

# **A Semiotic Analysis on Eldorado Poem by Edgar Allan Poe**

**(A Thesis)**



**By**

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## **DECLARATION OF FREE PLAGIARISM**

I hereby declare and extent my candor that thesis is written by myself except for the quotations and summaries which have been properly acknowledged.

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**Writer,**

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*MOTTO*

*“It always seems impossible until its done”*

*(Nelson Mandela)*

## *DEDICATION*

*From the deepest of my heart, I dedicate this thesis to dearest people who give*

*me a support and motivations to the whole of my life:*

*my mother, my father, my brothers, and pance squads (Okta Wina, Nurliya,*

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*For all my beloved friends, you are my greatest supporters.*

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## **ABSTRACT**

### **A Semiotic Analysis on Eldorado Poem by Edgar Allan Poe**

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The research is entitled “A Semiotic Analysis on Eldorado poem by Edgar Allan Poe”. This study is aimed to know the meaning of the symbols of Gallant knight, Eldorado, shadow, a pilgrim shadow, shade, and over the mountains related to the socio-historical issue. This study is also used qualitative method and library research. Starting from the writer's interest on the poem and think that, the poem has a unique word inside it.

In this research, the knight who do the long journey to search “Eldorado”. This study focuses on semiotic analysis, which use semiotic theory. Charles Sanders Pierce is the theory that the writer use to analyze “Eldorado” poem by Edgar Allan Poe. The use of semiotic analysis is to find a symbol of Eldorado poem. This study also used socio-historical approach that has a correlation with Eldorado poem.

The symbols of Eldorado poem, a gallant knight, Eldorado, shadow, a pilgrim shadow, shade, and over the mountains represent the meaning, where actually Eldorado is true of a wealthy city made of gold. However, Eldorado is not a place but a person. The whole journey of europians to find a golden city, is in vain. Eldorado's poem is related to the symbol of time in 1849 in California, where the attitude of the Muisca tribe is different from the people of Europe who see gold as a symbol of wealth, as well as power. Furthermore, the minds of Europeans who heard the story were only fascinated by how much gold was thrown into the lake or buried in shrines throughout Colombia. Not the meaning of gold itself. That is why Poe revealead a poem entitled Eldorado which means that Eldorado itself was actually a rich king who had covered his entire body with a gold.

**Keywords:** *Socio-hisotrical, Semiotic, Gold Rush, Symbol.*



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## **CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background of Study**

According to Sadikin (2012: 6), "literature is an absorption word from the literary Sanskrit language which means "text containing instructions" or "guidelines", from the basic word which means "instruction" or "teaching". Literature is used by author to submit idea and experience. Literature is not just about writing, literature also is like book, record, phonograph record, laser disc, cassette. One of the most literature works is poetry.

Barnet, Burman, and Bruto (as cited in Maula, 2013, p.15) stated that poetry is the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings. It takes its origin from emotion recollected in tranquility, the emotions is contemplated till, by a species of reaction, the tranquility gradually disappears, and emotions, kindred to that which was before the subject of contemplation, it is gradually produced, and does itself actually next in the mind. It means that poetry is ways to express the ideas, feelings, and emotions, especially in literary work. It makes poetry has a unique way to express the ideas of feeling by the words. The interesting of Poe's literary creation are two points, a work must create unity in the reader to be considered successful and the single effect must be detailed from the subject to be the result of rational consideration on the part of the writer. In poetry, this single effect must arouse a sense of beauty for the reader, an ideal that is closely related to sadness, weirdness, and loss contained in poetry. Which mean in each words the writer makes unity that those word to be considered successful for the reader and it must has a sense of the

idea that has a real meaning inside word on poem. In semiotic analysis, poetry is usually supported by certain element to enrich the meaning and bring the writer's mind to the reader's imagination.

Therefore, the writer chooses poem to analyse Eldorado by Edgar Allan Poe. Poe wrote in 1849 where at that time gold was found in California that caused a massive gold rush. The first place where the gold was found in California called gold land. Every people at that time was very excited to found the legendary city of gold, but most of those pursuing gold in California did not get rich. As a writer, Poe wrote Eldorado poem in 1849 as a figuratively to described as sort of idealized feeling that a poet seeks. The symbol mediates the artistic image and the concepts of hidden meaning (Firth, 2011). However, the symbol is more full of hidden meaning than the concept. Unlike, the artistic image, it had a factual meaning. It means that every signs or word has a hidden meaning. It is like what Poe wrote on Eldorado poem that has a hidden meaning inside the word. In other hand, symbol are signs based on conventions, regulations or agreements that have been mutually agreed upon. Sometimes symbols create out of things that the reader does not know the real meaning in poem. By reading a poem, the reader will read some words that has a deep meaning inside the word and the reader can know the meaning of word using semiotic theory.

In finding a hidden meaning on Eldorado's poem we need to have semiotics. Pierce (1839-1914) said that signs work only if there is an intelligence capable of learning from experience. It means that semiotics is not only study about the signs but also

it studies about the deep meaning inside the word. To use semiotics approach, Pierce has a theory of semiotic with triadic or trichotomy concepts (sign consists of three elements), a sign (representamen) is something that is shared someone represents something else in several things or capacity (not necessarily material). Something else is called Interpretation of the first sign the idea interpretation in mind and in turn refers to the object. Thus a sign (representamen) has a relation direct triadic with the interpretant and the object. This process called significance. These triadic is to gain the deep meaning inside the words on Eldorado poem.

However, the real meaning is that which has a deep meaning wrapped up in a word, the meaning itself is interlocked and joined together so that each word has meaning. Eldorado has four stanza. The theme of poem is about the desires for wealth and treasures. The title of Eldorado poem by Poe is make the reader want to know what is actually the deep meaning on Eldorado itself. It makes the readers interest to read Eldorado poem and what happened about the world in that era. There are many ways to see the unique of the poem written by poets. It is from the historical approach, figurative language, figure of speech, semiotic, and others. The paper will focus on historical approach of Eldorado poem and find the meaning using semiotic approach.

The writer is interested to analyze the poem using semiotics approach. The important point in semiotics is study of signs and symbols. Pierce stated, semiotics is not only study signs but also much deeper than that. Then, it studies how people first of all interpreted a sign. In addition, it studies how people then draw on cultural

or personal experience to understand a sign that is showed. It is able to be interpreted as about communication. It means that semiotics is one of way to communicate. The writer uses semiotic analysis to interpret the symbols meaning inside the words. Semiotics theory will help the writer to do the analysis.

## **1.2 Research Questions**

According to the background of the study which has been elaborated previously, the writer formulates the problems into :

1. What are the symbols related to the socio historical issue in Eldorado?
2. What are the meanings of symbol from those analyzed poem?

## **1.3 Research Objective**

From the research questions above, the objective of this research is to know the meaning of the symbols of a gallant knight, Eldorado, shadow, a pilgrim shadow, shade, and over the mountains related to the socio-historical issue.

## **1.4 Use of the Study**

The use of the study is divided into two, theoretical and practical uses :

### **1.4.1 Theoretical Uses**

Theoretically, this research is expected to be able give the certain knowledge about how the symbol is interpreted in the poem. The writer hopes this research make readers feel curious and interesting towards the poem. Hopefully, the next writer is doing the same analysis by the same topic analysis.

### **1.4.2 Practical Uses**

Practically, this research can help other writer who wants to conduct the analysis in same topic or another poem analysis with the same theory analysis. It also become on of references for the one who is interested to find the semiotic about the symbol.

