

**AN ANALYSIS OF SYMBOLISM IN**

**ROBERT FROST'S POEMS**

**THESIS**

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**AN ANALYSIS OF SYMBOLISM IN**

**ROBERT FROST'S POEMS**

**THESIS**

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**2023**

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Malang, 25 June 2023

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This to certify tha Aldila Ilma Aziza's thesis entitled **AN ANALYSIS OF SYMBOLISM IN ROBERT FROST'S POEMS** has been approved for thesis examination at Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang, as one of the requirements for the degree of *Sarjana Sastra* (S.S.).

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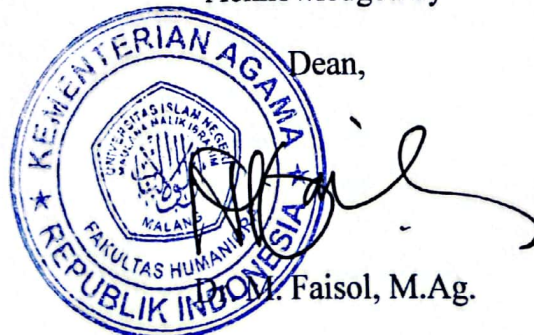


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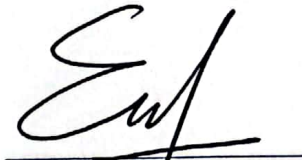
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**Motto**

*Two roads diverged in a forest, and I took the one less traveled by, and that made  
all the difference.*

-Robert Frost-

## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this thesis to my beloved parents, my father Ahmad Yaenodin and mother Anis Suhairiyah who have always provided the best support, encouragement, and prayers, and set aside their finances, so that I could complete my study period. And I also don't forget to dedicate this thesis to my brothers and sisters, thank you for the enthusiasm and support for helping and wanting to accompany my research. As well as my beloved friends who have helped in the success in compiling my thesis.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In The name of Allah, The Most Gracious Most Merciful, praise be to Allah who encourages me in finishing this thesis. Peace and blessing always be presented to Muhammad SAW, the last messenger of Allah SWT, who guided us to the light of islam.

On this occasion, i would like to express gratitude to all lectures of English Literature for the guidance, especially to the advisor Mr. Hafidhun Annas, M.Hum. I would like to thank for his patien, motivation and support to me in finishing my thesis. Gratitude also goes to Mr Ribut Wahyudi S.S., M.Ed., Ph.D. as Head of Department of English Literature and for Dr. M. Faisol, M.Ag. as the Dean of Faculty humanities. I would also like to thank to all my family and friends for their support in the process of finishing study at English Literature Department.

This research is still far from perfect and I really welcome all input and criticism from readers for the good of this research. Finally, I hope it can be useful for knowledge. May Allah give many blessings and mercy to all of us.

Malang, 25 June 2023



Aldila Ilma Aziza



## Abstract

**Aziza, Aldila Ilma** (2023) An Analysis Of Symbolism In Robert Frost's Poems.  
Undergraduate Thesis. Department of English Literature Faculty of  
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Advisor Hafidhun Annas, M.Hum.

Keywords : Poem, Symbol, Semiotic Analysis.

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Poetry is one of the literary genres which interesting to study, especially since there are many poems that have the same theme, message, and even various stories. This research focuses on finding the meaning of symbols and also their relationship with human life, especially about the poetry of the famous poet Robert Frost, in his works Frost almost all have entity values related to nature. This study aims to find symbols and their meanings and their relation to the natural elements in them. This study uses literary criticism as a research design in analyzing the symbols of the poem. The data are purposively chosen in order to answer the problem of this study. The subject of this study is Robert Frost's poem. The step to receiving data is choosing data dealing with the aim of this study that is finding out and well describing the symbols meaning in Robert Frost Poems. As a result of the discussion of the analysis of the symbols meaning in Robert Frost's poems is expressed as follows: we should appreciate the works by the message meaning from the poems of literature, there are many things that can be taken from the works as the humanities and environment or nature in analyzing Robert Frost's poems in this thesis. Finally, it can be concluded that Robert Frost Poems is a wonderful literary man as a result of the discussion to give recommendations for other research. The researcher can analyze and explore in more aspects in different things. The researcher also hopes to the future researcher who can be explore of Robert Frost' work, not only the themes but the other elements and theories that can be used for research because there are other elements also interesting works to research more deeply in order to produce a better.

## البحث مستخلص

عزيزة ، الديلة.علما (٢٠٢٣) تحليل الرموز في مجموعة شعر لروبرت فروست. (Robert Frost) فرضية. قسم الأدب الإنجليزي ، كلية الإنسان، جامعة الإسلامية مولانا مالك إبراهيم مالانج المشرف : حفيظون الناس ,م. هم م

الكلمات الأساسية : الشعر والرموز, التحليل السيميائي.

الشعر هو أحد الأعمال الأدبية الممنوعة التي يجب دراستها ، هناك العديد من النُصايد التي لها نفس الموضوع والرسالة حتى النُصص المخالفة. يركز هذا البحث على إيجاد معنى الرموز وأيضاً بتناقض مع حياة الإنسان ، خاصة نياماً يتغلّق بشعر الشاعر لث شيء له قيمة كيان مرتبطة (Robert Frost)، ني أعمال روبرت فروست (Robert Frost) المشهور روبرت فروست بالطبيعة. تهدف هذه النُصيدة إلى إيجاد الرموز ومعانيها وعلاقتها بالعناصر الطبيعية فيها. تستخدم هذه الدراسة النُصيد الأدي كمنصمهم بحثي ني تحليل رموز الشعر. نم اختيار البيانات بشكل متعمد لإلحاح على مثل هذا البحث. موضوع هذا البحث شعر روبرت نتمثل خطوة تلوي البيانات هي ني جمع البيانات المتعلّقة بالعرض من هذا البحث وهو الكشاف ووصف (Robert Frost) نروست جدياً. نطرح نتائج مناقشة تحليل معنى الرموز ني نُصايد روبرت (Robert Frost) معنى الرموز ني شعر روبرت نروست معنى النُصايد الأدبية ، يمكن أخذ أشياء كثيرة من هذه رسالة النوح التالي: يجب أن ندرّ العمل عل (Robert Frost) نروست ني هذه النُصيدة. أخيراً ، يمكن (Robert Frost) العمل كالعنصر البيئي والبيئة أو الطبيعة ني تحليل نُصايد روبرت نروست لها نُصايد بموضوع الطبيعة والحياة ، خاصة حوالي 4 نُصايد مشتملة ، (Robert Frost) السنتائج أن نُصايد روبرت نروست وهي تحكي عن الحياة المؤنّنة جن خالل معنى رموزها. يأمل الباحث أيضاً أن يتمكن الباحث الزادم من استكشاف عمل روبرت نيس نُصط الموضوع ولكن أي ضا العناصر والنظريات الأخرى التي يمكن استخدامها ني البحث نظراً (Frost) (Robert) نروست. لوجود عناصر أخرى بالإضافة إلى أعمال جديّة لدراسها بشكل أعمق من أجل إنتاج عمل أنضل

## Abstrak

**Aziza, Aldila Ilma** (2023) Analisis Simbol Dalam Kumpulan Puisi Karya Robert Frost. Skripsi Sarjana. Jurusan Sastra Inggris Fakultas Humaniora Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Pembimbing Hafidhun Annas, M.Hum.

Kata kunci : Puisi, Simbol, Analisis Semiotika.

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Puisi merupakan salah satu genre sastra yang menarik untuk diteliti, terlebih banyak puisi yang memiliki kesamaan tema, amanat bahkan cerita yang beragam. Penelitian ini berfokus untuk mencari makna simbol dan juga berseberangan dengan kehidupan manusia terkhusus tentang puisi dari penyair ternama Robert Frost, dalam karya-karyanya Frost semuanya memiliki nilai entitas yang berhubungan dengan alam. Puisi ini bertujuan untuk mencari simbol dan maknanya serta kaitannya dengan unsur alam di dalamnya. Penelitian ini menggunakan kritik sastra sebagai desain penelitian dalam menganalisis puisi simbol- simbol. Data tersebut dipilih secara sengaja untuk menjawab permasalahan penelitian ini. Subyek penelitian ini adalah puisi Robert Frost. Langkah untuk menerima data adalah mengumpulkan data yang berhubungan dengan tujuan penelitian ini yaitu mencari tahu dan mendeskripsikan dengan baik makna simbol-simbol dalam puisi Robert Frost. Hasil pembahasan analisis makna simbol dalam puisi-puisi Robert Frost penampilan sebagai berikut: kita harus mengapresiasi karya-karya message makna dari puisi-puisi sastra, banyak hal yang dapat diambil dari karya-karya tersebut sebagai humaniora dan lingkungan atau alam dalam menganalisis puisi-puisi Robert Frost dalam tesis ini. Akhirnya, dapat disimpulkan bahwa Robert Frost Poems memiliki puisi yang bertemakan alam dan kehidupan, khususnya tentang 4 puisi yang memiliki kesamaan yaitu menceritakan kehidupan yang fana dan sementara melalui arti simbolnya. Peneliti juga berharap kepada peneliti selanjutnya agar dapat mengeksplorasi karya Robert Frost, tidak hanya tema tetapi unsur-unsur dan teori-teori lain yang dapat digunakan untuk penelitian karena ada unsur- unsur lain juga karya-karya yang menarik untuk diteliti lebih dalam guna menghasilkan karya yang lebih baik.

