher goes, into the researcher's own familiar idiom. Later the researcher learns faith and releases them. The researcher learn to let them relate on their own terms, hadrons to hadrons, paint surface to paint surface – and only

then do the researcher begin to make progress. (In this sense, faith is the requisite of knowledge) (Dillard, 1983:168).

After the researcher gets words as the symbols, the researcher classifies the data into several categories of the symbols. Then the data of each category is presented, analyzed and concluded. After that step, the researcher tries to find the meaning of those poems and explain it. Finally, the researcher makes final conclusion.

## CHAPTER IV

### DISCUSSION

This chapter discusses about the analysis. 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 researcher tries to analyze Robert Frost's poems by presenting the symbols, categories of symbol, symbolic meaning and kinds of meaning of those poems.

In analyzing Robert Frost's poems, the researcher does some steps. As the first step, the researcher writes the paraphrase of the poems. The second step, the researcher analyzes symbols, categories of symbol, the symbolic meaning and kinds of meaning.

#### 4.1 "The Telephone"

'When I was just as far as I could walk  
 From here to-day  
 There was an hour  
 All still  
 When leaning with my head against a flower  
 I heard you talk.  
 Don't say I didn't, for I heard you say-  
 You spoke from that flower on the window sill-  
 Do you remember what it was you said?'

'First tell me what it was you thought you heard'.

'Having found the flower and driven a bee away,  
 I leaned my head,  
 And holding by the stalk,  
 I listened and I thought I caught the word-  
 What was it? Did you call me by my name?'

Or did you say-  
*Someone* said “Come”- I heard it as I bowed’.

‘I may have thought as much, but not aloud.’

‘Well, so I come.’

(1916)

(Taken from *An Introduction to Literature: Fiction, Poetry and Drama, Tenth Edition*, page 540)

#### 4.1.1 The Paraphrase of the Poem “The Telephone”

In this poem, we can find someone who walked into far place an hour. In this journey, he was in leaning condition. Then, when he saw a flower, he heard flower’s voice. He was confusing; did that flower speak to him?

He was not sure with the voice. However, continuously he made his feeling to be sure for the voice that was actually someone’s voice. The voice was the same as the voice of which ever spoke from the flower on the window sill. Unfortunately, the flower spoke that the voice was not her voice. Furthermore, he tried to make her remembered what it was she said at that time.

Next, because of her voice, so he wanted to know what did actually she think and hear. Did she think about him? Did she hear his heart which felt bad?

That entire event made him felt leaning and it was more leaning when he was having found the flower and driven a bee a way. He felt weak then he was holding by the stalk. After that, he listened a voice which was clear. He could think and catch the voice but it was unclear, what the voice was about. Did the voice call him by his name? Or she said something else. Yet, he heard someone said “Come”. He heard that voice as he bowed. He thought again about that voice but



was not aloud. Finally, he was sure that the voice invited him to come, then directly he come.

#### **4.1.2 Analyzing Symbols, Categories of Symbols, Symbolic Meanings and Kinds of Meaning in Poem “The Telephone”**

In this discussion, the researcher will analyze symbols, categories of symbols, symbolic meanings and kinds of meaning in poem “The Telephone”. After reading “The Telephone” and analyzing words and sentences in that poem, the researcher finds four symbols. There are *The Telephone*, *a flower*, *a bee* and *stalk*.

First symbol is the word *The Telephone*. It becomes symbol because that word stands for something else. The word *The Telephone* is actually not the telephone in general. It is not electronic communication. Why is it not as electronic communication? The reason is because there is no words or evidents that show about anythings related to the electronic communication. There is no ringing, cable and telephone number.

As the symbol, *The Telephone* includes to private symbol, It is because the word *The Telephone* does not include to the nature and there are no people who agreed to accept *The Telephone* as standing for something other than them. The meaning of the word *The Telephone* is based on the poet, that is Robert Frost. The word *The Telephone* may be only used by Robert Frost and it is not used by other poets.

The symbolic meaning of *The Telephone* is lover's calling. The researcher interprets lover's calling as the meaning of the words *The Telephone* from the word talk, heard and also from the sentences in line 5 until 8 in second stanza;

I listened an I thought I caught the word-  
 What was it? Did you call me by my name?  
 Or did you say-  
*Someone* said "Come"- I heard it as I bowed'.

From those sentences, we can know that there is someone who listened someone else voice and that voice is about calling the name. Next, about someone else here is not someone else in general but someone else who is special, someone else here is the lover. We can know that someone else here is the special one is from line 8 in second stanza. In line 8 second stanza, the word 'someone' is in italic style, it means that someone here has special meaning, that is the lover.

The last is about kinds of meaning. The word *The Telephone* has connotative meaning because the meaning of *The Telephone* here cannot find in the dictionary. If we look for the meaning of the word *The Telephone* in the dictionary, we cannot find *The Telephone* as lover's calling but *The Telephone* here will be as electronic communication.

The second symbol is *a flower*. *A flower* becomes a symbol because a flower here signifies something. *A flower* here is not a flower in general. It is not a flower in tree but it is something else or it can be a person who has a beauty and also good looking likes a flower.

A flower is a part of the nature and it is God creation. Based on the statement before, we can assume that the word *a flower* which is in the poem "The Telephone" is natural symbol.

In addition, the word *a flower* here has symbolic meaning as a girl. *A flower* symbolizes as a girl because the topic of the poem here is about a couple, and as couple of course there are a boy and a girl. Next, as the characteristics of a girl, in general, a girl is beautiful, attractive, good looking etc. Those characteristics are same as the characteristics of a flower, those are beautiful, good looking, full colour, fragrant etc. Based on the explanation above, it is enough for the evident that *a flower* is symbolic meaning from a girl.