### **1.5 Scope of the Study**

In this research, the writer focuses on the symbol of “Eldorado” poem that used Pierce theory. The discussion describe the symbol on the poem using Pierce theory by looking the socio-historical approach in 1849. This study is based on the research questions only limit on semiotic of triadic theory. Next, semiotic approach is a foundation to analyze the Eldorado’s poem.

## **CHAPTER TWO LITERATURE REVIEW**

In this chapter, the writer describes some previous studies and relevant theory that help the writer to conduct this research. The previous studies which have a related topic can be a guideline. Meanwhile, the relevant theory will help the writer to analyze this research.

### **2.1 Previous Studies**

Previous study is needed when the writer wants to do a research that dealing with the topic. Thus, the writer also hopes that by finding the exact previous study with the research problem, it will help the writer and give guidance to the writer when the writer conducts the research.

The writer found these previous studies to support the research. Here, the writer found five previous studies that could help the writer to do the research.

**2.1.1 “Symbols in Robert Frost’s Poems”.** A thesis by Ichwan Setiawan (2014) from Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang. In his study case, the writer aimed to find out the symbol on Robert Frost poem, which are *The Road not Taken*, *Fire and Ice*, and *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening*. By using Charles Sanders Peirce theory about the semiotic can be used to determine the themes and symbols contained in the poetry of Robert Frost. The writer considers to use this previous study since it uses



semiotic. Further, this analysis uses as the review and example how to apply semiotics analysis theory.

### **2.1.2 “An Analysis of Symbol Signs in Emily Dickinson’s Death Poems”.**

A thesis by Nabila Inaya Jannati (2012) from Sebelah Marat University. In his study case, the writer is identify the kinds of symbol appear in Emily Dickinson’s death poems and how Emily Dickinson constructs symbol in her deaths poems. The writer uses semiotic approach and Riffaterre’s semiotic of poetry. This theory focuses on poetry analysis and give the most representative tool to uncover symbolic signs in poem. It also relates to social and cultural background analysis. Further, the contribution of this research is similarity in using the theory of semiotic in different expert since there is a symbolic signs in poem and it relates to social and cultural background analysis.

### **2.1.3 “A Semiotic Analysis in Literary work on based Valentine poems by Carol Ann Duffy ”.**

A thesis by Fitriana Pertiwi (2010) from State Islamic University Syarif Hidayatullah. In his study case, the writer uses semiotic analysis to analyze the meaning of symbols and reveals the idea of Carol Ann Duffy’s poem. The theory that the writer uses is by Roland Bartles contains of symbol in the words that the poet use. Thus, the writer can see the way semiotic theory being applied since in doing this analysis, the writer needs to find the deep meaning. Thus, semiotic theory is the best method in doing the analysis.

**2.1.4 “Semiotic Analysis in William Blake Poem”.** A thesis by Husnul Hatima Adudu, Dahlia Husain (2014) from Muhammadiyah University of Gorontalo. In the study, the writer focused on semiotic of Riffaterre’s theory in William Blake poems, titled *The Sick Rose, My Pretty Rose Tree, and The Garden of Love*. Those poems are about the author’s feeling to his wife. In this thesis, the writer can see the way writer focused on semiotic theory and how to compare in each poem to make the result of author’s feeling inside each poem. In this analysis, it help the writer to make the result of what happened with the world at that era in the writer analysis.

Those of previous studies support the writer to finish the thesis. Each previous study has a different poems with the previous study and the writer can easily see the thesis examples that exist through other writers. The research can be seen from the uses of semiotic approach. In each thesis, the writer has found the different poem to be analyzed, but previous studies that the writer found could help the analysis of “A Semiotic Analysis on Eldorado poem by Edgar Allan Poe.”

## **2.2 Socio-historical Approach**

Sociology, a social science that studies human societies, their interactions, and the processes that preserve and change them. Human live as social people where they always interact and develop over time. According to Swingewood and Laureunson (1972) stated that;

Sociology is essentially the scientific, objective study of man in society, the study of social institutions and of social processes; it seeks to answer the question how society is possible, how it works and how it persists.

The quotation, above clearly shows that sociology is human society and it always develops by the time. It means that socio-historical involves social interaction, social activities and history that happened in the past. According to Vygotsky in Oguz (2007) stated that "Sociohistorical theory aimed to bridge between these processes and their cultural, historical, and instructional settings." From the quotation, sociohistorical study is a sociological study of an event in the past. A critical socio-historical study seeks to understand texts based on cultural and historical events that took place at the time it was written which recounts past events which will then be retold.

The beginning of the king performed a mysterious ceremony at Lake Guatavita adhering to the ancient beliefs of Chibcha worshipping the sun and water. The water in the lake is believed to be sacred. The story of the goddess of the wife of the Chibcha chieftain was accused of an offense which then the goddess ended her life by drowning herself in Lake Guatavita. The purity of his heart he transformed into the watchman of Lake Guatavita. The worship ceremony of the goddess Guatavita is held once a year where the chiefs will be covered in gold and then the chief will dive into the water and bathe in Lake Guatavita. This is a ceremony for the golden man in Muisca (Chibcha) called eldorado.

Beginning with the exploration of Columbus in America in 1492, the story of a new metal-rich world distributed to Europe, inviting more Spanish conquerors, maturing, taking on lust, conquest and rooting for wealth. Rooted from the Muisca tribe, according to Dr. Jago Cooper (2013), American curator at the British Museum, published on the BBC the ritual ceremony performed by the Muisca people who lived in the Central Colombia region in 800 AD. An inauguration ceremony at Lake Guatavita, in Bogota, Colombia. This story was then rewritten by the Spanish in the early 16th century, Juan Rodriguez Freyle. In his writings, "The Conquest and Discovery of the New Kingdom of Granada" published in 1939, Freyle tells of the leader of Muisca died naked, then covered in mud and gold powder. Furthermore, the people made offerings to the gods in the form of gold to the lake. This legend, then shocked all corners of the search for gold that they think can prosper life. This history horrified the sailors to sail to find gold.

The history of gold rush, this was triggered by a horrendous event. Carpenter named James Wilson Marshall went to a place in California. When he felled wood to build a sawmill owned by a man named John Sutter, Marshall found a large lump of gold. This incident also spread and spread throughout the world. It was not long before people arrived at the place where Marshall found the big gold. Every time more and more people are busy going to this place. Some did find a lot of gold, but many did not get anything. This news came from the other island. In China in 1848 where their economy was in big trouble. Especially for small people whose lives are increasingly difficult because of many conflicts and also the choking government taxes. Chinese sailors, which refers to the golden mountain of California. Then with

a strong determination the Chinese people went to America. The first Chinese ship arrived in San Francisco and immediately docked to California. Chinese people only have the capital of determination without ever knowing the language or habits of those around. Nevertheless their persistence at work finally had a good impact. Quite a lot of successful Chinese people. The proof, they did not forget to send the gold from the mining to their hometown. This also eventually influenced the surrounding government to pass the Chinese Exclusion Act, a rule that forbids Chinese from arriving. They are also levied a tax which amounts to almost a quarter of government revenue in the state.

In the West of the United States, Spain, and Mexico control the countries in the Southeast, one of which is California. However, over time Mexico's control of California weakened, and the American population began to overwhelm many areas around Oregon and California declared a "Republic of California". In the same year, America bought Oregon from the British government, and immediately declared war on Mexico to seize many areas in the Southeast. After a long struggle, finally 1848, Mexico surrendered California, along with the territories now called Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico to the United States.

After California officially became the property of the United States, many residents began building settlements in the region. Although still included in the category of territory without civilization, California soon turned into an important area. James Marshall, a carpenter in Sacramento, in the foothills of Sierra Nevada, California, discovered a very large piece of gold on January 24, 1848. After his discovery,

Marshall told the people around him about the existence of gold in the Sierra. Not long after, news of the gold began to be heard by residents throughout California and beyond.