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter is written to discuss the background of the study, which includes reasons for choosing the research topic and some previous studies. After that, this chapter also writes about the problems of the study, the significances of study, and the scope and limitations that are in the next section. In addition, in this chapter, the researcher also provide some definitions of key terms to make it esier for readers in understand the contents of this research.

#### **A. Background of the Study**

Human life is not far from art and literature, because literature is a part of human feelings (Okunoye, 2008:3). One of the pieces of literature that are often produced by humans is poetry. According to Watt Dunton, poetry is a concrete or artistic expression of the human mind in emotional and rhythmic language (Situmorang, 1980:9). The definition of poetry according to Parrine is the densest and most concentrated form of literature. The density of the composition is marked by the use of few words but reveals more things. Meanwhile, according to Hudson poetry is a branch of literature that uses words as a medium of delivery to produce illusions and imagination, just like a painting that uses lines and colors to depict the artist's ideas. Riffaterre (1978:2) argues that poetry is a special use of language. This assumption implies the use of language in literature. It is also stated that poetry is one of the oldest genres in the history of literature. In poetry, many elements can be analyzed to take several meanings. One of the important elements in poetry is symbols. Symbols convey something indirectly by

using vocabulary or things that refer to certain connotations. In a literary work, symbol is a form that gives meaning to every word or sentence presented in a literary work. In order for a sign to become a symbol, in it there will be a certain condition, situation and culture. In addition to the symbols mentioned, Hermintoyo (2014:37).

In the academic, symbols are usually an important part of poetry, symbols in poetry are words or sentences used by the author or writer to show an implied meaning in the poem. Many symbols commonly used in writing poetry include color symbols, sound symbols object symbols, and atmosphere symbols. These symbols have their own meaning to show or describe the meaning of the word used in the symbol. For example, the gray color symbol means that the author is describing his feelings that are gray or dark, many things are being thought about so that his mind is confused and his life is gray. In writing poetry, do not forget to use good and correct language by adding a little figure of speech and poetry symbols to beautify the poem. One of the tools of poetry is a symbol. In the analysis of literary works to explain symbols, a semiotic theory is usually used, which comes from Pierce's opinion. Charles Sanders Peirce, a philosopher from America (1839-1914) stated that human life is characterized by a mixture of signs and how they are used in representative activities (Marcel, 2010: 33). To analyze poetry and find a symbol, there are many ways and theory one of them is using a word choice or diction. Word choice is very important in a poem. The words that are selected must consider the meaning, the composition of the sound in shaping the rhythm, the composition of words in context, and the resulting

aesthetic value of the poem. Interesting choice of language, this is in accordance with the motivation of this study to be more interested in the literary works of poetry by the poet Robert Frost. Robert Frost is one of the most poetic works widely read in 20th- century American literature. Fact about Frost, one might call him a successful poet. He produced many beautiful works about nature and human life. This is a uniqueness that makes people curious and wants to know deeper about human work related to nature.

There is something interesting in this poem associated with natural elements and certain symbols. for example in the use of the word fire and Ice. The examples of the meaning of natural elements with symbols poured inside poetry by Robert Frost are explained in the analysis of previous research above. the feelings of the poet are conveyed through appreciation and parables of natural phenomena. Pirates in his poetry reflect natural elements and their meaning in life in nature. Besides the poet's uniqueness in conveying his feelings about nature, in the collection of poems as well served life nature implicitly depicted through symbols and assumptions about natural phenomena and other elements, so the writer is interested in analyzing this collection of poems stages. The Titles are A Winter Eden, Nothing Gold Can Stay, To Earthward and.Gathering Leaves.

The researcher is interested in the poems of Robert Frost because the works are unique. After reading most of his poetry, frost's works describe a lot of human life, especially regarding social life and philosophical values. Not only that, but many of his poems also have very interesting natural themes to be investigated further. The works of Robert Frost have inspired many people to



become better people in their lives. In 1924, Robert Frost won the Pulitzer Prize for his book *New Hampshire: A Poem with Notes and Grace Notes*. He went on to win three more Pulitzers for *Collected Poems* in 1931, *A Further Range* in 1937, and *A Witness Tree* in 1943. He is the only poet and one of four people to have won Pulitzer Prizes four times. In 1960, Frost was awarded the highest civilian award, the United States Congressional Gold Medal in recognition of his poetry that enabled American culture and world philosophy. Robert Frost is known for depicting rural life realistically. Much of his poetry is set in rural New England. Frost is also noted for his knowledge of human behavior and he uses it to explore complex social and philosophical themes in his poetry.

The brief synopsis of the contents of the poem that the researcher will describe in the next sentence. The first poem is *A Winter Eden*. This poem has the theme of winter and tells about the atmosphere of nature including the animals and plants in it in an allegory and the glittering beauty of a winter atmosphere that is close to heaven or almost to heaven. But at the end of the poem, it says that it is very short and will end just like that. Next is a poem entitled *Nothing Gold Can Stay*, a poem by Robert Frost with the theme of nature and life. Frost managed to package this poem as a form of deep meaning, where a little explanation from this poem is that a tree must have a leaf, the leaf tells that it will experience growth from starting to green and fresh and turning yellow periodically. Over time he will lay and fall. This is very interesting to review both in terms of the meaning of the word and also the symbolic relationship in it. How researchers

will focus on analyzing the symbols in it in detail, what is the meaning of symbols from the four poetry of Robert Frost.

The next poem that will be used by researchers is *To Earthward*. This poetry in the natural environment genre is still related and has something to do with nature. Frost tries to tell about a situation where in life where the beauty of love and all that is sweet is presented in one's life during his youth. There are many things to remember in one's youth, even when they were young they (humans) were just looking for fun. It also tells the comparison when he has started to pass through their old age (humans) trying to find life so hard by using the word salt in this poem. This is very interesting to explore especially with the use of symbols and their relation to natural life. The last poem to be analyzed by the researcher is *Gathering Leaves*. This poem consists of six stanzas, which tell the story of someone who is struggling to collect leaves. In this poem, the person lifts a leaf using a spade and also uses a bag where it is explained that when filling the bag with leaves it feels light. Bajkan when gathered together in a warehouse are nothing and can never be filled. This is interesting to study with several figures of speech and figurative words in poetry that increase the curiosity of researchers to examine further.

The reason this research uses 4 poems by Robert Frost is that researcher wants to analyze more deeply the meaning of symbols from 4 titles of Robert Frost's poems. Even when observed more the poem has symbols that are interrelated with one another regarding natural elements and their relation to human life. Analyzing poetry is the process of using several tools to investigate

every aspect of poetry: form, structure, content, history, meaning, etc. With the aim of understanding and appreciating the work in question. Robert Frost is a well-known modern American author and poet of a circle countryside that is not far from nature. It's no wonder that most of his poetry works on the theme of nature element. He has been very interested in nature since he was little and finds beauty in public. Even though he has an interest in understanding the natural world, Frost is aimless and offers charming natural scenery and rural life. In this study, symbols are used by the poet as a form of using words that have a value of beauty. This study discusses the meaning of symbols in poetry and the result with the correlation to nature. Abrams (1999: 311) argues that each symbol has a different meaning and some of them contain natural properties, namely natural objects and everything in them, such as land, water, water, mountains, oceans, animals, stars, and all things that are not a human creation.

For the previous studies, it can be used for consideration of new findings in future research. Rahayu (2018) *The Element Of Nature In William Wordsworth's Selected Poems*. This thesis is a study of natural elements that exist in poetry that have in common, namely researching natural elements. This thesis uses semantic theory. In contrast to this study, there are only similarities in researching existing natural elements. Next Septiani (2022) in her thesis *Analysis of Symbol in Robert Frost's Poems: The Road Not Taken, Choosesomething Like A Star And Storm Fear*. This study researched the symbols that exist in several poems by Robert Frost. This thesis uses Peirce's theory of symbols and natural symbols which are usually used in literary works. This study uses data

analysis techniques based on literature study by emphasizing that symbols can be images, words, gestures, and objects. In this thesis, data is in the form of objects containing natural symbols while *The Road Not Taken*, *Storm Fear* and *Choose Something Like A Star* are data sources. This thesis discusses the meaning of symbols in Robert Frost's poetry.

To provide knowledge about the analysis symbol, the researcher found a work by Zhang (2017), in her journal entitled *Analysis on Nature in Robert Frost's Poetry*. It is a study that analyses nature the most prominent feature in Robert Frost's poetry. Frost has a deep love and sympathy for nature. However, the typical pastoral life is not a central theme in Frost's poems. Instead, Frost concentrates on the dramatic conflicts that occur in nature. His poems usually begin with observations on nature and move on to dealing with human psychological situations. According to Frost, nature is not only a source of pleasure but also an inspiration for human wisdom. People will gain enlightenment from observation so that nature becomes a central character in his poetry, not just a background. This work was supported by the Program for Humanities and Social Sciences of Heilongjiang Province. By the technical using symbol in the analysis of poetry, the researcher tries to read Rindarti (2018) in her thesis *Analysis of Symbolic Means Found in Robert Frost's Poem "A Boy's Will"*. This study uses a semantic approach. In qualitative research and descriptive qualitative as a research design. The data collection methodis closed reading and documentation.