After knowing about symbolic meaning of the word *a flower*, now we will discuss about kind of meaning of *a flower*. *A flower* in this poem has connotative meaning, as the reason because the meaning of the word *a flower* here can not find in dictionary but we just can suggest the meaning based on the content.

The next symbols are *a bee* and *stalk*. *A bee* and *stalk* become symbols because those words stand for something else and do not have meaning in general. *A bee* is not an animal that product honey and *stalk* also is not a part of tree.

Having similarity with *a flower*, *a bee* and *stalk* are also included to natural symbol. Both *a bee* and *stalk* are part of nature and also God creation. In addition, *a bee* in the poem “The Telephone” has symbolic meaning, that is a boy. It is because *a bee* and *a flower* are two things which are close. If *a flower* is symbol of a girl, otomatically *a bee* here is symbol of a boy. A boy is strong and always interested in a girl. Those characteristics are same as *a bee*. *A bee* is strong and can not be far from a flower. *A bee* always needs a flower and can not live without a flower. From the explanation before, so it is appropriate if *a bee* as symbol of a boy.

In addition *stalk* is symbol of a strong pillar. In the real condition, stalk 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 the poem “The Telephone”, the word *stalk* is the things which is held by the character in the poem “The Telephone” when the character leaned the head. Because in this poem does not discuss about a tree, so *a stalk* here is something strong which can be used to someone who feel leaning. *A stalk* here can be a strong pillar.

As the last, the words *a bee* and *stalk* have connotative meaning because in this poem, the poet does not use the meaning of a *bee* and *stalk* based on the dictionary but it based on the content of the poem. If we give dictionary meaning for the word *a bee* and *stalk* in this poem, it will be disconnected with the content of the poem.

#### **4.1.3 The Meaning of the Poem “The Telephone” Based on Symbolic**

##### **Meanings**

Based on the symbolic meaning, “The Telephone” is a poem which tells about someone who missed his darling. Because of his feeling, he felt leaning.

The boy missed his darling very much. He always thought about her wherever he gone. His feeling made his imagination appears. He was like heard his darling voice. The voice made he remembered about their memory, the memory about him and his darling.

The voice which heard by him made he thought about his darling but did she think about him? Did she miss him? Did his darling have same feeling as him?

His thinking made he was leaning, and it became more when he looked a couple walked together. Through that couple, he could see himself with his darling. His heart was sick and it made his body was weak, then he was holding by the strong pillar.

In weak condition, he still heard his darling voice but it was unclear. He heard, his darling was like calling his name or just said something. Then he listened carefully and he could hear someone asked him to come. That voice was his darling voice. His darling just like invited him to come and finally he came to his darling.

#### 4.2 “Desert Places”

Snow falling and night falling fast oh fast  
 In a field I looked into going past,  
 And the ground almost covered smooth in snow,  
 But a few weeds and stubble showing last.

The woods around it have it – it is theirs.  
 All animals are smothered in their lairs.  
 I am too absent-spirited to count;  
 The loneliness includes me unawares.

And lonely as it is that loneliness  
 Will be more lonely ere it will be less –  
 A blanker whiteness of benighted snow  
 With no expression, nothing to express.

They cannot scare me with their empty spaces  
 Between stars – on stars where no human race is.  
 I have it in me so much nearer home  
 To scare myself with my own desert places.

(1936)

(Taken from *An Introduction to Literature: Fiction, Poetry and Drama, Tenth Edition*, page 544)

#### **4.2.1 The Paraphrase of the Poem “Desert Places”**

The poem “Desert Places” tells about a silent situation and an empty place. The condition of the place was uncomfortable. In field snow was falling fast and night came fast too. That condition was same in the past. Then the ground almost covered smooth in snow, but a few weeds and stubble was nothing.

In addition, in that place, the woods were very dark. All animals were smothered in their lairs. That condition made he was lazy to count the animals. He usually counted the animals to lose his loneliness but now he could not do it. He felt loneliness but he was unawares about the condition of his self.

Lonely is that loneliness, it will be more or less. A blanker whiteness of benighted snow made the situation cold, silent and nothing expression, nothing people who did their activity.

The condition which happened was very bad but his neighbour could not scare with his condition and also with their empty spaces, this condition was like the stars position where between stars on stars was no place for human race. That condition happened in his surrounding and it made him scare, he felt scare with his own desert places.

#### **4.2.2 Analyzing Symbols, Categories of Symbols, Symbolic Meanings and Kinds of Meaning in Poem “Desert Places”**

In analyzing the poem “Desert Places”, the researcher finds eight symbols, they are *desert places*, *snow*, *night*, *weeds*, *stubble*, *the woods*, *animals* and *stars*. 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 of symbols. The first is private symbol. The words which include to private symbols are *desert places*, *weeds*, *stubble*, *animals* and *stars*. 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 symbols are *snow*, *night* and *the woods*. Those words are mentioned as natural symbols 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 *snow* and *the woods*. If we find those words in other poems, it will have same meaning because those words recognized as standing for something in particular even by people from different cultures. For example, *night*, people will understand that night is dark, silent and it shows about solitude.

As the symbols, all words above have symbolic meanings. The words *desert places* symbolizes of loneliness. In that poem, *desert places* are place which is silent. There, snow are falling fast and night comes fast too. The ground almost covered by snow, there is no people who clean the snow and it makes the situation becomes dark. In addition, there are no animals because all animals are smothered in their lairs. Those situations show about loneliness, no friends even animals.

Next word is *snow*. *Snow* symbolizes of less of 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 *night*. It symbolizes of solitude. Night is silent, dark and scary. When night comes, there is no voice that we can hear. There is no people at night because people usually sleep at night, that is why night symbolizes of solitude.