Thus, In 1849, news of the discovery of gold in California had reached the East Coast and the California Gold Mine Invasion began. More than 50,000 people flocked to California. Some lucky people will find gold chunks that weigh close to 45 kg. The amount of gold extracted in the Sierra mountains in the first five years of the excavation period has exceeded the value of the amount of gold produced in other regions of the world. The event made the industrial movement in America began to change throughout the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Man's mysterious interest in gold is nothing new. Since six thousand years ago, a close relationship between humans and gold began to exist. Unlike today, six thousand years ago gold was not a symbol of wealth but for decoration. This mysterious relationship between humans and gold also caused the gold rush in California in 1849. During that period, no less than half a million people came to California and dug up 820 tons of gold. The gold hunters are often referred to as "fortyniners", according to the year of the occurrence of gold fever. The interesting is that is the gold fever triggers the development of the area of California that became economic life because of the large number of people who come.

This make a poet Poe made poem "Eldorado" from seeing the history that existed in 1849 which become a literary work. By read Eldorado poem which alludes to the

history in 1849. Where inside the words in each word that Poe made has a deep meaning. Eldorado poem can remains the gold rush incident in 1849 in California.

### **2.3 Semiotic Approach**

Charles Sanders Peirce (1860) says that, there are three sides of sign. They are representamen, object, and interpretant. According to Peirce (1860) “A sign is something stands for something”. Semiotic is not only study about the sign, but also called by study of symbols and significations. can be interpreted again, semiotics is the science of the sign. Signs are all things both physically and mentally, both in the world and in the universe, both in the human mind and human and animal biological systems, which are given meaning by humans. Signs are signs only if they are meaningful to humans. Humans are creatures that seek human meaning and also give meaning to themselves, both physically and mentally. Reasoning, according to Pierce's basic hypothesis, is done through signs. Signs enable humans to think, connect with others and give meaning to what is shown by the universe. Peirce gives a definition of representamen as the sign itself, the object is the thing which is referred, and the interpretant is the product from the connection between interpretant and object. The semiotic process is a signification process that starts from perception on the basis, then the basis refers to the object, finally the process of interpretation occurs. example is, according to Pierce, the word pencil is the representamen, the object is the pencil physically. For the interpretant is what thought which is appeared when somenone hears pencil, such as “writings”, “drawing”, and so on. Here is the application of Peirce's trichotomical model can be seen in the Pierce diagram:

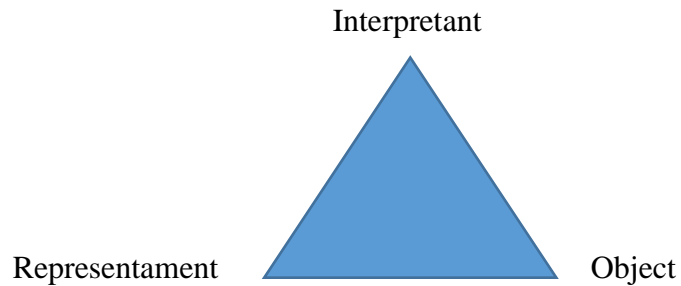


Figure 2.1 Peirce's Diagram of Triadic Semiosis

According to Charles S. Peirce (1986: 5 & 6) is something for someone to represent something else in some way or capacity. Something else, called an interpretant of the sign, first refers to the object. Peirce's triadic process, thus, is a sign or representation of a direct triadic relation with its object interpretant. The process of semiosis is a process that combines entities called representations with other entities called objects. This process of semiosis is often also referred to as signification (signification).

The process of semiosis as illustrated in the scheme above produces a series of endless relationships, then in turn an interpretation will become a representamen, be interpreted again, become a receptor of another, and so on. The triadic sign function is a conceptual process that will continue and is unlimited. The condition is called "infinite semiosis", which is a chain of decision-meaning by new signs interpreting the previous sign or set of signs. That way, the process has no beginning and no end because everything is interconnected. Furthermore, one form of the sign (sign) is a word. While something can be called a representamen (sign) if it fulfills two conditions including the first, it can be perceived, both with the five senses and with the mind or feeling. Second, it functions as a sign (representing something else). On the other hand Interpretant is not an interpreter or interpreter.



Interpretant is what ensures and guarantees the validity of the sign, even if there is no interpreter. Interpretant is what is produced by the sign in the power of the mind which becomes the interpreter; but he can also be understood by representamen.

Based on the chart above, it can be explained that the mind is a mediation between symbols and references. On the basis of the results of that thought also produced a reference that is the result of the depiction and conceptualization of symbolic references.

Structural in poetry or literary works that assume that a literary work is a structure. Structure here in the sense that the literary work is an arrangement of elements that are systemic, which between the elements occur reciprocal relationships, each other determine. So, the unity of the elements in literature is not just a collection or a pile of things or things that stand alone, but they are interrelated, interdependent, and interdependent as in the case of Pierce's triadic theory . In theory, triadic triangles are tied together so that they find the intended meaning. The intended meaning is analogous to the symbol which then in the word can be interpreted as the intended meaning. That way, this triadic theory is interrelated according to usage.

Thus the reference is a picture of the relationship between language signs in the form of words and sentences with a world of reference that produces a certain understanding. Symbols are different from signs, symbols have a deeper meaning, symbols are signs that are based on conventions, regulations or agreements that are mutually agreed upon.

New symbols can be understood if someone has understood the meaning agreed upon in advance. Dara is a symbol of peace, numbers are symbols, we don't know why form two refers to a pair of objects; it is only because of conventions or regulations in culture that make it so.

Pierce also said that the sign itself is an example of equality, the object is second, and the interpretation of the intermediary is an example of the three. The three that exist in the context of the formation of signs also evoke unlimited semiotics, as long as one interpretation (idea) that reads a sign as another sign (that is, of a meaning and a marker) can be captured by another interpretation. Furthermore, Pierce says that in the semiotics process (the process of interpreting a sign) there are three elements:

A sign, or Representamen is a First which stands in such a genuine triadic relation to a Second, called its Object, as to be capable of determining a Third, called its interpretant, to assume the same triadic relation to its Object in which it stands itself to the same Object. The triadic relation is genuine, that is its three members are found together by it is a way that does not consist in any completes of dyadic relation. That is the reason the interpretant, or Third, cannot stand in a more dyadic relation to the Object, but must stand in such a relation to it as the Representamen itself does. Nor can the triadic relation in which the Third stands be merely similar to that in which the First stands, for this would make the relation of the Third to the First a degenerate Secondness merel.

According to Pierce (Deladealle: 1978), the true meaning of a sign is to say something. While what is stated is a sign of what is being referred to or what is shown as an object. A sign refers to a reference and representation like the main function of the sign. It means that those semiotic approach or it called as triadic (Representamen, Object, and Interpretant) is something which should always

together. Each of word has the functions to determining each other so that semiotic process can be describe or determine the sign clearly. Semiotics provides insights and tools for critically examining symbols and information in a variety of fields. semiotics is based on logic, because logic studies how people reason, whereas reasoning according to Peirce is done through signs. Signs allow us to think, relate to others and give meaning to what is shown by the universe. We have wide possibilities in the diversity of signs.

The understanding of the term semiotic comes from the Greek word semeion, which means "sign". In terminology, semiotics can be defined as the study of a broad range of objects, events, all cultures as signs. Semiotics or the study of signs is built based on assumptions and concepts that make it possible to carry out symbolic systems analysis in a systematic way.