The researcher analyzed the symbolic meaning by using the theory of Timpane and Watts and also uses Shamisa's theory to classify various kinds of symbolic meanings. This theory has two kinds of symbolic meanings, arbitrary symbols, and personal symbols. The results of the research reveal that the number of symbolic meanings is 30 data. Thus, the dominant symbolic meaning found in Robert Frost's poem "A Boy's Will" is a personal symbol. The implication of this research is to increase students' understanding of poetry and help them to understand the entire context of the poem.

For the theory researcher found Nurmaily (2020) in the journal *A Semiotic Analysis on Eldorado Poem by Edgar Allan Poe*. The aforementioned journal contains research to find out the symbols in the Eldorado poem by Edgar Allan Poe. The study aimed at finding the meaning of the symbol of the dashing knight, eldorado, shadow over the mountains about existing historical issues. This study uses Charles Sanders Peirce's Semiotics theory to analyze and use qualitative methods and library research. that has the same theory and is applied in the work. And also use Sofiani (2021) *Kajian Semiotik Charles Sanders Peirce pada Kumpulan Puisi: Kita Pernah Saling Mencinta* by Felix K.Nesi. This study aims to find the meaning of the symbols in the collection of poems *Kita Pernah Saling Mencinta* by Felix K.Nesi. Using Charles Sander Peirce's Semiotics theory in analyzing it and using qualitative methods. The data taken is in the form of phrases, sentences or paragraphs that are in a collection of poems. In this study, there are similarities with the analysis carried out in this thesis, namely using a collection of poems and the only difference is the poetry.

The next previous study the work by Adi (2020) Symbol and Theme on Robert Frost's Poem by Using a Biographical Perspective. The purpose of this study is to examine the meaning of symbols and themes in a poem by Robert Frost, where it is found that in a poem entitled Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening, there is a symbolic meaning. This study uses qualitative methods and uses a semiotic theory approach. From the researcher's perspective, there is a similarity in one poem that will be studied in the thesis research based on this journal, namely the similarity of the title to be studied. Where in this poem there is a symbolic meaning about nature. This research can be useful for readers and writers in developing a literary work. In addition, this research can improve the reader's ability to analyze poetry. Other previous research related to this research is Mustakim (2021) the dissertation entitled Kode Simbolik pada Mending Wall Karya Robert Frost: Kajian Semiotika. This research uses a literary criticism approach and uses Pierce's theory of semiotics. In the above research the difference from previous writings namely is to use different data, namely Mending Wall but using the same theory, namely semiotics. Rahayu (2021) Analisis Kajian Semiotika dalam Puisi Chairil Anwar Menggunakan Teori Charles Sanders Peirce. This journal aims to examine certain symbols or meanings in Chairil Anwar's poetry. This study uses a qualitative method with Pierce's semiotic theory and also uses a literary criticism approach to examine it. This study used three poetry study objects with the finding of objects to be examined in the form of words or paragraphs that have symbolic meanings, then analyzed using the Pierce method.

The last from Thakur (2019), Symbolism in Frost's Poetry. This journal aims to analyze the meaning of symbols and symbols in Robert Frost's poetry. By using qualitative methods and using Pierce's semiotic theory. The researcher of this work analyzed several poems that have been written by Robert Frost and then describes them so he finds the conclusion that Frost is shy to express himself, the moral purpose of his poetry is very simple wrapped in simple village language. and conveyed through parables and events. His stories teach a modern man to regain his lost aboriginal power with turned against materialism. His wisdom is implied and inspiring soreally helps the author in completing the analysis of this study that most of Robert Frost's works have themes about nature and have symbols that reflect nature and a beautiful message of life for humans.

There is something that made the researcher want to know about those poems associated with natural elements and certain symbols. The examples of the meaning of natural elements with symbols poured inside poetry by Robert Frost are explained in the analysis of previous research above. The feelings of the poet are conveyed through appreciation and parables of natural phenomena. Pirates in his poetry reflect natural elements and their meaning in life in nature. besides the poet's uniqueness in conveying his feelings about nature, the collection of poems as well served life nature implicitly depicted through symbols and assumptions about natural phenomena and other elements So the writer is interested in analyzing this collection of poems stages. The Titles are *A Winter Eden, Nothing Gold can stay, To Earthward, and Gathering Leaves*. Where each poem has the

same theme, namely natural elements which will be reviewed further by the author.

From the statements above, it is interesting to analyze poems to find out the meaning or message of the poet through the symbols to the reader. The researcher conducted this research with the title *An Analysis of Symbolism in Robert Frost's Poems* because the researcher is interested in natural elements and their relation to symbols in a collection of poems by Robert Frost. By analyzing structurally the elements contained. In poetry, and then the readers can find out the meaning of the symbol and the meaning of the symbol in each poetry

#### **B. Problems of the Study**

Based on the background study above, the researchers wants to invetigate the problem of the research, as follows :

1. What are the symbols in each Robert Frost'poems ?
2. How the correlation about symbols meaning in Robert Frost'Poems ?

#### **C. Significance of the Study**

This research focuses on symbolism and meaning in the four poems by Robert Frost. Then, the researcher has problems that will be analyzed. The researcher tries to contribute to the findings of this research theoretically, this research has theoretical benefits that will add references, especially in terms of literary work analysis which is related to semiotic analysis. This research is also expected to be useful in the field of natural elements of symbols in poetry. Practically, this research has practical benefits that will provide results of this



research to add new insights for readers. This research should contribute to further research on research similar to different objects and provide a deep understanding of semiotic analysis. Especially, English Letters students in UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang and the public readers.

#### **D. Scope and Limitations**

This research finding out the symbols in Frost's poems and knowing what the meaning of symbols used in poetry. The researcher will only focus on four poems by Robert Frost

1. *A Winter Eden*
2. *Nothing Gold Can Stay*
3. *To Eartward*
4. *Gathering Leaves*

The four of poems which also functions as having other depictions that have implied meanings that can be investigated. In addition, words that represent the poet's feelings usually have more meaning than words that only show feelings. This word also describe the cycle human being in life

#### **E. Definition of Key Terms**

##### **1. Poem**

According to Hudson, poetry is a branch of literature that uses words as a medium of delivery to produce illusions and imagination, just as paintings use lines and colors to describe the artist's ideas (Aminuddin, 1995:134).

## **2. Symbol**

Symbols are signs used to describe or express something in the story.

(Stanton, 2007: 64)

## **3. Semiotic Analysis.**

Semiotic analysis is a study that examines signs. In this world, there are many signs. Where each sign has its own meaning by semiosis theory.

(Danesi, 2010: 33)

## **CHAPTER II**

### **REVIEW ON RELATED LITERATURE**

This chapter provides a general review and some explanations that are in accordance with the theory used in the study. As a result, the researcher hopes that the readers will easily understand the concept of this research. In this chapter, the researcher will explain semiotic by Alex Saders Pierce theory and symbol, The forms of social fact, and how to face the social fact.

#### **A. Structuralism**

Structuralism is the understanding of elements, such as the structure itself, with the mechanisms between their relationships, on the one hand, the relationships between one element and another, and on the other hand the relationship between elements (elements) and their totality. This relationship is not only positive, such as harmony, conformity, and understanding but also negative, such as conflict and conflict. The term structure is often confused with system. The definition and characteristics of the structure are often equated with the definition and characteristics of the system. The structure thus refers to nouns, while the system refers to verbs. The notions of structure that have been used to designate the elements that make up the totality have implied the involvement of

the system. That is, the way of working as indicated by the mechanism between relationships so that a totality is formed is a system. In other words, without the involvement of the system, the elements are just aggregations. (Johnson, 1988: 168)

Structuralism pays attention to the analysis of the elements of the work. Every literary work, both literary works of the same or different types, has different elements. Apart from being a result of these inherent characteristics, different elements also occur as a result of differences in the reader's reception process. It is in this connection that literary works are said to have distinctive, autonomous, nongeneralizable characteristics. Each assessment will give different results. Nevertheless, it is necessary to state the main elements contained in the three types of works, namely: prose, poetry, and drama. Elements of prose, including themes, events or incidents, background or setting, characterization or character, style or plot, point of view, and style of language..

According to him, literary work is a process of communication, semiotic facts, consisting of signs, structures, and values. A work of art is a sign that acquires meaning in the reader's mind. For this reason, works of art must be returned to the competence of the writer, the people who produce them, and the readers as recipients. In structuralism, for example, the basic concepts are elements, relationships, and totality. The dynamic aspects are the basic concepts themselves after being associated with the nature of the object. This concept is constantly changing, so that one study is different from another. The intrinsic elements used in structural analysis of literary works including, plot, character,

setting, theme, literary means, title, point of view, style and tone, symbolism and irony. (Stanton, 2007: 20)

In structuralism the concept of function plays an important role. That is, the elements as the hallmark of the theory can play a maximum role solely with a function, namely in order to show the interrelationships of the elements involved. Because of that, it is said that structure is more than just its elements and totality, literary work is more than just understanding language as a medium, literary work is more than just the sum of its forms and contents. Interconnection is thus an elemental energetic quality. The elements have different functions, their dominance depends on the type, conventions and traditions of literature. The elements in turn have the capacity to reorganize and self-regulate, form and maintain relationships between elements. The quality of work is assessed in its totality, not the accumulation of elements. In principle, structural analysis aims to dismantle and describe as carefully, thoroughly, in detail and as deeply as possible the linkages and interweaving of all the elements and aspects of literary work that together produce their works. (Johnson, 1988: 168)

## **B. Theory of Poetry**

Poetry is one of the literary genres which contains an expression of the poet's feelings, contains rhymes and rhythms, and expressed in a careful and precise choice of words. Poetry is expressing thoughts that evoke feelings, that stimulate imagination the senses in a rhythmic arrangement. All of that is something important, recorded and expressed, stated interesting and give an impression (Pradopo, 2017:6). Different from literature others, prose and drama,

poetry relies on imagery, metaphor, paradox, associations, symbolism, and other poetic means. Therefore, poetry play with a neat, dense, straightforward vocabulary, and at the same time give rise to ambiguity of interpretation and meaning. Poetry is created with the beauty of rhythm and sound in harmony and contains deep meaning. Poetry is an expression of thoughts and poet's feelings based on desire and experience.

