THE PORTRAIT OF DEPRESSION SEEN THROUGH METAPHOR IN WILFRED OWEN'S "DISABLED"

Aprin Kusumaning Wardani, Eko Budi Setiawan

- ¹ English Study Program, Faculty of Letters, Catholic University of Widya Mandala Madiun email: kusumaningaprin@yahoo.co.id
- ² English Study Program, Faculty of Letters, Catholic University of Widya Mandala Madiun email: ebsekobudi@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This research is discussed "Disabled" poem dealing with depression that happened in the speaker condition between his past and future in Wilfred Owen's "Disabled". It focusees on two major purposes: (1) to find out, to classifies, and describe the metaphor as seen through in Wilfred Owen's "Disabled". (2) to understand the symbol that reveals depression in Wilfred Owen's "Disabled". This research is used written data. The data and the theories were taken from written form and internet browsing. In this study, the researcher used some theories. They were of figure of speech, metaphor, symbol, and depression. Furthermore, the approaches were used structural approach, formalistic approach, and psychological approach. The approaches were applied to determine the approach in analyzing the metaphor and symbol found in poem. There were two metaphors related to depression, physical depression and psychological depression. Physical depression described the speaker's condition and situation which cause the depression. Psychological depression was the effect of his disability. Moreover, there were two symbols revealing depression namely disappointment and death.

Keywords: Metaphor, Irony, Symbol, Depression

1. INTRODUCTION

Literature is something that is used to express to someone's feeling, thought, and it can make people who write or listen become interested. There are some kinds of literary works. One of them is poetry. Poetry is the expression of the poet's own mind, feeling, imagination and experience. In this research the researcher using a poem entitled "Disabled" by Wilfred Owen. The research focuses on Owen's "Disabled". It tells about Owen feelings, condition and the situation after he is diagnosed with shell shock. This poem tells about the condition arising after sustain disabled. Many people stay away. There is no one who want to meet him. In the past, his fans praised him as the famous football player. Poetry can be analyzed from the figure of speech, metaphor that found in a poem. Through metaphor the reader can understand the meaning in a poem. The researcher discusses further how the image of depression which is reflected through the metaphor that reveals irony of past & future in a poem by Wilfred Owen focused in "Disabled" poem.

In this research there are two problem to be solved as follow (1) What are the portrait of depression as seen through metaphor that reveals the irony of the past &

the future of a disabled soldier in Wilfred Owen's "Disabled" (2) What is the symbol that reveals depression in Wilfred Owe's "Disabled". The purpose of this research is to explain the answer of the problems. Those purposes are, (1) To explain the portrait of depression seen through metaphor that reveals the irony of past & future which is found in Wilfred Owen's "Disabled". (2) To explain clearly about the symbol dealing with depression in Wilfred Owen's "Disabled". In relation with the topic, the researcher will give limitation for the research. This research focuses on some lines which contain of metaphor that reveals irony of past & future that express depression in "Disabled" poem. Besides the metaphor, the researcher tries to find out the symbol that is derived from the metaphor dealing with depression. The researcher hopes that the reader will understand the poet's feelings. Understanding about the effect after war that happens in his life. This analysis can make the researcher becomes more understand about metaphor.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

The source of data in the research is lines from the poem entitled "Disabled". It tells about a soldier who lost his legs in a war at that time. The poem is written by Wilfred Owen. Wilfred Owen is one of the best writers in British. He writes some of poetry on World War I. This research uses three approaches. The first approach is structural approach. Structural approach is used to analyze the word constituent. The appreciation and evaluation will be clear and easy to understand, so we will discover the truth stated by Scott (1962: 83). It means that in analyzing the word carefully can find the truth meaning. Second approaches is formalistic approach. Scott (1962: 183) states that:

"The formalistic critic examines the total poem without proper regard for the species of which it is an example, thus failing to distinguish between the broad genres(drama, novel, lyric, epic) or, still less, between sub-species (one kinds of tragedy, perhaps mimetic, as opposed to another, perhaps didactic)."

It means that it is concerned to give the effect from the text's content to the readers with the work itself. The third approach which is used in this research is psychological approach. According to Scott (1962: 71) states that "Psychological approach is the study of the lives of the authors as a means of the understanding their art." It means that psychological approach is used to analyze the writter experience and imagination in writing his poem. This poem is written based on author accident. Therefore, psychological approach is used. The researcher uses descriptive method to describe the problem in this research. Punch (2000: 38) in *Developing Effective Research Proposal* stated that:

"A descriptive study sets out to collect, organize, and summarize information about the matter being studied. To describe is to draw a picture of what happened, or of how things amre proceeding, or of what situation or person or event is (or was) like, or means, or of how things are related to each other."