In semiotics, a sign is something that represents or illustrates something else, which consists of two basic materials namely 'expression' and 'content'. The relationship between expression and content runs dynamically, depending on interpretant perspective. Therefore, the sign is never completely complete, because it requires interpretation and context. In this context, semiotics understands signs. A sign or representamen, is something for someone to represent something the other in some way or capacity. He fixed on someone, it means inside that person's mind created another sign that equivalent, or maybe a more sign developing. I called the created sign as an interpretant of the first sign. A sign that replaces something, i.e. the object, not in everything, but rather in its reference to a pinch of ideas, which sometimes I call it the setting of representamen (Peirce, 1986: 5).

Peirce states that the true meaning of the sign is to express and convey something. Bias says that the sign refers to something. Signs should be interpreted so that the original sign grows to develop into new signs. Semiotics is the study of signs, the functioning of signs and the production of meaning of the signs convey information so that it is communicative. He is able to replace something else that can be thought or imagined. This branch of knowledge all develops in the field of language and then develops in the field of visual arts and visual communication design. The process of sign meaning in Peirce follows the relationship between three points namely representamen (R) - Object (O) - Interpretant (I). R is the part of the sign that can be perceived physically or mentally, which refers to something that is represented by it (O). Then I is part of the process that interprets the relationship between R and O. Therefore for Peirce, the sign is not only representative, but also interpretive. Peirce's theory of signs shows signification as a cognitive process and not a structure. Such a process is called semiosis.

The main task of semiotics is to identify, document and classify the types of signs and the main methods of their use in representative activities. Because they type different signs in each culture, they create various mental models that inevitably form the views that people will have on the world. Therefore, sign studies reveal that the long-standing idea of reality that can be objectively known might be something that is difficult to understand. Therefore, Pierce views it as a triadic structure, not binary. Semiotics is also not only limited as a theory. However, if the three elements of meaning interact in someone's mind, then the meaning about something that is represented by the sign, which is removed from the triangle theory

of meaning is the problem of how meaning arises from a sign when the sign is used when communicating.

Semiotic analysis seeks to find the meaning of the sign, including things that try to include things that are hidden behind a sign (text, advertisement, news). Because the sign system is very contextual and depends on the user of the sign. Thought users of the sign is the result of the influence of various social construction where the user of the sign is located. Meanwhile, Peirce, stressed that we can only think with the medium of the sign. Humans can only communicate by means of signs.

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In this case the theory of semiotics is related to human life which can be considered full of signs, and semiotics as intermediaries of signs in the process of communication, so humans are called homo semioticus. Peirce also argues that the meaning of a sign is gradual. There is a firstness, which is when a sign is recognized at an early stage in principle only. Firstness is existence as it is without pointing to something else, the existence of potential possibilities. Then, the 'secondness' stage

when the sign is interpreted individually, and then "third"

(thirdness) when the sign is interpreted permanently as covency. The concept of these three stages is important to understand that in a culture the level of understanding of the sign is not the same in all members of that culture.

For Peirce, developing a comprehensive sign theory is the main intellectual. The importance of semiotics for Peirce is very broad. As he said himself, "I never had the power to study anything, mathematics, ethics, metaphysics, gravity, thermodynamics, optics, chemistry, comparative anatomy, astronomy, psychology, phonetics, economics, scientific history, whist, men and women , wine, metrology, except as a semiotic study. Importance of interpreters for Peirce is that marking is not a simple triadic relationship between signs and objects: signs only indicate in interpretation This makes the interpretation the center of the contents of the sign, in the sense that the meaning of the sign manifests in the interpretation that results in user sign, however, things are a little more complex than this and we will look at these three elements in more detail.

Pragmatic Semiotics, because it deals directly with one's perception and experience. In this context too, we can understand that a sign will not be anything and or will not mean anything if there has never been an interpretation of that sign. Therefore, in the process of semiosis above, the interpretant becomes the most important relation to open the view of the representamen which will certainly relate to the object as well. The semiotic triadic relation above also represents the workings of perception and interpretant experience as material to prove the interrelation of the three.

According to Peirce (1940), every side of semiotics (representamen, object, and interpretant) has its own classification. The Representamen can be divided into qualisign which is formed by quality, such as the concept of color, sinsign which is formed by the real physical reality or the shape of a thing. Pierce says about sinsign (sin is “being only once” as in single, simple, Latin semel) is actual thing or event. The lesign is the law of rule of how the thing should be such as the sound of whistle in a crossroad. Mostly the lesign is made by human being to organize the social life, and because of that almost all the convention is the lesign.

In addition, Pierce's semiotic analysis consists of three important aspects so that it is often called a triangle of meaning (Littlejohn, 1998). The three aspects are:

### 1. Sign (Representamen)

In semiotic studies, the sign is the main concept used as material for analysis in which the sign contains meaning as a form of interpretation of the intended message. Put simply, signs tend to be visual or physical in nature that are captured by humans. Representamen or can be called a sign that is something for someone in some way or capacity. Sensory or material that serves as a sign. Examples are concerned with national or verbal signs which are sequences of sounds that we say in a row and then can be digested through the eyes.

### 2. Reference marks or objects

The object is a social context in which its implementation is used as an aspect of meaning or referred to by the sign.

### 3. User Sign (interpretant)

The concept of thought of people who use the sign and reduce it to a certain meaning or meaning that is in someone's mind about the object to which a sign is referred. The interpreter understands the meaning that appears in the recipient of the sign, meaning that the new sign can receive the sign that can be taken and understand the blessing occurs is the knowledge of the sign system in society. From Peirce's point of view, the process of significance can alone produces an endless series of relationships, so that in turn an interpretant again, becomes a representative again and so on. In addition, Peirce also sorts out the type of sign be an advanced category, namely the category of Firstness, Secondness and thirdness. The types of signs include qualisign, signsign, and legisign. Likewise, it is divided into rheme, a sign of disen (dicent sign) and arguments (arguments).

As the relationship between the representamen and the object, object has three classification which are the sign has the resemblance with the fact of what it refers, or sign which denotes and have the characters of Object, whether the Object exist or nor. Then, the index which the sign connected with the object because of the cause and effect connection but, the connection is not so much. Index is anything which takes attention or starles. Three characteristics of Index are, Index has no resemblance to their Object, It refers to individual or single unit, and It directs the attention or starles to its Object.

The interpretant has rheme, discent, and argument. The rheme is probably for interpretant such as a concept and possibility interpretant which will be understood, the dicent (or decisign) is the fact of interpretant or the real description of a thing, the argument is logical reasoning of interpretant which sign of law such a sound of



whistle in soccer competition. The following table is the distribution of category in semiotics:

<b>Category\</b>  <b>Trichotomy</b>	Firstness	Secondness	Thirdness
<b>Representamen</b>	Qualisign	Sinsign	Legisign
<b>Object</b>	Icon	Index	Symbol
<b>Interpretant</b>	Rheme	Dicisign	Argument

Table 2.3 Classification of Signs by Charles Sanders Peirce

Firstness (a conception of being that is independent of anything else) and signs. Firstness is mode of being as it is, positive and not referring to something else. It is a category of feelings that are not reflected, merely potential, free and direct; quality is indistinguishable and independent. Then, secondness (the mode of being that is

in relation to something else); and thirdness (the mediator through which a first and a second are brought into relation). Secondness is a method that includes the first and second relations. It is a category of comparison, facticity, action, reality, and experience in space and time. Thirdness brings the second into relation to the third. It is a category of mediation, habits, memory, continuity, synthesis, communication (semiosis) representation,

