

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter gives the brief explanation of background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation.

1.1 Background of the Study

Reading a poem makes people wiser to observe everything in life. It will be better if it is done by many points of view which means it is not only based on fictional process but also non-fictional process of writing. Literature as the mirror of human life is able to portray human feeling, thought, imagination and perception which can be viewed based on personal judgement. It can be divided into three genres, such as prose fiction, poem and drama (Wellek and Warren, 1963: 30). Poem as one of genres of literary work can give us enjoyments and social intellectual delight.

Based on *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Literary Terms*, Poem is a language sung, chanted, spoken, or written, according to some pattern of recurrence that emphasizes the relationship between words on the basis of sound as well as sense (Baldick, 2001: 198). It means that poem is one genre of literary work which has nearer relationship with our sense. Poem is able to make sense of the readers becomes more details. Poem is really formidable because it will give many opportunities to the poets to express the feeling and ideas clearly. Especially, with the form that is not too long, a poem can give more chance to

read it again in many times.

In the other side, based on literary functions, poetry can also be used to portray the human life which their relation can be noticed. Moreover, Probyn (1984: 9) reveals that poem is a system of discourse which signals its presence by shape (form) and intensity of meaning (a concentration of dictionary meanings and of other, contextual meanings). It means that poem is not only containing some lines of sophisticated sentences or phrases written on a paper, but also deep meanings about many things in this life.

The general perception about poetry such as the short form, small number of words in each lines and more chance to repeat the close reading become a reason why this study discusses about poem. It will be easy to tell the idea through writing because there are many terms that will be seen and identified. McClatchy (2003: 32-33) once stated about reading poem by saying: "In reading a poem what's finally at stake is us, our sense of the world, what intimations we have of our own soul." In that statement, McClatchy describes that a poem is something that can sharpen our feeling about everything in this world.

The aim of its creation is providing enjoyment and usefulness for the readers because they give them some information and pleasures. Therefore, by reading a poem the readers do not only get entertainment or pleasure but also much knowledge as well, such as social situation, global information, etc. Concerning with the existence of the creators of a poem, there are many famous poets, especially American poets. One of the most famous poets is Elizabeth Bishop. Elizabeth Bishop was born on February 8th, 1911 in Worcester,

Massachusetts. Through good schooling, she produced a great deal of literary works. One of her masterpieces is “Over 2,000 Illustrations and a Complete Concordance” (McClatchy, 2003: 31).

Elizabeth Bishop is one of the greatest American poets who won a Pulitzer Prize in 1956, she was also awarded the National Book Award for Poem in 1970 and Harriet Monroe Poem Award in 1974. Some of her other famous works are *The Bight*, *At The Fishhouses*, *The Shampoo*, and *One Art* (McClatchy, 2003: 22). This is the reason why her work is chosen as the source of data of this study.

This study needs an appropriate theory to be used to analyze this poem. The theory is Metanarration theory. By using Metanarration, this study produces a clear analysis, because this theory applies diegetic concept of poem analysis to reveal storyworld and the messages of a literary work. Diegetic here means a style of storytelling which presents that world itself experienced by the characters in situations and events of the narrative (Macrae, 2010: 132). Metanarration is a general approach to analyze the poem.

Metanarration theory in this study is used to analyze diegetic elements in the poem. “Over 2,000 Illustrations and a Complete Concordance” is attracting for many reasons. The long journey with many situation of the poem is fascinating, and after reading it for the third time or so, the poem shows more of the implied meaning. It is chosen as the main source because the poems by Elizabeth Bishop are very well known and people believe that her poems are good for social education especially and for improving people’s intellectual properties.

This study analyzes the poem and the basis of its lines and gives the interpretation of each line. Further, Bishop's poem are rich with diegetic elements which contains valuable messages. For instance, people get valuable knowledge and messages after reading the poem because they are more aware of whole situation in all over the world than many people in middle east and other places in all over the world. Middle east known as region of several countries with high risk of conflicts or war situation.

The poem chosen in this writing is considered as Contemporary Genre Poem. According to Robert Creeley in backside cover of his book (1994) entitled *A Poetics of Criticism* that stated:

“Contemporary literary criticism is often thought as a narrow set of writing forms and practices. It is usually considered a forum to tell about ideas, not enact them.”

Inspired from statement above, this study is decided using Contemporary Genre Poem as source of data. This study is aimed to promote new mindset about Contemporary literary works which is analyzed in this study using Metanarration theory. Buchbinder (1991: 1-2) states that contemporary poem is poem written in free verse and do not focus as much on rhyme as do traditional types of poem.

It means that contemporary poem is irregular formed mainly in aspect of rhyme contains in poem, even in one stanza can exist with more than four or five lines. The number of lines in one stanza can be slightly different one another. Those are general view of contemporary poem we can find easily. Contemporary poem is slightly different with traditional types of poem because contemporary poems often shares similar themes and writing styles. Still, contemporary poetry

has gone in different directions, to an extent.

This poem was also included at poem collection of Elizabeth Bishop in *The Vintage Book of Contemporary American Poetry*. The poem was popular at that time, because it told about the story narration of journey that contains various perspectives of phenomena and scene situations. The poem also contains story about cross cultural phenomenon all over the world which portrays the real condition of global situation in this universe, while the world situation getting “warm”.

“Warm” here means that there are several events in all over the world that leads some groups of people to a more serious conflicts. The conflicts can be in the name of human races, culture, nationalisms, religion, and science. There are many events showing on this poem due to life problems in many aspects. Those features that will be analyzed then developed in this writing.

Word “*Concordance*” on the title of poem here is in line with many scenes of situation & storyworld inside the poem. It can be noticed clearly in the poem which most of lines on poem has their meaning role due to story narration of poem. It is not the first time that Elizabeth Bishop’s *Over 2.000 Illustrations and a Complete Concordance* is analyzed. It has been found there was one study that has analyzed the same poem by using different theory. The study was written by Elizabeth Burns (1994) entitled *Talking About Bishop’s God and Talking About That*, this study was analyzed by using Feminist Theology theory.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of study above, this study answer the following questions, those are:

1. How are diegetic elements conveyed in this poem applied in line with metanarration theory?
2. What messages can be taken from this poem?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the statement of research problem, the study is intended:

1. To explain how diegetic elements applied on the poem in line with metanarration theory which can makes the readers easier to understand frame of story telling of this poem due to metanarration theory.
2. To explain the important messages of the poem which can inspiring the readers because generally poetry can be very effective to be used as a media for the author to gives messages for the readers.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The study is expected to be able to provide theoretical and practical benefits. Theoretically, the results of the study is expected to give contribution to the study of metanarration in literary works, especially in a poem. Practically, the results of the study can be used by other students to appreciate and analyze the poem from different point of view.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is Metanarration and the application of the theory in analyzing poem, especially in Elizabeth Bishop's "Over 2,000 Illustrations and a Complete Concordance." Furthermore, the discussion of the study is limited on the diegetic elements which are found on words and phrases employed in Elizabeth Bishop's "Over 2,000 Illustrations and a Complete Concordance."