### **1. Intrinsic Elements of Poetry**

The elements of poetry consist of emotion, imagination, thought, idea, tone, rhythm, sensory impression, word order, figurative words, density, and mixed feelings (Shanon in Febriyani, 2017:9). According to Djojuroto, poetry consists of two major parts, namely structure and structure the physical and inner structure of poetry. The physical structure is traditionally called language, while the inner structure is traditionally called the meaning of poetry. Physical structure poetry is built by diction, figurative language, imaging (imagery), and rhyme. On the other hand, the inner structure is built by the principal mind (subject matter), theme, tone (tone), atmosphere (atmosphere), and mandate. The elements referred to in the poem are as follows:

#### **a. Physical Structure**

##### **1) Diction**

Word choice is very important in a poem. The words that selected must consider the meaning, the composition of the sound in shaping the rhythm, composition of words in context, and the resulting aesthetic value the poem. Therefore, the poet's vocabulary is highly

demanding. Diction according to Ahmadi is a selection of words for express ideas or ideas and feelings. Good diction is selection of words effectively and precisely in meaning and appropriate with themes, audiences, and events (Febriyani, 2017: 11)

## 2) Imagery

Imagery is also known as an image or a picture of the author's imagination in making poetry. Images are imaginary images that create a special atmosphere, to make (more) live the picture in the mind and senses and also attracts attention (Pradopo, 2002: 79) while according to Markamah (2016:121) image is the ability of the words used by the author to lead the reader to engage or be able to feel what the poet feels.

## 3) Concrete Words

According to Bakhtiar, concrete words can be called real words, they must be real and can be explained. The real words that referred to in poetry are words that contain the words and has a real meaning which is also called meaning denotative. Poets try to concretize words so that readers can imagine more vividly what he wants to convey. Concretion of words is closely related to imagination thus the reader looks deeply into the poem.

## 4) Figurative Language

Figurative language is the language used by poets to express meaning indirectly, figurative language exudes a lot of meaning or is rich in

meaning. According to Hasanuddin (2002:133) how to use figurative language is to use comparison, contradiction, linkage, between one thing and another another, whose meaning is already known to the reader or listener. The difference between figurative language and a literal is that a literal language means exactly what it says. Literal language means exactly what is written. Literal language uses words that follow the meaning or denotation that is commonly known. Literal language is very direct and to the point, accurate and often makes the right point clear. Figurative language is the use of words in a way that differs from their traditional order and meaning to express sophisticated meaning, colorful writing, clarity, or emotional contrast. Figurative meaning uses common language to allude to something without expressing it directly. Fiction writers use figurative language to engage their readers in a more imaginative, thought-provoking and sometimes comedic tone. but figurative language uses imagery, metaphor, exaggeration, and personification to express something, often in contrast to something else. It implies verbatim and precisely. It should not be used as a general exciter.

#### 5) Verification

Verification is a poem that includes rhyme, rhythm, and meter. Rhyme is the repetition of sounds in a poem that makes poetry become more beautiful. Rhythm (rhythm) is the strain of sound or repetition sound that is arranged neatly and regularly while the meter is the patterns in poetry whose rhythm is fixed.



## 6) Typography

Hasanuddin (2002: 150) states that typography was not created at random, but created with a specific purpose. Understanding typographical forms will make it a little easier to understand a poem. Typography arranged in such a way will provide an overview or the atmosphere of the rhyme is patterned and orderly.

### b. Inner Structure

#### 1) Theme

An important element in poetry is the theme or complete meaning, that is, what is meant by the whole poem is containing the whole round meaning. The overall meaning in the poem arises as a result of disclosure of diction (images, figures of speech, ligature, symbolic), sounds in addition to form the presentation. The theme in poetry is a source of expression main idea of poetry (Pradopo, 2017:12)

#### 2) Feeling

What is meant by feeling in poetry is the attitude of the poet in the main problem in the poem. Feeling is a writer's (inner) mood that is felt and expressed through a poem. The feelings felt by the poet include, feelings of pleasure, joy, sadness, anger, disappointment, admiration, regret, shame, etc. Every poet doesn't necessarily have feelings or attitudes the same if it is in a state (Markamah, et al, 2016:27)

### 3) Tone

What is meant by the tone of poetry is the attitude of the poet towards reader or connoisseur of his work. Djojuroto (2005:26) added that the reader's appreciation of the tone expressed the poet must be precise. The tone in poetry is the attitude of the poet to the reader which is patronizing, advising, mocking, satire, and others etc.

### 4) Message

The message to be conveyed by the poet can be studied after we understand the theme, feel, and tone of the poem. The purpose message is things that encourage the poet to create his poetry. According to Bahtiar, et al stated the implied message behind the words composed, and also is behind the theme expressed. Themes and messages in a poetry is interconnected, because behind the theme there is a message that implied in it.

## **2. Extrinsic Elements of Poetry**

Extrinsic elements of poetry are elements that exist outside of literary works (poetry). The extrinsic elements of poetry consist of three elements, namely biographical elements, social elements, and value elements

### **C. Symbol**

According to Alex Sanders Pierce, a symbol is something that represents or describes something else (in the cognition of someone who believes in it). A sign (representamen) is something that for someone represents something else in

some way or capacity. Something else that is the interpretant or the interpretation of a sign then the interpretant must refer to the object. A sign (representamen) has a relationship with the interpretant and its object. Charles Sanders Peirce, a philosopher from America (1839-1914) stated that human life is characterized by a mixture of signs and how they are used in representative activities (Danesi, 2010: 33). Frederick William Dillistone (1903-1993), a professor of theology and author of books on symbols said that a symbol is an object that has a shape or pattern such as pictures and language, which is matched with other objects. Symbols are attached to the diction. A symbol is conveying something indirectly by using vocabulary or things that refer to certain connotations. For example, love is depicted with roses or some are symbolized with a heart. In a literary work, a symbol is a form that gives meaning to every word or sentence presented in a literary work. For a sign to become a symbol, in it, there will be a certain condition, situation, and culture. According to Dillistone, the gap to reveal the meaning of symbols by basing it on the thoughts of experts, who then found patterns of relationships that show the function of symbols, namely to bridging the gap between a word or thing or object or action or event or pattern or person or concrete thing and something greater or transcendent or supreme a meaning, reality, an ideal, value, achievement, belief, society, concept, institution and a condition. The symbol becomes a link in the search for humans who continue to ask questions and seek answers to unite these two realities.

Symbols are signs based on conventions, regulations, or mutually agreed agreements. A new symbol can be understood if someone already understands the

previously agreed meaning. One of the ways used by experts to discuss a wider scope of meaning is to distinguish Denotative and Connotative meanings. (Spradley, 1997: 122) describes the denotative includes things indicated by the words (referential meaning). Piliang (1998:14) understands the denotative meaning of the explicit relationship between a sign and a reference or reality in the signification of the denotative stage. This understanding is used by the understanding of Structural Semiotics which adheres to the principle of form follows function, by following the semiotic model of signifier or function (Piliang, 1998:298). The relationship between the signifier and the signified is relatively stable and eternal. Spradley (1997:123) mentions that connotative meaning includes all the suggestive significance of a symbol that is more than its referential meaning. According to Piliang (1998:17), connotative meaning includes aspects of meaning related to feelings and emotions as well as cultural and ideological values. (Piliang, 1998:298)

#### **D. Semiotic**

Semiotics is the study of semiotic processes and signs, designations, indications, similarities, metaphors, analogies, symbolism, meaning, and communication. According to Peirce, semiotics is based on logic, because logic studies how one reason, whereas according to him reasoning is done through signs. These signs bring us the possibility to relate to other people, to think, and to have possibilities in the diversity of signs, for example, signs are an important category but by no means the only category. According to Peirce, a sign or symbol (sign) is something that represents or describes something else (in the cognition of

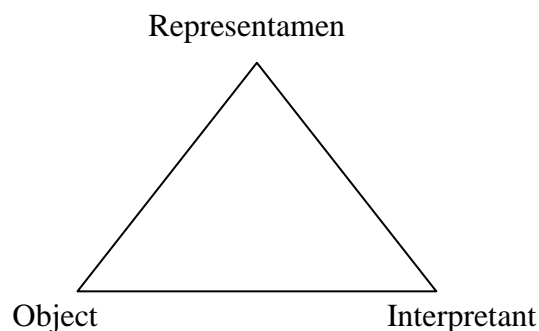
someone who believes in it). A sign (representamen) is something that for someone represents something else in some way or capacity. Something else that is the interpretant or the interpretation of a sign then the interpretant must refer to the object. A sign (representamen) has a relationship with the interpretant and its object. Charles Sanders Peirce, a philosopher from America (1839-1914) stated that human life is characterized by a mixture of signs and how they are used in representative activities (Marcel Danesi, 2010: 33). According to Peirce's semiotic theory, a sign or symbol is something that for someone functions as a representative of something else in terms or a certain capacity. Peirce's view explains how a sign can represent something else, thus a sign represents something that represents it. The representation of something that is represented is called a representamen. (Umberto Eco, 2009:21).

