

ABSTRACT

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Defining the Poem's Theme through Intrinsic Elements in Adrienne Rich's "Diving Into the Wreck"

This study discusses Adrienne Rich's poem entitled "Diving Into the Wreck". It is aimed to define the poem's theme through the analysis of figure of speech and imagery presented by the speaker in this poem. Therefore, this study uses New Criticism theory to define the poem's theme based on the analysis of the text itself.

This study uses qualitative research method as the research design because the analysis of this study does not involve any number. The data of this study is word, phrase, or line relating with the writer's focus of analysis. It is analysis of figure of speech and imagery. After this analysis, the writer gets what the poem is about and then the poem's theme can be defined based on that analysis. So, in analyzing the data, the writer has to understand well this source of data, "Diving Into the Wreck".

The data analysis reveals the findings covering the research questions. First, the major figure that appears in this poem is metaphor, simile, personification, and symbol. Second, the image that appears in this poem is kinesthetic, visual, and organic. From that analysis, the writer can catch that diving done by the speaker is not the same with the real diving activity. In here, diving represents the speaker's exploration into the wreck. The wreck represents the damage of life happened in human life which is as the goal of this exploration. The aim of this exploration is to see and know the real damage of life where the speaker hopes to save it. Unfortunately, the speaker can do nothing of the damage happened. And the last from finding of this analysis, it shows that the poem's theme is the damage of life which cannot be saved especially by the speaker.

Keywords: Figure of speech, Imagery, New criticism, Diving, The damage of life, Theme.