*Weeds* and *stubble* symbolize togetherness. Weeds and stubble are always in group. This kinds of plant never live individually. It always lives together with another plant or sometime just with the same kind of plant. In fact, weeds and stubble are plant that live in group, that is why the words *weeds* and *stubble* in that poem symbolize togetherness.

The word *woods* symbolize solitude. The woods are dark, silent and scary. In the woods, there are many high plants and the leaves are so thick. That condition makes the woods are dark and scary. In addition, there is no people who live in the woods. People usually live in city or village. Those conditions make the word *woods* in the poem "Desert Places" symbolize solitude.

Next is about the word *animals*. It symbolizes cruel man. Man and animal are human. Man and animal have similar existence, those are as God creation. In contrast, the position of them are different. The position of man is higher than animal, otherwise man can have similar position as animal when man become cruel. Based on the explanation before, we can know that the word *animals* in that



poem symbolize cruel man. Man who are in that poem are cruel because they do not care with the character in the poem. From the sentence:

all animals are smothered in their lairs (line 2 stanza 2)

we can know that there is no people or man which care and pay attention with the feeling of the character in that poem. No one know about the loneliness of the character because they are just in their house. They never know what is another people felt.

The last word is the word *stars*. It symbolizes of society. Star always appears together with other stars. Stars never appear individually. They are so many and make the sky are full of twinkles. 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 discussion is about kind of meaning. All symbols that have been found by the researcher have connotative meaning. The reason is because the meanings of all symbols in the poem “Desert Places” are suggested or possible meanings of a word. We can not find those meanings in dictionary. All meanings above are suggestion meaning from the researcher based on the context of the poem.

#### **4.2.3 The Meaning of the Poem “Desert Places” Based on Symbolic Meanings**

“Desert Places” is a poem which tells about loneliness. This poem is about someone who felt loneliness. He lived in quiet place. In his surrounding was no togetherness. He did not have friend and there was no people who were care with him.

He did not know, his loneliness will be less or more. In contrast, he felt his loneliness will be more because no one who was respect with him. Between one person and another person was no relationship. The individualism happened in his surrounding. All that conditions made he felt scare with his loneliness. It was very sad if someone must live in loneliness forever.

### 4.3 “The Silken Tent”

She is as in a field a silken tent  
 At midday when a sunny summer breeze  
 Has dried the dew and all its ropes relent,  
 So that in guys it gently sways at ease,  
 And its supporting central cedar pole,  
 That is its pinnacle to heavenward  
 And signifies the sureness of the soul,  
 Seems to owe naught to any single cord,  
 But strictly held by none, is loosely bound  
 By countless silken ties of love and thought  
 To everything on earth the compass round,  
 And only by one's going slightly taut  
 In the capriciousness of summer air  
 Is of the slightest bondage made aware.

(1942)

(Taken from *An Introduction to Literature: Fiction, Poetry and Drama, Tenth Edition*, page 545)

#### 4.3.1 The Paraphrase of the Poem “The Silken Tent”

“The Silken Tent” is a poem which tells about beautiful place where called by the silken tent. In the silken tent, we can find the beautiful scenery and enjoyable situation. At midday, when a sunny summer breeze, we can find the dew dry and all its ropes relent. All people are happy. They sway gently. The happy situation looks more complete with central cedar pole, which is the peak of cord, all things are bond there. Love and thought are unity.

To make happiness, everything in the earth has a step. Capriciousness will become slightly taut and slightest bondage will make aware. Those events are the steps that happened in the silken tent.

#### **4.3.2 Analyzing Symbols, Categories of Symbols, Symbolic Meanings and Kinds of Meaning in Poem “The Silken Tent”**

The third poem which will be analyzed is the poem which has title “The Silken Tent”. In that poem, the researcher finds nine symbols, they are *the silken tent, sunny summer breeze, dew, ropes, sways, single cord, silken ties, summer air* and *bondage*. 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 symbol are *silken tent, ropes, single cord, silken ties* and *summer air*. Those words include to private symbol because those words are exploiting 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 are based on the poet. That is why the meaning of private symbol 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 conventional symbol are *sunny summer breeze*, *sways* and *bondage*. 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 are common and it is not so difficult for the reader to find the meaning of those words. As the example, the word *bondage*, from that word, people have agreed that *bondage* symbolizes less of freedom because in bondage, people are in low position, they will not have freedom and they must obey all their boss' order.

The last category of symbol is natural symbol. The words which include to natural symbol is *dew*. *Dew* becomes natural symbol because it recognized as standing for something in particular even by people from different cultures. *Dew* is related to the nature. We can find dew in nature especially in the morning between the leaves of the plant. Dew can not be separated from the plant. Plant is part of nature, it means dew also is part of nature.

After we discuss about categories of symbols, the next discussion is about symbolic meaning. In this poem, the poem which has title "The Silken Tent", every symbols has different symbolic meaning. The word *the silken tent* symbolizes beautiful girl. According to the researcher, the characteristics of *the silken tent* is same as beautiful girl. Silken tent is soft, expensive, comfortable and many people want and interested in it. Silken tent 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 *the silken tent* in this poem is beautiful girl.

The words *sunny summer breeze* symbolize good situation. From those words, we can know that although the condition is hot because sunny and summer but there is breeze that makes the condition becomes fresh. In another part, from the next sentence, we can suggest that *sunny summer breeze* exactly symbolize good situation, that is from line 3 and 4,

Has dried the dew and all its ropes relent,  
So that in guys it gently sways at ease

From that sentences, we can know that guys sways at ease. People usually dance in good situation and of course in happy condition. Based on the explanation before, it is appropriate for the researcher suggests *sunny summer breeze* as symbol of good situation.