The researcher will use the theory of semiotics from Charles Sanders Pierce, who is a philosopher, expert in logic, semiotics, and mathematics and is an American scientist. Semiotic studies in literary genres Semiotics is a model in literature that is responsible for inherent factors and aspects to provide an understanding of literary phenomena, especially typical communication in society (Santosa, 2013:4).

In Peirce's theory, the concept of semiosis is known. Semiosis is the process of knowing a sign, which involves representamen, objects and interpretants.

1. Representamen is a sign or symbol used to represent an object or concept. Then, objects are things represented by representamen.
2. Objects can really exist in the real world, or only exist in the human mind. However, the object is always the source of the representamen and can influence the interpretation of the representamen.
3. Interpretation in Peirce's theory of signification is the meaning or abstraction that emerges from the relation between representamen and object. Interpretation is a mental process that occurs in the mind that sees or receives a representation that can generate awareness or meaning about the object represented by that representamen.

Peirce's Triadic diagram (Marcel Danesi,2011)



**Peirce's Triadic diagram (Marcel Danesi,2011)**

In Peirce's marking theory, interpretant is defined as an inference process that occurs within a person who recognizes or interprets a representamen and finds the meaning or meaning contained in the representamen. The study of different signs, the different ways of conveying meaning, and the way signs are related to the people who use them. System or code studies that cover the way the various codes were developed to meet societal or cultural needs. And The last is

culture in which codes and signs operate depends on the use of codes and signs. Pierce distinguishes the types of signs in symbols including icons, indexes, and symbols which are based on the relationship between the representamen and their objects. There are icon, index and symbol. An icon is a sign that bears a similar look so that the sign is easily recognized by the wearer. In the icon, the relationship between the representamen and the object is manifested as similarities in several qualities. For example, some traffic signs are iconic because they depict shapes that are similar to actual objects. An index is a sign that has a phenomenal or existential relationship between the representamen and the object. In the index, the relationship between the sign and the object is concrete, actual, and usually sequentially or casually. An example of footprints on the ground, for example, is an index of a person or animal that has passed there, a knock on a door is an index of the presence of a *guest* in our house. And then, symbol. Symbol is a type of sign that is arbitrary. Language signs in general are symbols. Not a few of the traffic signs are symbolic. One example is this very simple traffic sign. Of the three types of these signs, there are also signs called symptoms, namely markers that show an uncertain sign, for example, a sick person's hot temperature does not indicate a particular disease. The heat only indicates that the person is sick, but whether he has malaria, typhus, or rarely bathes is not clear, because all illnesses must be followed by a fever. It is relevant to remember that research in the field of literature that is most commonly found is signs in the form of symbols.

According to Peirce's semiotic theory, symbol is something that for someone functions as a representative of something else in terms or a certain

capacity. Peirce's view explains how a sign can represent something else, thus a sign represents something that represents it. The representation of something that is represented is called a representamen. The researcher will use the theory of semiotics from Charles Sanders Peirce, who is a philosopher, expert in logic, semiotics, and mathematics and is an American scientist. Semiotic studies in literary genres Semiotics in a model in literature that is responsible for inherent factors and aspects to provide an understanding of literary phenomena, especially typical communication in society (Santosa, 2013:4).



## CHAPTER III

### RESEARCH METHOD

In this chapter, the researcher discusses the research methodology, which consists of research design, data sources, data collection, and data analysis.

#### A. Research Design

The researcher uses an approach to literary criticism that focuses on semiotics theory to analyze the symbols of the poetry. Semiotic studies in literary genres Semiotics is a model in literature that is responsible for inherent factors and aspects to provide an understanding of literary phenomena, especially typical communication in society (Santosa, 2013:4). As a semiotic study in literature, semiotics provides an explanation of the sign system in people's lives in a story. Semiotics is to be a literary model that is responsible for all essential factors and aspects for understanding literary phenomena as a means of communication that is typical in any society. The researcher focused on the nature element and symbols that will be analyzed in the Robert Frost Poems *A Winter Eden*, *Nothing GoldCan Stay*, *To Earthward*, and *Gathering Leaves* in literary criticism.

The researcher conducted an analysis using Charles Sander Pierce's semiotic approach. This study discusses and tries to find the meaning of the symbol in each poem by Robert Frost mentioned in the text above. And also find the meaning of symbols in each of the poetry

## **B. Data Source**

The researcher will need data which is taken from Robert Frost's poems entitled A Winter Eden, Nothing Gold Can Stay, To Earthward, and Gathering Leaves. That can be read in the anthology or book the title is The Poetry of Robert Frost by Edward Connery Lathem, Vintage Books, London, 2013, and can be able in the book source: Digital Library of India Item 2015.524547. The data required is in the form of the element in the poem which is the word that reflected a meaning

## **C. Data Collection**

The data collection is taken from the anthology of Robert Frost Poems. The researcher uses the steps and process in collecting data. First, the researcher reads the poetry to get some elements that will be the topic of this research. Second, the researcher identifies and finds out the type of element in the poetry that will be used in this research. And then, the researcher collected all the data that had been obtained from the previous steps. The researcher will process and analyze the data in this study.

## **D. Data Analysis**

The data will be analyzed using literary criticism and using Alex Sander Pierce's semiotic theory. There are several steps in analyzing data. First, the researcher will read the poem twice to understand the meaning of the poem. Second, the researcher will identify data related to the formulated statement of the problems. Then, analyzing and interpreting the data based on Pierce's semiotic theory. The last step is to conclude.

## CHAPTER IV

### FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This chapter contains a more detailed explanation regarding the analysis of the meaning of each symbol in Robert Frost's poems. The writer will present several analyzes regarding the meaning of the symbols in four of Robert Frost's poems by using the theory of semiotics by Charles Sander Pierce. Poetry is a written text using various language dictions to describe all expressions and experiences using sentences or paragraphs that correlate with meaning.

#### *A. Analysis Symbol in Robert Frost's Poems*

##### *1. A Winter Eden*

*A winter garden in an alder swamp,  
Where conies now come out to sun and romp,  
As near a paradise as it can be  
And not melt snow or start a dormant tree.*

*It lifts existence on a plane of snow  
One level higher than the earth below,  
One level nearer heaven overhead,  
And last year's berries shining scarlet red.*

*It lifts a gaunt luxuriating beast  
Where he can stretch and hold his highest feat  
On some wild apple tree's young tender bark,  
What well may prove the year's high girdle mark.*

*So near to paradise all pairing ends:  
ere loveless birds now flock as winter friends,  
Content with bud-inspecting. They presume  
To say which buds are leaf and which are bloom*

*A feather-hammer gives a double knock.  
This Eden day is done at two o'clock.  
An hour of winter day might seem too short  
To make it worth life's while to wake and sport*

The word paradise in the first stanza is a symbolic meaning of a season that is happy and full of warmth and fertility, namely spring. Then in the sentence where conies now come out to sun and romp is an index which means the data is that in the corner of the season will come sunlight and romp concerning a cause and effect that in spring someone will definitely find sunlight and play together. While the sun and romp is an icon that indicates that spring is when the sun emits its light so that the beginning of a new life will begin after the end of winter.

The meaning of this symbol corresponds to the meaning of paradise which tends to be a beautiful paradise on earth after going through hardships or cold, in the true sense of the word is winter. The sentence as near a paradise as it can be has an interpretation of how paradise or summer will happen soon. This means that people can't wait to get through this cold season to meet the warm sunshine and play in it. The meaning of the symbol is found in the word conies. For our hearts one step better in life. Referring to the dictionary in English, conies are also interpreted as rabbits, where it is found that rabbits are a symbol of fertility or animals that will have happiness when we have them. it can be associated that conies are a symbol of prosperity in spring when winter is over.

**Table a.** *Symbols and meaning in A Winter Eden*

| No. | Findings                           | Repraseamentament Analysis   | Object Analysis   | Interpretation Analysis  |
|-----|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| 1.  | <b><i>Winter</i></b><br>(S1, L1)   | <i>Winter</i> means one of the seasons in the climate. Winter is in the season after autumn or before spring, in areas that have four seasons. | In the first stanza of the first line, The <i>winter</i> object here means the season that living things want to end immediately in nature until come the sun and paradise. | Word <i>winter</i> in poetry has a symbol which is interpreted that difficult time where animals and humans feel cold and hold a great hope after the season is over and meet with happiness afterwards. |
| 2   | <b><i>Paradise</i></b><br>(S1, L3) | <i>Paradise</i> means a place after humans leave the world and in it there is all happiness and eternity in it.                                | In the third line word <i>paradise</i> has a connection happiness which is reflected in the word conies which romp waiting for the sun to come.                             | The word <i>paradise</i> in this poetry first stanza means a happiness that is reflected after the end of winter which is described through the arrival of the sun and conies romp.                      |
| 3   | <b><i>Red</i></b><br>(S2, L4)      | <i>red</i> means one of the bright (base) colors and is similar to the color of blood.   | In the second stanza of the fourth line the word <i>red</i> means the color of the berries that grow and radiate at the end of the year a little closer to heaven.          | the word <i>red</i> in this poetry means that energy, courage and warmth are so real come ended this season(winter)reflected with the sun will appear and provide energy for all of nature.              |

From these data can infer that the poem entitled A Winter Eden there are several symbols that express their respective meanings which can be interpreted that in an end of such a cold winter there is extraordinary hope and a joyous reception of how new life in a season will begin. Humans, animals and even plants together welcome with joy. The sun is something to look forward to and spring is likened to a paradise to look forward to after the cold hits. Conies is a term for chasing animals that hints at the meaning of the rebirth and prosperity that will occur when spring arrives. Berries signify that a sweet life and happiness will come with the end of winter. The trees and leaves that were buds bloomed in time. All of this means that difficulties will not last forever and in time happiness will come soon and welcoming all of this with a sincere and happy heart is a way to improve.

