

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the background, Statement of Research Problems, Objective of the Study, The Significances of the Study, Scope and Limitation of the Study.

1.1 Background

Family is several individuals who are members of the same household because of blood relations; marriage ties, and other things. Each family member has their respective duties and roles in a family. One example of a family member is a mother; the mother has a role as a wife as well as the mother of her children. She has a duty as a housewife as well as a teacher who becomes the first teacher for her child.

According to Smith, the family is an institution. Immediate family relations include those of husband, wife, mother, father, son, brother, sister and daughter (2013: 2). The statement shows that every family member has a connected attachment between one another. In the family, attitudes and attention to other members can cause feelings such as love happiness, sadness, disappointment and others. In addition, family is a part of life that can give the spirit to reach hope and can be use as the main idea for all works, one of them is poem.

Poem is one of literary work that uses written language. The language used in literary work is different from everyday language or

other scientific languages. Poem is a written language that is rhythmically structured and has the aim of expressing one's feelings in the form of literary works (Jantas, 2006), it can be said that the delivery of a message through poem is structured in such a way using written diction and patterns.

Meanwhile, Poem is a form of imaginative expression of a person's strong feelings towards a memory or experience (WordsWorth, 1800). Poem can provide a picture of a person's memories or a poet's experience through language which is beautifully woven into a poem. This is because, in writing a poem it cannot be separated from several formal elements such as; *rhythm, rhyme, metaphor, irony* and so forth.

In connection with the previous paragraph, some elements contained in the poem allow the reader to interpret a poem not based on background of the author making poem, but based on the text itself and formal elements contained in the poem. This can also make readers have different interpretations from other readers. Thus, a poem can have a different meaning according to how the reader interprets the poem. Readers can interpret the meaning, themes and conflicts in poem by formal elements used in the poem. The reader can understand the meaning or theme in poem through the lyrics of poems.

The theme can be said to be the main idea of a literary work, especially in this study of a poems by Louise Gluck. According to Abrams, the theme is conceptual that is manifested and dramatized to

develop meaning and images in poetry (1981: 111). A writer can express the intention or theme in a poem by using several ways such as; a writer can show a theme in a poem through the feelings of the character or subject chosen. In addition, the writer shows the intention or theme in the poetry through the choice of words in poem such as; the use of metaphors, similes, imagery, paradoxes and other elements in poem.

One of the themes taken by the author in this study is about the role of family. In one family consists of several people who have their respective roles in the family. In the family there are father, mother, grandfather, grandmother and other family members. Each family member has their own individual attitude such as; caring, compassionate, grumpy and so on.

The role of the family is a form of attitude shown by each family member in the house. One of them is the father, who plays the role of the household. He has rights and obligations to do for his family. In this study, the author tries to reveal the role of the family contained in several poems by Louise Glück through the formal elements it uses. This can show how each family member plays a role in each other.

In this research, the writer uses several poems by Louise Glück such as; *Love poem*, *Lullaby*, *Nocturne*, *Widows* and *Snow*. These poems describe about the role of family in poems. The role of family in poems by Louise Glück is illustrated through the vocabulary contained therein. The use of metaphor, imagery and several other formal elements are able to

describe the theme in the poem based on the text itself and not based on how the reader feels when reading the poems by Louise Gluck.

The purpose of writer in choosing the poem by Louise Gluck is to find out one of the themes about the role of family in Louise Gluck's poems. In this research, the writer focuses on analyzing the text itself to provide facts and does not involve the author's background, reader feelings and other extrinsic elements.

In this case, the writer tries to focus on the role of family in Louise Gluck's poems; this is because some of Louise's poems have several themes. One of the collections of themes, the writer is interested in poem that shows about the formal elements used in the poem and show the theme.

Louise Gluck or who has the name Louise Elisabeth Gluck is an American poet who gets many awards. She won many literary awards in America such as; the winner of the Pulitzer, the National Book Award, the Bollingen Prize and most recently is Louise as a Nobel Prize for Literature 2020, "speaking on behalf of the Nobel committee that awarded the 2020 Nobel Prize for literature to the 1942 born, American poet Louise Gluck" said the chairman. In this regard, Andrew Olsson who as chairman explained that what attracted him was how Louise described a feeling in her work, "in her poems, the self listens for what is left of its dreams and delusions" (Bhattacharjee, 2020).

There are several studies using poems by Louise Gluck. The first study the poem “Vespers” expresses of longing. In his research, the poem shows why someone suffers when longing through the aspect of poem (AM, 2017). In addition, in the poem 'The Wild Iris' which reveals what it means to live, die and be born again, researchers analyze it by looking at some of the poetic techniques used by the author (Baldwin, 2020). Furthermore, the poem 'October' which tells about autumn, besides that the author describes the poem related to painful episodes in his past, the author focuses on certain rhymes in the poem (Gupta, 2020).

In this study, the writer use new criticism theory to analyze the meaning of family roles contained in the poems. In addition, the writer wants to explain this meaning based on the text itself or based on textual evidence. According to Tyson, the text itself is the only place we can look to find its meaning (2011:36). The use of this theory allows readers to support a number of differences in interpretation, even though the reader uses the same theory and concept. In this theory, readers can interpret the meaning or theme in poem based on the text itself and several elements contained in the theory such as; *tension*, *ambiguity*, *imagery*, *symbol*, *metaphor*, and *simile*. This is done to provide evidence of meaning in the poem based on the text itself.

1.2 Statement of Research Problems

Based on the background above, the research question is:

1. How is the role of family represented in selected poems by Louise Gluck?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The objectives of this study:

1. To represented the role of family in selected poems by Louise Gluck through formal elements.

1.4 The Significances of the Study

Theoretically, this study is expected to support poem analysis to find themes based on formal elements, especially in the poem of *Love Poem*, *Lullaby*, *Nocturne*, *Widows* and *Snow*. Then to provide insight and experience in analyzing poem that focuses on the use of New Criticism theory. Meanwhile, practically this study is expected to provide benefits to other researchers who focus on poem, so that the readers will understand and easy to analyze poem.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of this research is the use of New Criticism theory by Peter Brooks to analyze several poems by Louise Gluck about the role of family. The new criticism theory can help the writer to find out a theme in literary work, through the text itself. In this study, the writer focused on the formal element that contained in poems by Louise Gluck such as: *Imagery*, *Symbol*, *Metaphor*, and *Simile*.

Writer focused on the theme about the role of family in Louise Glück's poems. The writer chooses five poems by Louise Glück as data analysis such as: *Love poem*, *Lullaby*, *Nocturne Widows* and *Snow*.