Another symbol is the word *dew*. *Dew* symbolizes fresh condition because dew usually exist in the early morning when the situation is still nature and there is no pollution. Dew can make us fresh, relax and feel comfortable. In this poem, the poet tells about people who dance and they feel happy. People who dance and feel happy, they are usually in fresh condition. It is imposible for people who feel stress, they dance or make a party. From the statement above, it is clear that *dew* symbolizes fresh condition.

*Ropes* are symbol which symbolizes togetherness. It is because the function of ropes is for making unity. Without ropes, we can not make something becomes unity and together in one place or one group. Another reason is from the content of the poem. From the content of the poem, we can know that many people dance,

make a party and they feel happy. Party and dance always show about togetherness.

Next is the word *sways*. It symbolizes happiness. People usually sway when they are in the party or when they get successful. Both conditions show about happiness. Those are the reason of the researcher as her suggestion for the symbolic meaning of the word *sways*.

The word *single cord* in this poem symbolizes individual. It is because the cord is just single and nothing another cord. *Single cord* means one cord. Related to the poem, so *single cord* here means alone and nothing friends. There is no other people, that is just a person and we can call it is as individual.

Another symbol is the word *silken ties*. The symbolic meaning of *silken ties* are unity. From the sentence:

By countless silken ties of love and thought

we can know that the character in the poem wants to make love and thought are unity same as silken ties. Ties in reality can not stand alone. Ties always stick with collar. Between ties and collar are unity. Based on those reasons, so the researcher suggests unity as the symbolic meaning of *silken ties*.

As the next symbol, the symolic meaning of *summer air* is sadness. Summer air shows about uncomfortable condition. It is hot, crowded and stressful. Nobody likes summer air. It is different with *sunny summer breeze* which symbolizes happiness. *Summer air* is the opposite of *sunny summer breeze*. From the explanation before, we can know that the appropriate meaning for *summer air* is sadness.

The last symbol is *bondage*. Having similarity with other symbols, *bondage* also has symbolic meaning, and the symbolic meaning of *bondage* is less of freedom. Bondage shows about nothing human right. People do not have chance and choice in bondage. In bondage, there is no voice to protect the self. It means someone who becomes slave will get punishment if she or he does not obey the order of her or his boss. There is different position in bondage and it makes someone can not be free in doing anything. Based on the explanation above, it is clear that the symbolic meaning of the word *bondage* in this poem is less of freedom.

After discussing about symbolic meaning, now we will discuss about kinds of meaning. All symbols in the poem “The Silken Tent” have connotative meaning. The reason is because those symbols have meaning which can not be found in dictionary. Those meanings are possible meaning. The researcher suggests the meaning of those symbols based on the content of the poem. So, although just possible meaning, but the researcher has tried to make those meanings can be accepted and of course those meanings are coherence with the content of the poem.

#### **4.3.3 The Meaning of the Poem “The Silken Tent” Based on Symbolic**

##### **Meanings**

“The Silken Tent” is a poem which tells about a beautiful girl. That girl can make many boys are falling in love with her. She is an attractive girl who can make every person feels happy.

When a boy is with her, he feels as like in the heaven. His soul feels peaceful. There is no sadness and everything will feel happy when he is with that girl. That is why he cannot far with her. He always wants to be with that girl. Love which is felt by the boy is blinded love.

#### 4.4 “Come In”

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

Too dark in the woods for a bird  
By sleight of wing  
To better its perch for the night,  
Though it still could sing.

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

Far in the pillared dark  
Thrush music went –  
Almost like a call to come in  
To the dark and lament.

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

(1942)

(Taken from *An Introduction to Literature: Fiction, Poetry and Drama, Tenth Edition*, page 545)

##### 4.4.1 The Paraphrase of the Poem “Come In”

This poem tells about the darkness and the lightness. Someone found the darkness when he came to the edge of the woods. There, he could hear thrush



music but it still made dark condition. In that woods were too dark for a bird which has sleight of wing which perch for the night. Although the woods were too dark but the bird still could sing.

When the sun sets in the west, it shows night time. The bird still sang a song in a thrush's breast. It was strange. In the woods which were far from human activity, it still heard thrush music. That music called someone to come to the woods which were dark and lament. In contrast, the music could not make he came in. He tried to find stars light and refused to come to the woods. He really did not want to come to the woods even if asked.

#### **4.4.2 Analyzing Symbols, Categories of Symbols, Symbolic Meanings and Kinds of Meaning in Poem "Come In"**

The fourth poem which will be analyzed is the poem that has title "Come In". In that poem, the researcher finds seven symbols, there are *edge of the woods*, *thrush music*, *dark*, *a bird*, *light of the sun*, *lament* and *stars*. Those words are mentioned as symbol because those words stand not for something generally, in contrast those words stand for something else which has different meaning with the usual meaning. As the example is the word *dark*. *Dark* here is not the situation which is no light, it is also not the situation which makes us can not see anything but *dark* here has meaning as failure.

In this poem, there are three categories of symbols, those are natural, private and conventional symbol. The words which are included to natural symbol are *edge of the woods*. In addition, the words *thrush music*, *a bird* and *stars* are

private symbol. The last category is conventional symbol and the words which are included to that category are the word *dark*, *light of the sun* and *lament*.

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

Next is about private symbol. The words which include to private symbol are *thrush music*, *a bird* and *stars*. The reason for those words are included to private symbol is because the meaning of those words are based on the poet, that is Robert Frost. Robert Frost uses those words for represent his feeling which related to the content of the poem "Come In". He may uses the same word in other his 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 happen in the words *thrush music*, *a bird* and *stars*.

In addition, the words *dark*, *light of the sun* and *lament* 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 *dark* symbolizes failure. It is because people have agreed that the characteristics of dark same as failure, that is why *dark* symbolizes failure.