Based on the above analysis, several word symbols are paradise, winter, conies, and red. in general, paradise means a place of heaven or beauty on earth. In this poem, a figurative meaning is obtained, namely paradise as a symbol of beauty in life, where all humans look forward to it and want to see this beauty after going through a process of difficulties experienced before. Then the next word symbol is from the word winter. Winter is one of the seasons in a country that has 4 seasons. Where in winter it will certainly snow and feel cold. Cold here is an allegory of figurative meaning, namely a difficult and powerful time to survive. Humans who live in winter will feel distressed, cold, and scarcity of food supplies. Thus the symbol of the word winter here refers to a tribulation that has a grace period and will not last long. Then in the next stanza, the word conies is

found again. In general, the word conies means a cone shape, but some mean that conies are a rabbit animal, in this poem the word conies can be interpreted as a white rabbit animal and has happiness for anyone who sees it or takes care of it. The rabbit also represents a symbol of prosperity and happiness in life.

The story in the poem A Winter Eden will be more enjoyable when the word conies appears and it also symbolizes prosperity in life. Finally, the word red is found in this poem. Red has a literal meaning which is one of the bright colors. Red is very common in objects such as blood, clothes, and some fruits. However, in this case, the word red has a figurative meaning, namely courage, joy, fun, life, and a burning feeling. Red is a symbol of courage and happiness after going through difficult times opposite the white color, namely winter. Red also means unlimited warmth and happiness for all humans who live on Earth.

## ***2. Nothing Gold Can Stay.***

*Nature's first green is gold,*

*Her hardest hue to hold.*

*Her early leaf's a flower;*

*But only so an hour.*

*Then leaf subsides to leaf.*

*So Eden sank to grief,*

*So dawn goes down to day.*

*Nothing gold can stay.*

The analysis begins with the first two sentences the words green and gold, here are a color name that means part of a plant. After the first two lines write a leaf was originally a flower, but only so one hour. It is written that the word flower here is a first cycle of a leaf in a plant or tree, but only an hour. Then the leaf subsides to a leaf. After that, it is written that there will be sorrow and dawn to fall after it. And then at the end of the stanza, the poem said that no gold can last. From here the researcher can interpret a meaning taken from the word nature where this is a person's or plant life cycle, in which there is a sequence of a tree or plant life process taking place. The word green is an icon that becomes the data that is clear as the color of leaves, and the leaf is a meaning of the plant cycle that is processing early. So it can be taken that a symbol in the first cycle of life is the leaf and here there is the word gold which means when the leaves are still green that is where glory or prosperity and fertility are. Where it is symbolized in general that gold is a symbol of glory, and the culmination of life both in plants (leaves) or can also be interpreted as symbols of glory in one's life.

*Her early leaf's a flower*

*But only so an hour.*

In the third and fourth lines of the sentence above, there is the word flower which also generally symbolizes the meaning of beauty, glory, and fragrance in a person. Which in the context of this sentence occurs in a plant growth cycle. It is said that the (young) leaf was originally a flower that did not last long. It can be interpreted with the same meaning, namely the period or cycle of youth is



something that is beautiful, fragrant, and attractive but does not last long and has its time.

*Then leaf subsides to leaf.*

*So Eden sank to grief,*

*So dawn goes down to day.*

Then leaf subsides to leaf is an index meaning related to the leaf subsides into a leaf, this is a figurative meaning which means after the cycle changes to the next cycle. The word so Eden sank into sorrow is a result of the previous sentence and is interrelated. The next sentence is So dawn goes down to dawn, the word dawn is an icon data which means the beginning of a day's cycle, where it is said that dawn will soon change to afternoon.

*Nothing gold can stay.*

At the end of the poem, there is a repetition of a word that has a symbol, the word gold which means glory that will not last long. The researcher can conclude from some of the data that the icon, index, and symbol in this poem ends with a philosophical word that the poet wants to express, which means that gold or glory, beauty or prosperity during the youth cycle will not last forever and will always stay. We will all grow old with the passage of time and time.

**Table b.** Symbols and meaning in *Nothing Gold Can Stay*

| No. | Findings                  | Repraseamentament Analysis   | Object Analysis   | Interpretation Analysis  |
|-----|---------------------------|--|---|--|
| 1.  | <b>Gold</b><br>(S1, L1)   | <i>Gold</i> means a yellow precious metal that can be malleable and shaped, usually used to make jewelry.                                    | In the first stanza of the first line, gold means the color of a part of nature or a leaf. Then green indicates a color of leave that indicates young age (plant)that are still green.            | In this poem, <i>gold</i> means luxury, jewelery and glory for someone who is in a young phase. The luxurious life of one's wealth or position is obtained when he is still at a productive age like a leaf that is still green.                 |
| 2   | <b>flower</b><br>(S1, L3) | <i>Flower</i> means the part of the plant that will become fruit, usually beautiful in color and fragrant, the place for plant reproduction. | In the third line, the word <i>flower</i> means that the beginning of the leaf is a flower. This means that in the plant cycle, flowers are a place of reproduction before the leaves are formed. | In this poem, the word <i>flower</i> means a phase that filled with beauty in youth in one's life cycle, a time when productivity and the period in love and happiness begin to blossom.   |
| 3   | <b>Leaf</b><br>(L3,L5)    | <i>Leaf</i> means the part of the plant that grows in strands on twigs (usually green) as a means of breathing and processing nutrients.     | In third line <i>leaf</i> means first nature is a leaf that becomes a flower, the fifth line it means that the leaves will subside into leaves that turn yellow and then fall.                    | In this poem, the word <i>leaf</i> means an age of a person which is reflected into a cycle in youth which is full of beauty and life which is interesting and full of love. Shown through green which means young leaves and in the third line. |

After reading and analyzing this poem, can be inferred that several meanings that often people think and are proud of themselves when they are young, Young people are the most productive age when working, have a myriad of achievements or beautiful parasails, and abundant wealth. This is something that is highly coveted by all young people and also people who are still on fire in their lives. By recognizing Robert Frost's poem entitled *Nothing Gold Can Stay*, illustrates a striking message that we should not be too proud or too carried away in the splendor of a beautiful young life with extravagance and too much fun. According to the meaning of the symbol and its implications in life all beauty, wealth, and luxury at a young age will not last long. Women who were once beautiful at one time will surely change into wrinkled and old. People who used to be healthy and agile will surely grow up to be weak and sick in their old age.

The second poem, entitled *Nothing Gold Can Stay*, contains several symbols are *gold*, *flower*, and *leaf*. Each symbol plays an important role to produce the meaning that is obtained. The first is the word *Gold*. Gold is one of the colors that are yellowish and shiny. While the figurative meaning of gold is interpreted as a symbol of glory, luxury, and the pinnacle of success in human life. Gold is the color of jewelry form of abundant wealth. In the context of the poem above, the word gold is used as a figure of speech for an object. The word leaf is combined with the color gold which means golden yellow. This means that the leaves are dry and ripe, the gold color is opposite to the green color where green is interpreted as a young or young leaf, while a leaf that is golden in color is a leaf that has matured.

Next is the word flower. In the literal sense, flowers are part of a plant, attractive in color, and smell good. Often flowers attract the attention of insects and animals because the flowers contain sweet nectar or honey. Not only animals but humans also really like flowers because of their beauty. Meanwhile, figuratively, the meaning of the flower itself is often symbolized as beauty, love, and pleasure. In the poem *Nothing Gold Can Stay* there is the sentence 'Her early leaf's a flower' in which the word flower symbolizes the meaning of a meaning that the flower is the initial part of the leaf. Flower is then used as a reference for the word that it is the period when the early life of a leaf. A young man is a time when he will only revel in love, luxury, and pleasure

Last is the word leaf symbol, which is pronounced as a leaf, which means a leaf. Leaves are one part of the tree that is green and serve as a place for photosynthesis for plants or trees. But based on the findings above, from a figurative point of view, the meaning of a leaf is a picture or symbol of a person's life cycle. It is marked with a green color then turns yellow and will fall to the ground when it is dry. Likewise with the human life cycle. Humans are initially children, young, and then will continue to grow into adults. And in the end, you will experience death.