Based on Representamen it is divided into three, qualisign namely the quality of a sign. For example the quality of the words used in accompanying the sign such as hard, rough or soft words. Not only words determine the quality of a sign, it can also be the color used and even the accompanying picture. In addition, signs that can be marked based on the properties contained in the sign. Sinsign is the existence and actuality of an object or event on a sign. Another word, signs based on their appearance in reality. For example the word flood in the sentence "flood disaster" is an event that states that flooding is caused by rain. Lesign is the norm contained in a sign. This relates to what can and can't be done. For example, a no-smoking sign indicates that we are prohibited from smoking in the environment where the sign is located. Then, the three object are icons are signs that resemble the shape of the original object. Can also be interpreted as a relationship between signs and objects that are similar. Inside the icon the relationship between the presentation and object is realized as 'similarity in several qualities' (map, painting) That the purpose of the icon is to give a message of its original form. Example map. Index is a sign that is related to causal matters, or cause and effect. In this case the sign has a relationship with the object in a cause and effect. In the index the relationship of signs and objects is concrete, actual, and usually through a sequential (chain) or

causal way. The sign means the result of a message. Examples of the effects of smoke as a cause of fire. Symbols are signs that relate to the markers as well as the markers. That something is symbolized by a sign agreed upon by the markers as a general reference. For example, if a red light means stop, everyone knows and agrees that the red light means stop. Based on Interpretant divided into three, rheme is a sign that allows interpretation in different meanings. In addition, rheme used as markers related to the object markers may understand for the interpreter. a sign that allows people to interpret based on their choice. For example, people whose eyes are red, then it could be that he was sleepy, or maybe eye pain, irritation, he could also just wake up or maybe he was drunk. Then, dicisign is a sign that matches the facts and reality. It is a marker that displays information about the sign in accordance with reality. For example, an accident-prone road, a caution-prone sign is installed. An argument is a sign that contains a reason about something. Another word, a marker whose final sign is not an object but a rule. It immediately give a reason about something. For example the sign of a smoking ban at a gas station, that is because a gas station is a flammable place.

In addition, Peirce (1860) says that the semiotics process is infinite process, because he thinks that the interpretant can be a new representamen, and if it joins with another Object it will produce the new interpretant again, and so forth. Furthermore, Pierce stated that “semiotics is a synonymous of logic” (Zoest, 1933). What Pierce’s stated that is the logical function of the sign. Pierce’s means how people think and communication in the signs. The semiotics will end when the person does not have anything else to be connected again with the last interpretant. The important point in semiotics is study to know how meaning is formed. Then, it studies how people

first of all interpreted a sign. In addition, it studies how people then draw on cultural or personal experience to understand a sign that is showed. It is able to be interpreted as about communication.

A relationship between the representamen (R) and an object (O). This relationship, out of all possible relationships is a significant one only if it is recognized as genuine, having a meaning effect the interpretant (I) in the mind of an interpreter. Peirce said that the main task of semiotics is to identify, document, and clarify the main types of signs and how they are used in representative activities. Because the types of signs differ in each culture, signs create examples that will inevitably shape the views people will have in the world. As long as the interpreter's ideas are understood by other interpreters, then the position of the interpreter is also important as an agent that associates the sign with the object. Understanding of the semiotic context becomes a fundamental thing that cannot be ignored by an interpreter. Signs understood by someone will associate with other signs in their minds through one's perception and experience. Once again, this is a major contribution of Pragmatism, so Peirce Semiotics is often referred to as Pragmatic Semiotics.

Peirce mentions the sign as a representative or the whole process determines meaning which can also be called interpretation and also as concepts, objects, ideas, and so on, which refers to as objects. The meaning we get from a sign by Peirce is given the term interpretant. Where words on representamen that can be interpreted will refer to objects, then the whole process of determining meaning is called interpretation

Thus, signs contained in a work of art are abstract and can be analyzed in detail on the basis of visible forms, both text and other objects or languages. Text in a work of art can become a discourse and sometimes the text itself is the main form of the work itself. So that semiotics can be used to analyze works of art more deeply both for academic interests, as well as artists who want to explore and seek inspiration from works that have been successful before. This theory will be developed as needed.

### **2.3 Symbol**

The symbol is a sign that shows the natural relationship between the marker with the sign, the relationship between them is arbitrary, the relationship is based on the convention (agreement) of the community. In addition, symbol is a general law or ideas which operate only in a particular situation, areas, or society. Understanding Peirce's semiotics theory because the semiotic theory described by Charles Sanders Peirce has a meaning contained in the nature of his object. Sometimes symbols can be straightforward, but more often it is not easy to say exactly what they symbolize. Sign which word is concerned with how minds produce, communicate, and codify meaning. It applies to any kind of signs or symbols, not just words (as in semantics), and anything representative a word, a gesture, a sound is a sign. Even concepts thoughts and ideas can be symbols for critically examining symbols for something else.

The symbol is one of Peirce's version of the trichotomy of signs. Symbols according to Peirce's semiotics are signs that refer to objects described by a law usually in the

form of associations of general ideas because of their conventional nature. The symbol is then used to make an association of an object that does not have to be directly related both physically and because of its presence in a certain time. Therefore, symbols in words often get out of context, and almost always relate to other words. This is where the main strength of the symbol created by humans. When humans already have a strong indicative vocabulary, they can easily develop certain words as symbols. By finding analogies or relationships that make sense, we can use a word as a symbol that is actually out of the context of the actual word.

In this Semiotic approach it is found that there is a connection or relationship between the signs with one another, so that many contain meaning in the signs of the object under study. This theory can describe the meaning contained in the sign of an object, be it from the icon, index or symbol.

Furthermore, understanding the importance of signs and symbols is complicated by many factors such as culture, history, ideology, and religious belief. By appreciating the relationship between human condition and symbolic forms such as language, art, mathematics, or music we become more aware of who we are, how we think, feel and act. For Pierce, a symbol is “a sign which refers to the object that it denotes by virtue of law, usually an association of general ideas, which operates to cause the symbol to be interpreted as referring to that object”. In the Pierce’s concept, symbol, is interpreted according to a rule of a habitual connection. The symbol is connected with its object by virtue of the idea of the symbol-using mind, without which no such connection would exist. As the symbol can be interpreted in many

ways, usually has more than one meaning. In addition Merriam Webster Dictionary, the term of symbol is derived from ballein 'to throw' and syn 'together', from the Greek symbolism, which means token, sign. Symbol not only represents something literal and concrete but also complex set of abstract values. However, the reader can free to judge the meaning of symbol because they have different intellect, imagination, and feeling.

Symbols help humans to communicate. Symbols are also stronger than signs. Symbols can help humans explain something that cannot be explained directly. Symbol media in the form of spoken language, actions, objects / visual forms. According to Pierce one form is a word, while the object is a sign that is in someone's mind, then the meaning of something that is represented by that sign appears. The symbol displays the relationship between the marker and the signifier in its arbitrary nature. Signs that turn into symbols will naturally be affixed with cultural, situational, and conditional characteristics. Therefore, language is actually a great achievement of humanity regarding arbitrary markers.

The symbol is a direct reading that relies on the appreciation of the body and soul that has a form and character with their respective elements and as a form of someone's inner reading that can be in the form of art. Human culture is very closely related to symbols, humans are called creatures. Symbols are also signs that indicate the natural relationship between a marker and its signifier. Relationships are arbitrary, relationships based on community conventions.

In this theory, it is found that there is a connection or relationship between the signs with one another, so that many contain meaning in the signs of the object under study. This theory can describe the meaning contained in the sign of an object, be it from icons, indexes or symbol which of it has different meaning.



## **CHAPTER THREE METHOD OF RESEARCH**

This chapter presents the explanation about procedures which are taken in this study in order to find out the answer to the research question. This chapter deals with the research methods which presents research design, source data, data collecting technique, and analyzing technique. In this chapter the writer will explain one by one the research methods.