The next discussion is about symbolic meaning. The first symbol is *edge of the woods*. It has symbolic meaning as solitude. The reason is because the

situation in edge of the woods shows about solitude. In edge of the woods is dark, silent and scary. There are many high plants and the leaves cover the sun light and it makes the situation are same as night, it is dark. In the other hands, there is no people there, just animals which hide in the back of grass. This condition makes silent situation, beside that the animal voice especially wolf's voice makes scary situation. Those situations show about solitude.

The second symbol is *thrush music*. It symbolizes spirit. When people hear thrush music, they usually want to dance or sing a song. Without music our life becomes silent and nothing colour. Poeples who are sad will become happy if they hear music. With music, people can throw their tired. Someone will have power to do anything if there is music. People are not lazy and sometimes they have inspiration from music. Those are the reasons of spirit as symbolic meaning of *thrush music*.

The third symbol is *dark*. It 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 people are scare with failure. They do not want to get failure. They hate failure. If people 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 symbol is *a bird*. A bird symbolizes strong people because in poem “Come In”, the bird still could sing although at the night. We can find it in second stanza;

Too dark in the woods for a bird  
By sleight of wing  
To better its perch for the night,  
Through it still could sing

At night people, plants and animals usually sleep because night is time for taking rest. In contrast, there are some people who do not sleep. They do not scare with dark situation, they also are not tired, they work hard at night just for their family. It is same as a bird in this poem. At night when all animals sleep but the bird in this poem does not sleep and it still could sing. It does not feel tired and scare. Just strong people who do not feel scare with night which is dark. They also do not feel tired and do not need to take a rest at night. Based on the explanation above, *a bird* can symbolize strong people.

*Light of the sun* is a symbol which symbolizes success. It is opposite with *dark*. If people hate dark because dark is scary, in contrast people like light of the sun because with it people can live. Light of the sun is life source in the earth. People can do anything because of it. Next, about the symbolic meaning of *light of the sun* is the opposite with the symbolic meaning of *dark*. If the symbolic meaning of *dark* is failure, so the symbolic meaning of *light of the sun* is success. Success is liked by people. People are happy because they get success. It sames as light of the sun, people also are happy because of light of the sun. They can live in the world because of the light of the sun. Those are the reasons for success as the symbolic meaning of *the light of the sun*.

Having similarity with *dark*, *lament* also symbolizes failure. Lament is weak condition. People usually are in lament condition after they get something bad and very sadden. It is same as failure. Failure is also weak and sadden condition. Failure is problem. If people are failure, they feel like fall down from the high place. It is very sich. It is also happen in lament condition. Weak condition or lament condition is the condition which is no effort same as people who are sick because of failure. Based on the explanation above, it is clear that *lament* symbolizes failure.

The last symbol is *stars*. Not only *light of the sun*, *stars* also symbolize success. Star is something in the sky which has it light. When there is no moon's light, stars can give us the light. Stars do not need sun light because stars have big effort to produce their own light. Star's light make the environment bright. People can see anything clearly because of star's light and the night is not dark anymore because of it. Nothing dark means that nothing sadness, just happiness and success that are exist. In addition, as the evident that *stars* symbolize success, we can know it from the last stanza:

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

Those sentences explain that the character in that poem actually was out of stars. He or she was far from the stars which make the situation bright. The character just felt dark because she or he did not get star's light. Next, someone who was in dark situation was the person who is failure and can not get the success. Based on

the explanation before, we can know that stars means success and out of stars means failure.

Next is about kinds of meaning. All symbols in poem “Come In” are included to connotative meaning. Those symbols use suggested or possible meaning. The meaning which shown by the researcher can not be found in dictionary. That is why every people can use different meaning in interpret the meaning of those symbols. In contrast, the meaning which is used by the reader or the researcher must be coherence with the content of the meaning.

#### **4.4.3 The Meaning of the Poem “Come In” Based on Symbolic Meanings**

Based on symbolic meaning, “Come In” is a poem which is about failure and success. In this poem tells about someone who was fail. After getting failure, he wanted to get up and to be success. He wanted to be success as like another person who ever failed. He never gave up with the hard condition and he always tried to get success by hard work.

Next, when he tried to get success as like another people who get success after failure, unfortunately, he was near with the failure. In contrast, that condition did not make he gave up, he always tried to be success and finally he got it.

#### **4.5 “The Most of It”**

He thought he kept the universe alone;  
 For all the voice in answer he could wake  
 Was but the mocking echo of his own  
 From some tree-hidden cliff across the lake.  
 Some morning from the boulder-broken beach  
 He would cry out on life, that what it wants

Is not its own love in copy speech,  
 But counter-love, original response.  
 And nothing ever came of what he cried  
 Unless it was the embodiment that crashed  
 In the cliff's talus on the other side,  
 And then in far distant water splashed,  
 But after a time allowed for it to swim,  
 Instead of proving human when it neared  
 And someone else additional to him,  
 As a great buck it powerfully appeared,  
 Pushing the crumpled water up ahead,  
 And landed pouring like a waterfall,  
 And stumbled through the rocks with horny tread,  
 And forced the underbrush – and that was all.

(1942)

(Taken from *An Introduction to Literature: Fiction, Poetry and Drama, Tenth Edition*, page 546)

#### 4.5.1 The Paraphrase of the Poem “The Most of It”

In this poem, we will find someone who thought that he could keep the universe alone. He did not need someone to be his friend. He could wake by himself not by another human voice.

Someday he heard the mocking echo of his own from some tree hidden cliff across the lake. That phenomenon made him aware that he was wrong; he could not keep the universe alone. He needed another human to do it.