### **3.To Earthward**

*Love at the lips was touch  
As sweet as I could bear;  
And once that seemed too much;  
I lived on air*

*That crossed me from sweet things,  
The flow of was it musk  
From hidden grapevine springs  
Downhill at dusk?*

*I had the swirl and ache  
From sprays of honeysuckle  
That when they're gathered shake  
Dew on the knuckle.*

*I craved strong sweets, but those  
Seemed strong when I was young;  
The petal of the rose  
It was that stung.*

*Now no joy but lacks salt,  
That is not dashed with pain  
And weariness and fault;  
I crave the stain*

*Of tears, the aftermark  
almost too much love,  
The sweet of bitter bark  
And burning clove.*

*When stiff and sore and scarred  
I take away my hand  
From leaning on it hard  
In grass and sand,*

*The hurt is not enough:  
I long for weight and strength  
To feel the earth as rough  
To all my length.*

The analysis for the first stanza begins with the word air. This word is a symbol of a free and wild life, the true meaning of the word air is a life that brings humans to continue to survive and be free to live life in the open. Air has means of life for all creatures including plants and animals freely wild and not bound by narrow spaces and boundaries. In the last line of the sentence I lived on air means that someone lives in the air freely. This relates to the meaning of the index obtained from the word I lived on air. This sentence indicates that a person who lives in free air is also a person who lives freely. As evidenced by the sentence icon in the previous word, which is contained in the sentence 'Love at the lips was touched as *sweet as I could bear*. Love is an icon sign that describes love in human life. Sweet is also an iconic sign that refers to a sweet, beautiful feeling of pleasure in a taste which is then interpreted that a sweet and loving life is a

symbol of a free and wild life. This unity relates well to producing a symbol of air which is the meaning that life is free with sweet and happy love.

In the above verse, there is the word rose or the petal of a rose, where the word is a general symbol of love, happiness, or joy. This is reinforced by the meaning of the index word from the previous sentence which reads I craved strong sweets when I was young. The meaning of the icon refers to the words sweets and strong where the two words give an icon sign for pleasure and strength in a person. Then the interpretation is that the rose or rose petals are a symbol of joy, sweetness, and strength in a person when he is young. In its true meaning, at a young age, it means that humans are in a phase that is attractive, strong, and tough, symbolized by a rose petal that is blooming with the word *petal of the rose*. The blossoming flower is a phase where the flower is in a phase that is so beautiful, fragrant, and enchanting. Likewise, with humans, this poem gives an equation to humans that is like a flower when it blooms, that youth is the most valuable and productive period when compared to other times, for example when old age is no longer productive and strong anymore.

In the stanza above there is the word lacking salt or salt which is a symbol of a miserable life. The true meaning of salt, it means an object that is important in the kitchen and has a salty taste, of course, too much salt will cause an unattractive and even bad taste. Strengthened by various allowances for the meaning of the previous word, In the word no joy which functions as an index of word data indicating that there is no happiness and joy due to a deficiency. This relates to a person who has lamented his past which was so free, beautiful, and

sufficient compared to the present which lacks salt and various complaints of pain that are starting to be felt.

**Table c.** *Symbols and meaning in To Earthward.*

| No. | Findings                       | Repräsentation<br>Analysis   | Object<br>Analysis   | Interpretation<br>Analysis  |
|-----|--------------------------------|--|--|---|
| 1.  | <b><i>Air</i></b><br>(S1, L4)  | <i>Air</i> means material in nature that contains oxygen which is useful for living, colorless and odorless and fill space in the earth. | In the fourth line, the word <i>air</i> means a place to live for someone who has a love life and is filled with excessive sweetness.              | In this poem, <i>air</i> means freedom, this word refers to a life that is free that a person feels and at that time there is only excessive pleasure and love in the association of his life.                              |
| 2   | <b><i>Rose</i></b><br>(S4, L3) | <i>Rose</i> means type of flower that tends to be red in color, fragrant, has thorns. Beautiful flower.                                  | In the fourth stanza, third line <i>rose</i> explain the same meaning between lines one two and three four that indicates the young age with rose. | in this poem the word <i>rose</i> is a symbol of love and beauty, derived from a figure of youth that holds many beautiful and sweet things or strong love when young.  |
| 3   | <b><i>Salt</i></b><br>(S5, L1) | <i>Salt</i> means substance that has a salty taste and is white in color, Usually used as a spice in the kitchen to add flavor to food.  | In the fifth stanza, the word <i>salt</i> means someone who feels nothing but a lack of salt and fatigue.  | In this poem, the word <i>salt</i> means a feeling that reflects the pain of life after youth is over, there is only sadness for remembering youth and now there are only memories without feelings and abundant treasures. |



Based on the analysis of the symbols and their meanings as shown in the table above, three words can be taken, namely water, petal of rose or rose, and salt. The first is water, in a literal sense, the meaning of water is an air, substance, or molecule that is used for living things to breathe. Water has an infinite place and in every corner of the earth has it. Meanwhile, figuratively meaning water is a freedom, where humans feel free in life. Life is like free and fresh air, without pressure and lack. Everything feels easy and also easy because life is without pressure. In the poem entitled *The Eartward*, in the first stanza of the fourth line, *I lived on air* is a reference word that means that a person lives in the air. It can be interpreted that he lived in a very free period and there was no pressure in it. A period of freedom is a time of youth in which many people revel in it. Strengthened in the sentence *Seemed strong when I was young* in the second stanza of the second line.

The second word is the petal of a rose or Rose. In literal meaning, a petal of a rose is a petal or part of a plant that functions as a place for the blossoming of a rose. A rose itself is a beautifully fragrant and beautiful flower. Meanwhile, figuratively it can be equated that the petal of roses is contained in the sentence of the poem *The Petal of the Rose* in the second stanza of the third line. Rose is symbolized as a symbol of love, fragrance, and happiness. Referring to the previous word, when he was young, he was full of love and beauty. Someone so enjoyed his youth with love. While the flower petals themselves are a symbol of the place where love blossoms or a time when love grows a lot. The youth of someone who so enjoys love and freedom in it.

The last word as a symbol is salt. Salt means a salty kitchen spice, salt is one of the most important spices to get a taste of food. Meanwhile, the word salt in its figurative meaning means feelings or colors in life. When a person does not have love and a sense of enthusiasm in life, there will be a feeling of blandness. Lack of salt also means a bland and useless life. There is neither happiness nor sadness. Often a bland feeling is in the old phase faced by someone. It is proven in the quote from the poem which reads Now no joy but lacks salt.

#### **4. *Gathering Leaves***

*Spades take up leaves  
No better than spoons,  
And bags full of leaves  
Are light as balloons.*

*I make a great noise  
Of rustling all day  
Like rabbit and deer  
Running away.*

*But the mountains I raise  
Elude my embrace,  
Flowing over my arms  
And into my face.*

*But the mountains I raise  
Elude my embrace,  
Flowing over my arms  
And into my face.*

*Next to nothing for weight,  
And since they grew duller  
From contact with earth,  
Next to nothing for color.*

*Next to nothing for use,  
But a crop is a crop,  
And who's to say where  
The harvest shall stop?*

In the first stanza, the first sentence contains a word that describes a leaves when it is picked up with spades. the word spades is an icon that indicates an object that is used to obtain an item. It can also have a figurative meaning, namely a tool and effort to get something. Regardless of whether something is valuable or not. Usually, spades are interpreted to take soil or sand as an additional building material, but here Frost describes something different, namely spades are used to be a tool for picking up leaves. Of course, the leaf is a very light object. Frost also equates the strength or quality of spades with spoons or even says that spades take leaves no more than spoons. The spoon is interpreted as a tool that has a smaller size that is used to take food. And then in the next paragraph in the words And bags full of leaves Are light as balloons. Frost also gives the same comparison as the previous sentence, namely in the word bags full of leaves the same as light as balloons which means that even though the bag is filled with leaves, it is as light as a balloon. Balloons is a light object because it is made of rubber and is only filled with air. The figurative language here is proven by using the equation of a leaf with a balloon. Of course, the two objects have different entities but are equally light. So that the meaning of the icon is obtained, there are spades, spoons, bags, and balloons. which is data indicating that they are an object or tool that has a light size value.

Then the meaning of the index is obtained from the words full and light. In the context of the sentence bags full of leaves, the word full is an indication that something has been filled sufficiently and completely occupies the available space, which should be if it is filled then will be heavy but in the next sentence it

reads Are light as balloons. So even though the bag is filled with leaves it is still as light as a balloon. The word light is an indication that the leaf is an object that is not heavy. In the context of figurative language, it is found that the word leaves is something light and not heavy. It can also be said that leaves are not something meaningful or of quality. In this way a symbolic meaning can be taken, the word leaves is a symbol for something that is not valuable.

In the second stanza, there are the words noise, rustling, and rabbit and deer. The word noise means boisterous and rustling with sound, noise is a symbol that there are lots of roars and also busy activities that people are doing, causing sounds that intersect with each other to produce noise and crowds. That's a sign that people don't stay still as rabbits and deer keep on making efforts to achieve something. The word symbol is reinforced by the index data and the icon contained in the next line of the sentence. The words rustling all day, rustling is key data, an index that when there is rumbling throughout the day, the noise becomes clearer and it is proven that there is an activity of busy people throughout the day who do their work to get something. Meanwhile, Like rabbit and deer is a simile that equates a person's activities with animal activities where both have the same level of work, namely working as fast as a rabbit and deer running. Rabbit and deer is an icon meaning that illustrates that a job is done fast and hard as if they ran all day while alive. With a series of reinforcing icons and index evidence, the word noise is obtained which in the context of the sentence I make a great noise means noisy, namely working hard. Therefore Frost wants to express that

someone has made a great effort, namely in the word noise to describe a great effort that he has tirelessly gone through.

The sentence But the mountains I raise is a sentence that contains a symbol in the word mountains which is opposite or is the opposite of the word leaves because mountains and leaves are two very contrasting things in expressing a weight or size where one light and the other is very heavy and majestic and sturdy standing upright. What is explained in the verse above is that a person is described as having tried many things to reach a mountain or something that he wants to get hard, but in the next sentence Elude my embrace which means that he has tried many things to get dreams or results that are many and large but he cannot get all of them or is released from his embrace. Flowing over my arms and into my face which means all his efforts so far have slipped out of his grasp and disappeared from his sight. Till I fill the whole shed is an index that a person has exceeded all his hard work to fill the whole shed.