It means that this method is to describe something and make the analysis clearer in this research. In technique of collecting data the writer uses library research. George states that library research involves identifying and locating sources that provide factual information or personal/expert opinion on a research question; necessary component of every other research method at some point (2008: 6). It clarifies that library research is used to find the factual informations either in written book or in internet.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

There are two subchapter which are discussed in this research as follow:

1. The portrait of depression as seen through metaphor revealing the irony past & future in Wilfred Owen's "Disabled".

1.1 Physical Depression

Depression is a state when people have feelings of anxiety, sadness, madness, fear, and confuse. It makes people hopeless and also guilty. Moreover, those feelings caused by condition can be found in metaphor in a poem entitled "Disabled". As follow:

He sat in a wheeled chair, waiting for dark, (1) the word "wheeled", it can be concluded that he gets the depression which is drawn in his physical condition. Wheeled chair is a metaphor of disability. Both words have similar meanings. Wheeled chair cannot walk or move on its own without any help from others as well as disability. People who suffer from disability are not as free as normal people. They have physical limitations that they cannot do activities without the help of others. And shivered in his ghastly suit of grey, (2)the word "shivered" is a metaphoric image of fear. The word has the meaning, it is uncomfortable, worried, and anxious. Fear is caused by the sudden changes. The change of his appearance makes him unnable to accept his condition.

1.2 Psychologycal Depression

Depression in a poem "Disabled" can be seen through psychological condition of the speaker. It means mental that causes depression has a relation with an abnormal mental situation. This is due to the fact that disruption of condition change in life can cause a person to suffer from depression.

He's lost his colour very far from here, (17) the words "lost" and "colour" mean that the speaker's life has changed. The speaker loses the colour of happiness within him. The change is full of sorrow and darkness without colour that adorns his life. The darkness means a sense of disappointment and a sense of despair for the change in his present condition. Lost the colour very far from... (17) here means that the speaker never feels happy after he loses his legs. The happiness that does not take side on him is replaced with disappointment and despair. Now, all of them are his best friends, the colour of his life has gone. This situation evokes the color of the speaker's life that does not want to visit even see him again. The situation which he experiences because of the body condition is considered as contagious and disgusting disease by people.

2. The symbol that reveals depression in Wilfred Owen's "Disabled".

2.1 Disappointment

Disappointment is a deep human's feeling having a bad meaning. Literally, feeling disappointed is the reaction of hopeless expectations and desires which is experienced by a person.

He sat in a wheeled chair, waiting for dark,(1) the word "wheeled chair" is a symbol of imperfection. The imperfection can cause depression if someone who undergoes it cannot accept the situation. He suffers from a mental disorder caused by his shock. It is supported by the word "ghastly" which means lonely. It is said to be lonely because the speaker does not have someone who accompanies him when his condition is not perfect.

How cold and late it is! Why don't they come (45) And put him into bed? Why don't they come? (46). Why don't they come" symbolizes disappointment. The symbol of disappointment means the speaker experiences the peak of anger. The repetition is used by the speaker to make people aware what he actually needs to improve his psychological and physical conditions. On the other hand, the word that symbolizes disappointment here is "late". The word "late" refers to the speaker's disappointment. It describes his feeling when waiting for people who are unaware of his condition and his soul.

2 2 Death

Death is the situation when mind, soul, and body do not work anymore. Literally, death is the end of life. Death is often symbolized by colours, words, and things. In this poem, death can be symbolized by colours. The colours are black, yellow, and white.

He sat in a wheeled chair, waiting for dark, (1) "Dark" here means the death of the speaker's hope. He is no longer has any hopes making his life and his soul colourful. The death of his future is real so he cannot be revived anymore. All of his hopes and happiness die with his legs. It is said to die with his legs because he will never feel running and walking again. How cold and late it is! Why don't they come (45) the meaning of "cold" is emptiness. It refers to the speaker's heart which is empty, meaning he has no ambition, spirit, or anger. His heart is an empty room without any emotions. In other words, the death which happens to the speaker is the death of mental conditions.

In addition, this is the effect of high level bullying that cause the speaker having a depression. The act of the bullying itself makes the speaker die slowly. He die because he feels mentally tortured.

4. CONCLUSION

In this chapter the researcher concludes all the problem of the research entitled "The Portrait of Depression Seen through Metaphor in Wilfred Owen's "Disabled". In this dicussion has two problems to be solved by the researcher. They are the portrait of depression seen through metaphor that reveals irony of past & future and symbol dealing with depression. The researcher uses some approaches in analysis. They are structural approach, formalistic approach, and psychological approach. The

metaphors are divided into two. They are physical depression and psychological depression. The metaphors describe the speaker's condition physically and mentally. The meaning of depression physically is the speaker's condition being a disability. It describes condition mentally caused the speaker just remembering his happy moments in the past without rebuid it again in his present life. The researcher classifies the symbol into two classification they are disappointment and death.

5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Scott, Wilbur S. 1962. *Five Approaches of Literary Criticism*. New York: A Division of Macmilan Publishing Go., Inc.