Next, some morning, something happened. It was like the boulder-broken beach. He would cry out on life. He needed original response from another human but there was no someone came and cared with him. Then suddenly there was embodiment that crashed in the cliff's talus on the other sides. He heard water splashed in the far distant but he did not care with that. After a time he allowed for it to swim, he felt anxious. When it was near, he provided what kind of human it

was? Someone else came to him, a great buck it powerfully appeared. A buck which did his activity. He was pushing the crumpled water up ahead and landed pouring like a waterfall. Then he stumbled though the rocks with horny tread, and forced the underbrush. Finally, looking a buck made he felt that he had a friend.

#### **4.5.2 Analyzing Symbols, Categories of Symbols, Symbolic Meanings and Kinds of Meaning in Poem “The Most of It”**

The last poem which analyzed by the researcher is the poem which has title “The Most of It”. In this poem, there are fifteen symbols that found by the researcher and those symbols are *the universe, voice in answer, mocking echo, tree, hidden cliff, the lake, boulder, beach, cliff’s talus, buck, landed pouring, a waterfall, the rocks, horny and underbrush*. Those words are labeled as symbol because all words above stand for something else. Those words also have meaning which is not in general, in contrast those words have meaning which depend on the text and it can not be found in dictionary.

In the poem “The Most of It”, the researcher just finds two categories of symbol, those are private and natural symbol. The words which labeled as private symbol are the words *the universe, voice in answer, mocking echo, tree, buck, landed pouring and horny*. The reason is because the meaning of those words are based on the poet, that is Robert Frost. The reader or another poet can not give the exact meaning of those words, they just can assume the meaning based on 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 are not always one meaning but it will have many meanings based on the text and the poet.

Next is about natural symbol. The words which are included to natural symbol are *hidden cliff, the lake, boulder, cliff's talus, a waterfall, the rocks* and *underbrush*. The reason for those words as natural symbol is because those words recognized as standing for something in particular even by people from different cultures. Those words are related to the nature. Those words are part of nature, such as *the rocks, beach, the lake, a waterfall* etc. Beside that, those words also are located in nature and we can find those words in nature.

After we discuss about categories of symbols, now we will discuss about symbolic meaning. 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 *boulder, the rocks* and *horny* have similar symbolic meaning and the symbolic meaning of those words are strength. Those words have strength as symbolic meaning because the characters of those words show about the strength. Boulder is big stone. Generally stone is heavy. It is not easy to bring it. Beside that, boulder is also difficult to be broken because boulder is solid. Both boulder and the rocks have similar characteristics, both of them show about the strength. The rocks are solid and difficult to be broken. The rocks will still solid and strength although there is big wave in the sea. Based on the explanation above, it is appropriate for the researcher to mention *boulder* and *the rocks* as the symbol of strength.

In addition, *horny* is also symbol of strength, the reason is because horny are solid. Animals that have horny are strong animals. Animals usually use horny to protect themselves, they also usually use horny to fight with their enemy. They use horny as weapon. Based on the characteristics of horny, so the researcher writes *horny* as the symbol of strength.

The next symbols which have similar symbolic meaning are *hidden cliff* and *cliff's talus*. Those words are as symbol of dangerous. The reasons are because hidden cliff and cliff's talus are scream. There are no people who live there. It is dark and very deep. There are many sharp stones. People will be die if they fall down into hidden cliff and cliff's talus. That is why *hidden cliff* and *cliff's talus* are symbol of dangerous.

In addition, beside symbols which have similarity in symbolic meaning, there are also symbols which have different symbolic meaning, such as the word *universe*, *voice in answer* etc. The word *universe* symbolizes unity because universe is totalitty of many countries and also the totality of many existences in the world. Universe is big environment which consist of many areas. In the universe, there are many people and coustoms which are unity. They live in one place which called universe. Based on the explanation above, the researcher suggests that *universe* is as symbol of unity.

The word *voice in answer* symbolizes problem. Based on the sentence in the poem, in line 2;

For all the voice in answer he could wake

As the explanation, people usually wake from sleep, falling, problem or failure. The word 'wake' can be interpret as solving a problem. Based on the reason before, so it is appropriate if *voice in answer* has symbolic meaning as problem.

In that poem, the word *mocking echo* is a symbol which has symbolic meaning as critical. Based on the characteristics of mocking echo which are louder and bounce back. Next, critical also loud and making someone is sick. Critical sometimes also bounce back and back to the person who give an critical. People who critic someone, they usually will get critical from another people, so it is right if the researcher suggests *mocking echo* as symbol of critical.

Next is the word *tree* which symbolizes strong person. As the characters of tree which are strong and it can live in a long time. Tree also can survive although the environment is bad. Tree has root which can save water, so it can not make dry when the summer comes. Strong person as like tree, she or he can survive her or his life although the environment is bad. She or he also can protect her or his self alone. Based on the explanation above, so it is appropriate if the symbolic meaning of *tree* is strong people.

The word *the lake* also has a symbolic meaning same as other symbols, and the symbolic meaning of *the lake* is calm. The reason is because the lake makes someone becomes calm. The beautiful scenery and the silent situation in the lake make people become better and forget their problem. Lake is not so wide like a sea. In the lake also there is no wave like in the sea. That is why lake is not dangerous but give quiet or calm situation.

Next symbol is *beach*. It symbolizes terrible situation. Beach is beautiful but beach is also deep and dangerous. There is big wave which can make us sink. Beach is different with river. River is calm, small and there is no wave, in contrast beach is large and there is big and cruel fishes which can eat the human. Beach is more dangerous than river. We will meet many problems in beach. When there is big wave, it can make human and ship are sink. It also can make a house brings down. Because of that reason, so beach is place which full of terrible and it symbolizes terrible situation.

