

ABSTRACT

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The focus of this study is the symbols of woman in Maya Angelou's "Phenomenal Woman". There are 60 lines and 4 stanzas in the poem. And each stanza explains about the beauty of woman through her confidence. Furthermore, the symbols analyzed based on the life background factors of the author which influence the development itself.

Furthermore, because this study has relationship with the symbol so that the theory of semiotics and structuralism especially semiotics according to Riffaterre is used as the main tool to analyze the topic matter. This analysis will give resolution which is related to the research problems (1) What kinds of symbols appear in the poem? (2) How are women symbolized in the poem?. Moreover, this study is conducted using qualitative design. The data of this study are the words, phrases, or lines that depict the women in the poem, while the key instrument is the writer herself.

After analyzing Maya Angelou's "Phenomenal Woman", it can be concluded that the symbol appeared in the poem is about the confidence of woman. The existence of this confidence is influenced by the life background factors of the author. The author symbolized women as someone who has confidence and inner strength by describing the movement of her body.

Keywords: Semiotics of Riffaterre, Symbol, Woman

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