### **3.1 Research Design**

According to Denzin and Lincoln (2008), “Qualitative methods are central to research conducted in education, nursing, sociology, anthropology, information studies, and other disciplines in the humanities, social sciences, and health sciences. This research, the researcher plans how to understand particular group or current phenomenon in its own context. Research design is the basis for conducting research. therefore, a good research design will produce effective and efficient research.

The research design divided into two types, there are qualitative and quantitative. Quantitative research method is one type of research whose specifications are systematic, planned, and clearly structured from the beginning to the design of the research. Another definition states that quantitative research is research that demands a lot of numbers, starting from data collection, interpretation of the data, and the appearance of the results. At the conclusion stage the research will be better if accompanied by pictures, tables, graphs, or other views.

According to Sugiyono (2012:7), “quantitative research methods can be interpreted as research methods that are based on the philosophy of positivism, used to examine certain populations or samples”. In addition, Sugiyono argued that the technique of sampling is done randomly, with the data collection , and data analysis in order to test the hypotheses (2012:7). Quantitative methods are often also called traditional methods, positivistic, scientific or scientific and discovery methods. This method is called a quantitative method because research data in the form of numbers and analysis using statistics.

The data collected must be complete in the form of primary data and secondary data. Primary data is data in the form of verbal or words that are spoken orally, gestures or behaviors performed by a subject that can be trusted. In this case the subject of research (informant) relating to the variable under study. While secondary data is data obtained from graphic documents (tables, notes, minutes of meetings, etc.), photographs, films, objects, etc. that can enrich primary data. Creswell (in Herdiansyah, 2010: 8), mentions:

Qualitative research is an inquiry process of understanding based on distinct methodological traditions of inquiry that explores a social or human problem. The researcher builds a complex, a holistic picture, analyzes words, a detailed report on the views of information, and conduct of the study in a natural setting.

The explanation above is make the writer easier to do the analysis. It implies that descriptive qualitative is a method in which the writer gives each explanation, fact, and survey to analyze the problem discussed using data in the form of the words.

### **3.2 Data and Data Source**

According to Given (2008: 185) defines data as a collection of informatian used in the research. The data are information or facts used in in discussing or deciding the answer of research question. The data source from this research is taken from Eldorado poem by Edgar Allan Poe and the data source is from <http://m.poemhunter.com/poem/eldorado/>. The *Eldorado* poem has four stanza and each of stanza has six lines. The poem firstly was published in April 1849. Besides that, this study also used other secondary data. They were books, internet and articles of symbols.

### **3.3 Data Collecting Technique**

The collecting data of this reserach is conducted by content analysis as cresswel (2012: 223) suggest that “documennts consist of public and private that qualitative researchers about a site or participants in a study. To collect the data, the writer will do a library research. Some steps that the writer will going to do are:

1. Read the data sources that support this analysis

The writer read the data sources from journals, researches, and the poem itself to understand deeper and make this analysis conceptualized to be discussed.

2. Finding the data that indicates the semiotics elements

After read the data sources, the writer searches the reliable data that show the semiotics elements by taking notes from the texts.

3. Connecting and categorizing the data

In this step, the writer will connect and categorize the data to be main issue of the discussion.

4. Arranging the data

The data which have content or correlation with the semiotic element according to Pierce will be arranged in systematically process.

### **3.4 Data Analyzing Technique**

In doing the analysis, the writer applies a technique as well. In this data analyzing technique, the writer conducts some stages as follows:

1. Classifying the data

In the first step, the writer classify the data which contain of symbol. In order to make the analysis easier to be analyzed.

2. Interpreting the data

In the second step, the writer attempts to understand the data by interpreting the data which taken from the data sources and relates it to be objectives of research questions collaborated with the formulation of problems.

3. Analyzing the data

After classifying and interpreting the data, the writer analyzes the data based on the semiotic elements theory by Pierce.

#### 4. Evaluating the data

The entire data that had been analyzed will be evaluated. To ensure the formulation of the problems and objectives of the research have been answered clearly.

In the last step, the writer categorize the symbol and interpret the meaning of that symbol to conveyed the idea.

## **CHAPTER FOUR ANALYSIS**

In this chapter, the writer focuses on analyzing Eldorado poem uses semiotic theory that has a real meaning which review on socio-historical approach in Eldorado poem, entitled A Semiotic Analysis on Eldorado poem by Edgar Allan Poe. Through this research, the writer tries to reveal the symbols represent in the poem of historical approach by using semiotic approach by Pierce. Since, by finding the semiotic theory by Pierce in triadic concept. The writer can understand the real meaning itself by reviewing socio-historical approach toward Poe's literary work. The writer tried to interpret the utilized symbols in "Eldorado" by using triadic-theory of semiotic process which are proposed by Pierce to know the meaning of symbol from this analyzed poem, there are: representamen, object, and interpretant. The representamen is the form which the sign takes. An interpretant is not an interpreter but rather the sense made of the sign. Then, object is to which the sign refers. In this research, the writer used the symbols of time related to socio-history of gold rush Eldorado, which are Gallant knight, Eldorado, Shadow, Pilgrim Shadow, Shade, and over the mountains in Eldorado poem from Edgar Allan Poe. Therefore, through this analysis, the writer believes that Eldorado poem has a deep meaning inside the word.

### **4.1 Socio-historical of Gold Rush Eldorado**

In this analysis, the writer describes the symbol of Eldorado poem by looking socio-historical approach in 1849. At that time, California was a place where everyone sailed to find a gold. Therefore, in 1849 it called as a gold rush. Initially, Poe made

an Eldorado poem seeing the symbol of time. Before 1849, there was a golden legend in America in 1492 relating to Eldorado poem. The gold was found in America continent. The soldiers and explorers did a search to find a gold. Eldorado was known at that time as a city of gold. However, in the year around 1452 gold was not a symbol of wealth but as an offering to the great gods. As for explorers, gold is hunted as wealth. Then, the symbol that shows the meaning of Eldorado poem is related to the socio-historical approach of gold rush. This research focus on symbol of Eldorado poem by looking socio-historical approach before 1849.

#### **4.1.1 Symbol of Time**

In 1849, news of the discovery of gold rush in California had reached the East Coast and the California gold attack began. More than 50,000 people flocked to California. Some lucky people will find gold chunks that weigh close to 45 kg. Some of did not find chunks of gold. The discovery was an event that lasted the longest and determined the position of the United States in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The amount of gold extracted in the Sierra mountains in the first five years of the excavation period has exceeded the value of the amount of gold produced in other regions of the world. The event made the industrial movement in America began to change throughout the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

This incident in 1849 is also related to the creation of a poem entitled Eldorado by Edgar Allan Poe, in which the poem describes so many people who came to find

gold in California to make it rich. However, it is precisely the opposite of the people who flocked in part to not get gold and in vain.

Behind the story in 1849, the discovery of eldorado on the American continent had already taken place. In 1492, news of the discovery of gold made soldiers and hunters flock to look for gold. Lake Guatavita, in Bogota, Colombia tells the story of the king who every year holds a mysterious ceremony in which the tribal elders perform the ceremony. Then, the king threw his gold into the lake. Then the body of the king was covered by gold and gold dust which then the king bathed in the lake.

The poem Eldorado made by Poe has words that have meaning related to the events of 1849 in California. Symbols of words related to the event of 1849 in Eldorado poem are:

#### **4.1.2 Symbol of Gallant Knight**

Based on the symbol of Eldorado poem that related to the event in 1849 the word of Gallant Knight has a deep meaning inside the word. In the first stanza, the writer analyzes the word Gaily Bedight:

Gaily bedight,  
**A gallant knight,**  
 In sunshine and in shadow,  
 Had journeyed long,  
 Singing a song,  
 In search of Eldorado.