The word *buck* in that poem symbolizes kind person. As the characteristics of buck which is not dangerous, it makes many people like buck. Buck also can be a friend for many people and also a kid. It can make people are happy because people can forget their problem with play with buck. Buck is also attractive, sometime he runs anywhere and it can entertain many people. Kind person is like buck. She or he can be a friend for many people and also can give help for many people who need it.

*Landed pouring* is a symbol in poem “The Most of It” which has symbolic meaning wealthy. Every people want landed pouring. People will be happy if they have landed pouring. They can do anything what they want. In fact, not only landed pouring but also wealthy are needed by many people. People will be happy if they get wealthy. People can do anything in wealthy condition. They never feel underpresser and they will live better. Based on the explanation above, it is appropriate for the researcher to give symbolic meaning of *landed pouring* as wealthy.

Next symbol is *a waterfall*. It symbolizes life source. Every people needs water, that is why water is important. Then water comes from high place then go to subordinate place. In subordinate place, water used by many people for many things. As the custom, people usually live around a waterfall because they are easy to get water for their life. Those are reasons for *waterfall* as the symbol of life source.

The last symbol is *underbrush*. It symbolizes disorder. The situation of underbrush is untidy. Underbrush is not beautiful and the high of this plant is not same because it usually consists of different plants. That is why underbrush is not good looking. In fact, not only underbrush but also disorder are not beautiful. People dislike disorder situation because it is messy. It is also ununity. In disorder situation, there are many differences and it makes uncomfortable situation. Based on the explanation before, it is clear that *underbrush* is a symbol of disorder.

Next discussion is about kind of meaning. All symbols in the poem "The Most of It" 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 based 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.

#### **4.5.3 The Meaning of the Poem Based on The Symbolic Meanings**

Based on the symbolic meaning, “The Most of It” is a poem which tells about someone who was less of attention. He was usual man, same as another man. In contrast he thought that he was strong man, a man that could do everything by himself.

Someday, there was someone who criticized him. He was person who had big power and many people were afraid with him but he was a good person. The critic was very hard and it made the man would cry out on life. Then the critic made him realized about his condition. He realized that he was usual man.

Truely, he just needed sincerely love and attention from another person. In contrast he did not get it. No one came to him when he felt loneliness. No one was care with him.

Next, in another occasion, there was a person who came to him. At the first time he did not respect with that person. He did not believe with that person but finally he received that person. He felt very happy because now he had a friend.

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter consists of two discussions, conclusion and suggestion. The conclusion is about symbols used in Robert Frost's poems. Then the suggestion is about the expectation researcher about her thesis.

#### 5.1 Conclusion

Based on the discussion in chapter IV, the researcher has three conclusions. The first conclusion shows that symbols are in the form of noun. It can be any sorts thing, person, and animal. As the example we can find some words in Robert Frost's poems. In poem "The Telephone" we can find *a flower* as a symbol of *women*. Then in poem "Desert Places" we can find *the woods* as a symbol of *solitude*, etc.

Next, as the result of the analysis, we can know that Robert Frost often uses private symbol in his poem. It means that Robert Frost uses symbols as dominant symbols. He uses symbols based on his feeling and interpretation. It makes Robert Frost's poems are difficult to be understood. It is difficult for us to catch the meaning on those symbols.

The last is about symbolic meaning. All symbols which found by the researcher show about connotative meaning. So we can conclude that every symbol has connotative meaning.

## **5.2 Suggestion**

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

Next, the researcher realizes that his thesis may be far from being perfect. She expects that someone will give good comment to make her research becomes better.

The last, if someone wants to discuss about symbols, she or he must understand first about the definition of symbols. The word which is as symbol must be suitable with symbol's definition.



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## Appendix

### The Telephone

'When I was just as far as I could walk  
 From here to-day  
 There was an hour  
 All still  
 When leaning with my head against a flower  
 I heard you talk.  
 Don't say I didn't, for I heard you say-  
 You spoke from that flower on the window sill-  
 Do you remember what it was you said?'

'First tell me what it was you thought you heard'.

'Having found the flower and driven a bee away,  
 I leaned my head,  
 And holding by the stalk,  
 I listened and I thought I caught the word-  
 What was it? Did you call me by my name?  
 Or did you say-  
*Someone* said "Come"- I heard it as I bowed.'

'I may have thought as much, but not aloud.'

'Well, so I come.'

(1916)

(Taken from *An Introduction to Literature: Fiction, Poetry and Drama, Tenth Edition*, page 540)

### The Summary of Analyzing Symbols, Categories of Symbols, Symbolic Meanings and Kinds of Meaning in Poem "The Telephone"

Symbols	Categories of Symbols	Symbolic Meanings	Kinds of Meaning
The telephone	Private symbol	Lover's calling	Connotative meaning
A flower	Natural symbol	A girl	Connotative meaning
A bee	Natural symbol	A boy	Connotative meaning
Stalk	Natural symbol	Strong pillar	Connotative meaning

## Desert Places

Snow falling and night falling fast oh fast  
 In a field I looked into going past,  
 And the ground almost covered smooth in snow,  
 But a few weeds and stubble showing last.

The woods around it have it – it is theirs.  
 All animals are smothered in their lairs.  
 I am too absent-spirited to count;  
 The loneliness includes me unawares.

And lonely as it is that loneliness  
 Will be more lonely ere it will be less –  
 A blanker whiteness of benighted snow  
 With no expression, nothing to express.

They cannot scare me with their empty spaces  
 Between stars – on stars where no human race is.  
 I have it in me so much nearer home  
 To scare myself with my own desert places.