**Table d.** Symbols and meaning in *Gathering Leaves*.

| No. | Findings                           | Repraseamentament Analysis  | Object Analysis   | Interpretation Analysis   |
|-----|------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 1.  | <b><i>Leaves</i></b><br>(S1, L1)   | <i>Leaves</i> means the part of the plant that grows in strands on a twig, the things that thin and wide and is easily blown by the wind. | In the first stanza, <i>leaves</i> means an item that is light and can be taken through spades, where spades are usually used for dig the ground but here it is used for picking up leaves. | In this poem, the word <i>leaves</i> means something that is very light and useless because it is equated with the light balloon equation and the futile life of collecting leaves in a room. Gathering leaves here means futile human efforts and is likened to someone gathering leaves using spades. |
| 2   | <b><i>Noise</i></b><br>(S2, L1)    | <i>Noise</i> means a sound or movement that makes clamor, din and tightness in the ear. Crowded.  | In the second stanza the word <i>noise</i> is reflected that someone making a big noise and fussing all day long like a rabbit and a deer when running fast.                                | In this poem, the word <i>noise</i> means a big effort and hard working by someone who wants to get the dream.  |
| 3   | <b><i>Mountains</i></b><br>(S3,L1) | <i>Mountains</i> means pile of soil that so large,big and forms a high hill . Usually has a beautiful peak.                               | In the third line <i>mountains</i> mean that the person who has lifted a mountain then falls and loses power after everything in his hands has gone and just flows.                         | In this poem, it reflects that the meaning of the word <i>mountain</i> are big hope, dream and aspiration of someone who disappears after days of hard work and effort to get that dream.   |

Based on the analysis of symbols and their meanings as shown in the table above, three symbolic words can be taken, namely *leaves*, *noise*, and *mountains*. In the excerpt of the poem above entitled *Gathering Leaves*, the meaning of the symbol is obtained from several figurative language types of equations and similes to explain one object with another object which may have a different entity but have the same value. Obtained the meaning of the first symbol, namely the word *leaves*, in a lateral meaning or the dictionary meaning of leaves or leaf means leaf. The leaf is a part of the plant that is green in color, it is light and thin and has various shapes. In plants leaves certainly have an important function for the life of a plant. But it is very light and not heavy. Whereas in the context of the *Gathering Leaves* poem here, the researcher interprets that the leaf here is someone's effort that is so meaningful but meaningless. The leaves will grow and wither and then be swept everywhere by the wind because of their light shape. No matter how important something is, it is still worthless if it is only light and small. Same with the meaning of the implications that exist in this poem.

This poem describes a human effort that has been expended but the results obtained are not worth the effort. Just like a tree that eventually just falls on the ground and is worthless. The second word is *noise*, in the dictionary meaning is a rumbling sound that is disturbing and increasingly interlocking. Meanwhile, the figurative meaning is obtained, namely endless effort, which creates an atmosphere of hard work and almost no breaks to rest. In this poem, in the first line of the second stanza, there is the sentence *I make a great noise*, which means that someone has worked well. Everything that has been tried properly and

correctly every day, hard work, and the results of existing efforts. Even strengthened by the simile figure of speech, as words like rabbit and deer running away, rabbits and deer are agile animals and can run fast. The meaning taken is that humans have worked hard every day quickly and tirelessly.

The last word is the mountain. In the dictionary meaning of a mountain is a mound of land that is high and large, has great energy, and is the main goal of a climber who likes it. Meanwhile, in a figurative sense here it can be taken that carrying a mountain is a dream of someone's achievement and success in his life. In the context of this poem, the word mountain is based on a deep disappointment that he has tried all means to get to the top, but the results are the opposite. Everything fell from his wishful thinking and dreams.

### **B. The Correlation About Symbols Meaning In Robert Frost's Poems**

Nature has a great influence on humans because it is an important component of human life. And vice versa, humans have a great influence on nature in terms of maintenance and preservation. It is through this interaction that meaning emerges as a human symbol for nature, which in turn influences human life and nature itself. It is to be found in the totality of man's relationship with nature, with the land and trees, with the fruits of the earth and the crops of the sea, with the hills and valleys of the mountains, with the sunshine and rainstorms, with the gently flowing rivers and streams. Nature is God's creation given to humans to survive. Humans cannot live without nature and nature is meaningless and meaningless without humans in it because humans are given the power by God to



manage and utilize nature for their survival in a responsible manner. Wrong one natural element that the author will describe is soil.

The symbol in the context of this study contains an illustration of how the poet explains Robert Frost's feelings by using a comparison of life from nature, for example, the growth of a tree which is analogous to a human life cycle. This is related to the interaction between nature and humans which influence each other. Nature has a great influence on humans because it is an important component of human life. Humans have a great influence on nature in terms of maintenance and preservation. It is through this interaction that meaning emerges as a human symbol for nature, which in turn influences human life and nature itself. Learning the signs, symbols, or terms for interpreting something is to broaden our knowledge in analyzing a literary work. Explaining a symbol in a poetic work will increase our sensitivity and intelligence in translating the signifier, to Charles Sanders Peirce's theory based on the subject.

Based on the results of the symbol analysis above, can be found several existing symbols. As in the poem *A Winter Eden*, there are *Winter*, *Paradise*, and *Red*. Of the three symbols found, there are two symbols related to nature, there is *winter* and *paradise*. Likewise with the second poem entitled *Nothing Gold Can Stay*, from the analysis carried out by the researcher, several symbols can be obtained, *gold*, *flower* and *leaf*. Where two of these symbols have something to do with natural elements. The next poem is entitled *To Earthward* which tells about a person's youth filled with freedom, love and pleasure. Also found several symbols such as *air*, *rose*, and *salt*. Two of the symbols found in the poem *to Earthward*

mentioned above have in common that they have natural elements, namely air and rose. Then the last one is Robert Frost's poem entitled *Gathering Leaves*. This poem is still entitled, which is also about nature and has symbols after the analysis above, namely leaves, noise, and mountains. Just like the previous poem, two of the symbols of the poem were found by the researcher, that the two symbols in this poem have a relationship with natural elements, namely air and mountains. It can be concluded that in several of Robert Frost's poems, many of the synonyms of nature are used to describe the connotation and meaning of existing life.

Then for the meaning in the poems, there are relationship and correlation in the four poems by Robert Frost above, which are mutually continuous. Such as the pattern of freedom and happiness in youth. In the first poem entitled *A Winter Eden*, the word symbol *Paradise* is mentioned which means happiness, then for the second poem, in mention the symbol for the word *gold* which means a happiness reflect by glory or success in youth, while in the third poem entitled *To Earthward* we find the symbol rose which means love or happiness in youth. And the last one is in the *Gathering Leaves* poem which gets the symbol of *mountains* which means dreams and hopes of happiness. The pattern of happiness reflected in each of Robert Frost's poems wants to explain the meaning contained in life's message that happiness will not last forever in this world. Youth will change to old, healthy will change to sick, and the rich will turn into poor at times. So use your youth for something that is useful and has a positive impact before your old age comes.

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

In this section, the researcher discusses suggestions and conclusions based on the data and analysis in the previous chapter.

#### A. Conclusion

There is a conclusion that is obtained after analyzing and interpreting the data that has been taken by the researcher, it can be concluded that there are several symbolic meanings in each poem the first one is *A Winter Eden*, in this poem there are symbols and their meanings that implied and has the meaning that the beginning of a new life will soon begin after difficulties and shortcomings. Then in the next poem, entitled *Nothing Gold Can Stay*, the meaning of the symbol is found which implements that youth in humans along with their glory and beauty will not last forever, humans and life will have a grace period so use the best time possible before regretting it later. that is when old age or twilight comes and there will only be sorrow lamenting over it.

*To Earthward* the second poem has a very deep symbol and meaning. It contains almost the same meaning as the previous poem, namely telling the story of the harshness of human life in the twilight. In this poem, it is also stated that in one's youth, a person spends a lot of memories, love, and happiness that are depicted through symbols that have been found by researcher that teach a lesson that youth should be used for useful things or work productively rather than just for fun because it is a provision for old age so that later there will be no trouble. both economically and materially.

The last one is a poem entitled Gathering Leaves. This poem has several symbols and meanings that tell of a person's disappointment when he has tried his best to achieve a dream, but still, there is no award or failure in achieving that dream. The author also concludes that the meaning of the message obtained is that however the result of a struggle we still have to fight and pray to reach it because a struggle without a prayer will only be in vain.

So from the above analysis, it can be concluded that the four poems above have something in common, namely telling about a world and happiness that is mortal and will not be eternal, all things in the world just happened and have an ending. The researcher concludes that Robert Frost can properly implement the symbols and meanings of natural life which become a beautiful harmony for his readers. Many meanings of life, interrelated relationships with nature and humans,

### **B. Suggestion**

After analyzing the poems and the relationship with the symbol meaning, the researcher suggests to future researchers that if they like and interested in the poem analysis must be explore Robert Frost'work, not only the themes but the other elements and theories that can be used for research because there are other elements also interesting works to research more deeply to produce a better work. Future research is expected to be an example and reference for further research to gain better knowledge and scientific progress.

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## **CURRICULUM VITAE**



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