Gallant knight means a knight has a journey to search a gold, where the gallant knight portrays a person who is strong and brave about the challenge of finding a



gold. Poe reveals his poem based on the socio-history that was happened in the past. For these explanations, it can be described as follows:

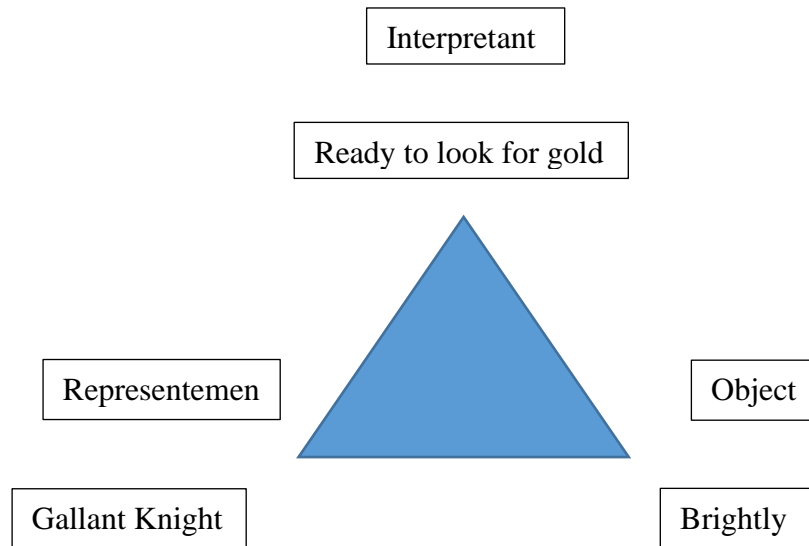


Figure 4.1.2 The Process of Triadic

In the first stanza of the word gallant knight can be seen a knight, fresh, and ready to go, start the journey, or maybe we can even think of it as a quest. The knight is full of hope and in good spirits. This is proven by the line “singing song” in the first stanza of the fourth line. The word of gallant knight has a symbol that the knight at that time has a journey to search a gold. Then, when gold was discovered on the American continent, soldiers and explorers flocked to find the presence of gold at the time. This evidence can refer to the conquerors from Spain and then sent at least five large expeditions to search for El Dorado. One of the expeditions sent was an expedition led by Gonzalo Jimenez de Quesada who left in 1536. With 500 of his soldiers, he entered the thick wilderness which now includes the Columbia region. This can be proven from the eldorado poem written by Poe. The word of gallant

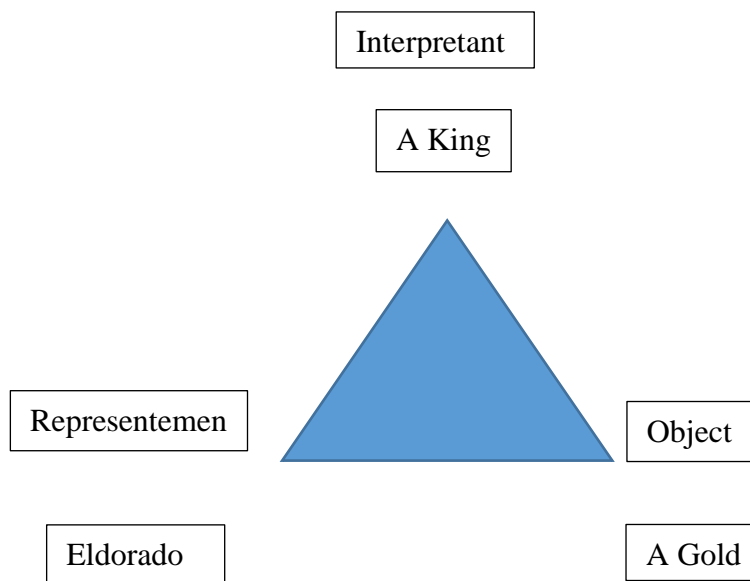
knight itself represent the meaning of what Poe's wants to reveal seen from the socio-historical in 1849.

#### 4.1.3 Symbol of Eldorado

Another symbol in the first stanza that represent the tragedy in 1849, is Eldorado. Eldorado itself is a rich king in Bogota, Colombia. The writer analyzes the symbol of word Eldorado that has a relatable with socio-historical approach:

Gaily bedight,  
 A gallant knight,  
 In sunshine and in shadow,  
 Had journeyed long,  
 Singing a song,  
 In search of **Eldorado**.

The word that has a symbol related to the socio-history is Eldorado, means a rich king. Poe reveals his poem based on the history that was happened in the past. For these explanation, it can be described as follows:



### Figure 4.1.3 The Process of Triadic

The triangle above shows that there is a correlation between sign or representamen, interpretant, and object. The word Eldorado stands for a symbol which relates to a gold as its object. In Poe's poem, the meaning of the word Eldorado a king (as interpretant). The real meaning of Eldorado is the king, called Zipa, will be covered with mud which will then be changed again with gold dust. After that, he and other tribal elders would pedal a raft of gold and other jewelry to the middle of the lake. After reaching the middle, they will throw the silver gold into the lake. Then the king will jump into the lake to clean up from the gold dust and mud that surrounds the risk. In Eldorado Poe wants to reveal in that era that place as a legendary city of gold. This is proven looking in the socio-historical approach of Eldorado poem.

#### 4.1.4 Symbol of Shadow

In the second stanza, the writer found a word that has a symbol related to the socio-history. Shadow is a dark area that happened when the knight was upset. It is evident that the explorers were desperate to drain the Lake Guatavita in order to find the gold they sought as wealth. It representing an illusion. For these explanation, it can be described as follows:

But he grew old—  
 This knight so bold—  
 And o'er his heart **a shadow**—  
 Fell as he found  
 No spot of ground  
 That looked like Eldorado.

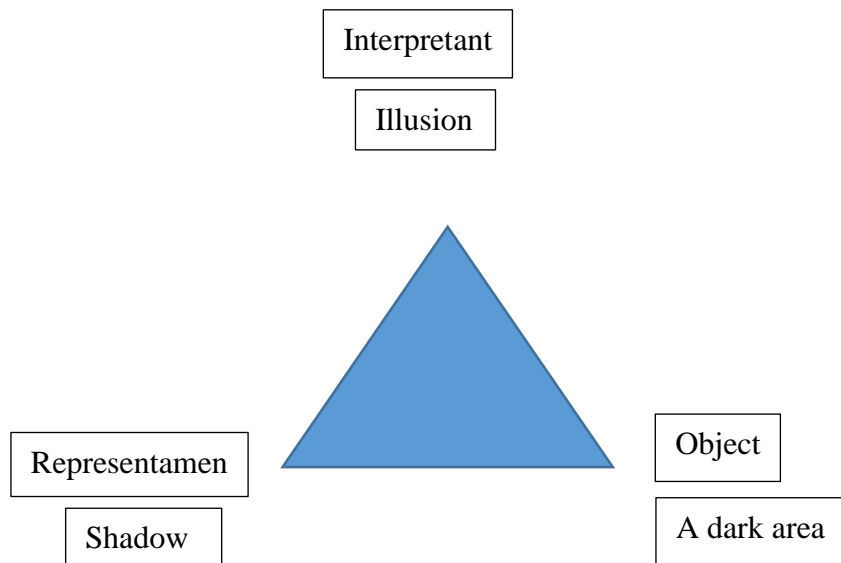


Figure 4.1.4 The Process of Triadic

The triangle above shows that there is correlation between sign or representamen, interpretan, and object. The word shadow stands for the representamen which relates to a dark area as its object. The meaning of the word shadow is illusion which something that looks real and exists, but actually doesn't exist. It is like a shadow. The Poe's meaning word shadow is illusion. These illusions include hopes, thoughts, feelings, emotions, opinions and everything received from the five senses, namely information from the eyes, nose, ears, skin and tongue. All of these things have no real form in us. It is a shadow of illusion, as if there is, but actually does not exist.