(1936)

(Taken from *An Introduction to Literature: Fiction, Poetry and Drama, Tenth Edition*, page 544)

### The Summary of Analyzing Symbols, Categories of Symbols, Symbolic Meanings and Kinds of Meaning in Poem “Desert Places”

Symbols	Categories of Symbols	Symbolic Meanings	Kinds of Meaning
Desert Places	Private symbol	Loneliness	Connotative meaning
Snow	Natural symbol	Less of attention	Connotative meaning
Night	Natural symbol	Solitude	Connotative meaning
Weeds	Private symbol	Togetherness	Connotative meaning
Stubble	Private symbol	Togetherness	Connotative meaning
The woods	Natural symbol	Solitude	Connotative meaning
Animals	Private symbol	Cruel man	Connotative meaning
Stars	Private symbol	Society	Connotative meaning

## The Silken Tent

She is as in a field a silken tent  
 At midday when a sunny summer breeze  
 Has dried the dew and all its ropes relent,  
 So that in guys it gently sways at ease,  
 And its supporting central cedar pole,  
 That is its pinnacle to heavenward  
 And signifies the sureness of the soul,  
 Seems to owe naught to any single cord,  
 But strictly held by none, is loosely bound  
 By countless silken ties of love and thought  
 To everything on earth the compass round,  
 And only by one's going slightly taut  
 In the capriciousness of summer air  
 Is of the slightest bondage made aware.

(1942)

(Taken from *An Introduction to Literature: Fiction, Poetry and Drama, Tenth Edition*, page 545)

### The Summary of Analyzing Symbols, Categories of Symbols, Symbolic Meanings and Kinds of Meaning in Poem "The Silken Tent"

Symbols	Categories of Symbols	Symbolic Meanings	Kinds of Meaning
The Silken Tent	Private symbol	Beautiful girl	Connotative meaning
Sunny summer breeze	Conventional symbol	Good situation	Connotative meaning
Dew	Natural symbol	Fresh Condition	Connotative meaning
Ropes	Private symbol	Togetherness	Connotative meaning
Sways	Conventional symbol	Happiness	Connotative meaning
Single cord	Private symbol	Individual	Connotative meaning
Silken ties	Private symbol	Unity	Connotative meaning
Summer air	Private symbol	Sadness	Connotative meaning
Bondage	Conventional symbol	Less of freedom	Connotative meaning

## Come In

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

Too dark in the woods for a bird  
By sleight of wing  
To better its perch for the night,  
Though it still could sing.

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

Far in the pillared dark  
Thrush music went –  
Almost like a call to come in  
To the dark and lament.

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

(1942)

(Taken from *An Introduction to Literature: Fiction, Poetry and Drama, Tenth Edition*, page 545)

### The Summary of Analyzing Symbols, Categories of Symbols, Symbolic Meanings and Kinds of Meaning in Poem “Come In”

Symbols	Categories of symbols	Symbolic meanings	Kinds of meaning
Edge of the woods	Natural symbol	Solitude	Connotative meaning
Thrush music	Private symbol	Spirit	Connotative meaning
Dark	Conventional symbol	Failure	Connotative meaning
A bird	Private symbol	Strong people	Connotative meaning
Light of the sun	Conventional symbol	Success	Connotative meaning
Lament	Conventional symbol	Failure	Connotative meaning

Stars	Private symbol	Success	Connotative meaning
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### **The Most of It**

He though he kept the universe alone;  
 For all the voice in answer he could wake  
 Was but the mocking echo of his own  
 From some tree-hidden cliff across the lake.  
 Some morning from the boulder-broken beach  
 He would cry out on life, that what it wants  
 Is not its own love in copy speech,  
 But counter-love, original response.  
 And nothing ever came of what he cried  
 Unless it was the embodiment that crashed  
 In the cliff's talus on the other side,  
 And then in far distant water splashed,  
 But after a time allowed for it to swim,  
 Instead of proving human when it neared  
 And someone else additional to him,  
 As a great buck it powerfully appeared,  
 Pushing the crumpled water up ahead,  
 And landed pouring like a waterfall,  
 And stumbled through the rocks with horny tread,  
 And forced the underbrush – and that was all.

(1942)

(Taken from *An Introduction to Literature: Fiction, Poetry and Drama, Tenth Edition*, page 546)

### **The Summary of Analyzing Symbols, Categories of Symbols, Symbolic Meanings and Kinds of Meaning in Poem “The Most of It”**

<b>Symbols</b>	<b>Categories of symbols</b>	<b>Symbolic meanings</b>	<b>Kinds of meaning</b>
The Universe	Private symbol	Unity	Connotative meaning
Voice in answer	Private symbol	Problem	Connotative meaning
Mocking echo	Private symbol	Critical	Connotative meaning
Tree	Private symbol	Strong person	Connotative meaning

Hidden cliff	Natural symbol	Dangerous	Connotative meaning
The lake	Natural symbol	Calm	Connotative meaning
Boulder	Natural symbol	Strength	Connotative meaning
Beach	Natural symbol	Terrible situation	Connotative meaning
Cliff's talus	Natural symbol	Dangerous	Connotative meaning
Buck	Private symbol	Kind person	Connotative meaning
Landed pouring	Private symbol	Wealthy	Connotative meaning
A waterfall	Natural symbol	Life source	Connotative meaning
The rocks	Natural symbol	Strength	Connotative meaning
Horny	Private symbol	Strength	Connotative meaning
Underbrush	Natural symbol	Disorder	Connotative meaning





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 Judul Skripsi : Symbolism In Robert Frost's Poems

No	Tanggal	Materi Konsultasi	Tanda Tangan
1	01 April 2008	Acc Proposal	
2	14 April 2008	Seminar Proposal	
3	02 Mei 2008	Konsultasi Bab 1-3	
4	20 Mei 2008	Revisi Bab 1-3	
5	09 Juni 2008	Konsultasi Bab 4-5	
6	21 Juni 2008	Konsultasi Keseluruhan	
7	23 Juni 2008	Acc Keseluruhan	

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