In the second stanza of Poe's poem, the Knight is no longer excited when he continues his search to find Eldorado. He gets old. His journey did not end until he was almost dead. Everything does not look so hopeful. This was entirely due to the fact that there was no ground point or that it looked like Eldorado.

#### 4.1.5 Symbol of Pilgrim Shadow

In the third stanza, the writer find a symbol that has a symbol. Then, analyze word a pilgrim shadow. Pilgrim shadow means a death. When the knight on his journey, nobody people live there but he met a pilgrim shadow that gave him a direction to the death. For these explanation, it can be described as follows:

And, as his strength  
Failed him at length,  
He met a **pilgrim shadow**—  
‘Shadow,’ said he,  
‘Where can it be—  
This land of Eldorado?’

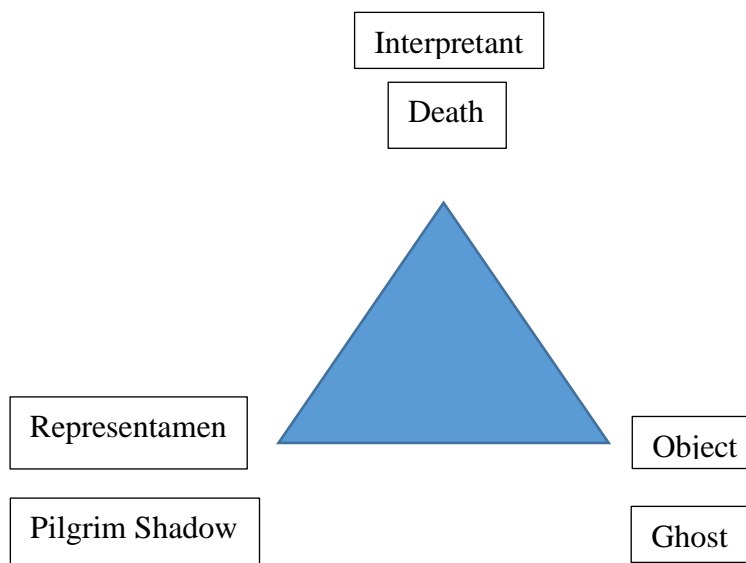


Figure 4.1.5 The Process of Triadic

The triangle above shows that there is a correlation between sign or representamen, interpretan, and object. The word pilgrim shadow stands for representamen which relates to ghost as its object. The meaning of pilgrim shadow from Poe’s poem

which means death because it is related to the next stanza that will bring him to his deathbed, word of "shadow of the pilgrim" asking to advise in this way. That pilgrim shadow which means signs to death for knights. Pilgrim shadow, a phrase that further highlights the connection between the knight's wanderings and his death. The last stanza moves from life to death, completing the cycle of human life when the shadow tells us that the knight continues his search for death.

In the third stanza, showing failure implies that he was dead or near death where the knight never found his destination. Until finally he met the 'Shadow of Pilgrims' signs of the possibility of his own death, which showed the way to Eldorado who actually did not exist.

In the 1580s, a merchant from Bogota named Antonio de Sepulvada mobilized 8,000 locals in an attempt to drain the lake by making water gates on the lake's side. He succeeded in lowering the surface of the lake up to 20 meters. Then, drain the lake with giant buckets. After three months, the lake's surface level dropped by about 3 meters and Quesada managed to get 18 kilograms of gold from it. In this way he managed to find gold in quite a large amount. But then the lake side collapsed and killed many workers. This symbolizes the ghost of the workers who used to have worked to drain the lake and then they died in vain because they did not get the wealth of gold but death. Failure in the search for gold is all in vain not all get gold in line with expectations. Most of them only pick up death, as explained through the symbol "shadow".

#### 4.1.6 Symbol of Shade

In the last stanza, the writer find a symbol that related to the socio-history. Then, the writer analyzes word shade. Shade means a ghost. When no one a live there but a shade replied to the knight without knowing who is talking. For these explanations, it can be described as follows:

‘Over the Mountains  
Of the Moon,  
Down the Valley of the Shadow,  
Ride, boldly ride,’  
The **shade** replied,—  
‘If you seek for Eldorado!’

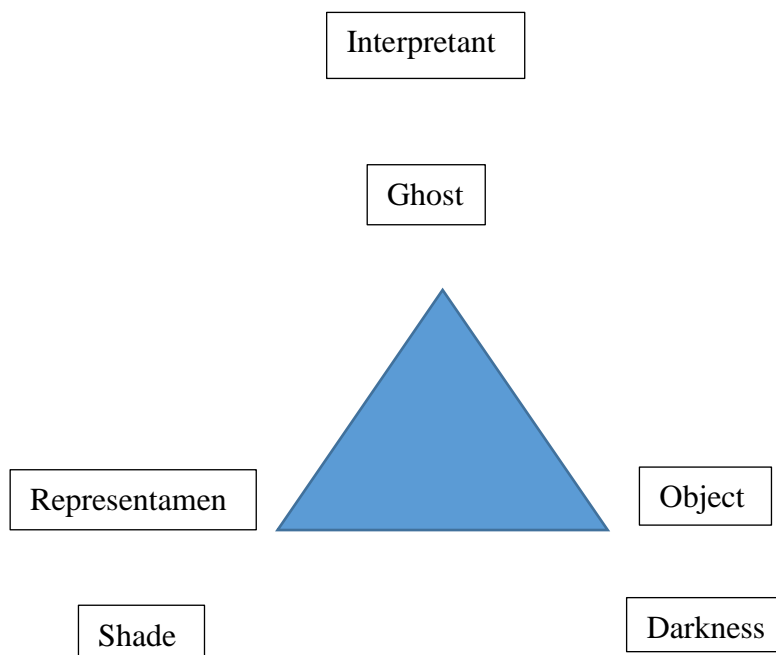


Figure 4.1.6 The Process of Triadic

The triangle above shows that there is correlation between sign or representamen, interpretan, and object. The word shade stands for representamen which relates to darkness as its object. The word of shade in Poe's poem is literary a ghost because it related to previous stanza that no one live there. The word shade is something that unseen which is darkness it means that it is a ghost.

In the fourth stanza, Poe's poem does not explain in detail the reply "shade" but it alludes to the current state of the knight. Where the directions seem to be going somewhere. Most of them died in search of gold, trapped by the fierce nature of tropical rain, killed in accidents in the mountain range and valleys. However, still did not find the bright spot of the discovery of gold.

The creature told him that he had to go "Through the Mountains," and then have to go up "Down the Valley of the Shadow. That this obviously refers to walking through the valley of the shadows of death. In this last stanza, the reader can interpret the search for knights into futile ones. Eldorado is a place that really does not exist and can only be reached through death.

#### **4.1.7 Symbol of Over the Mountains**

In the last stanza, the writer find a symbol that related to the socio-history. Then, the writer analyzes word over the mountains. Over the mountains means the misterious place that everyone search . For these explanations, it can be described as follows:

**‘Over the Mountains**



Of the Moon,  
 Down the Valley of the Shadow,  
 Ride, boldly ride,'  
 The shade replied,—  
 'If you seek for Eldorado!'

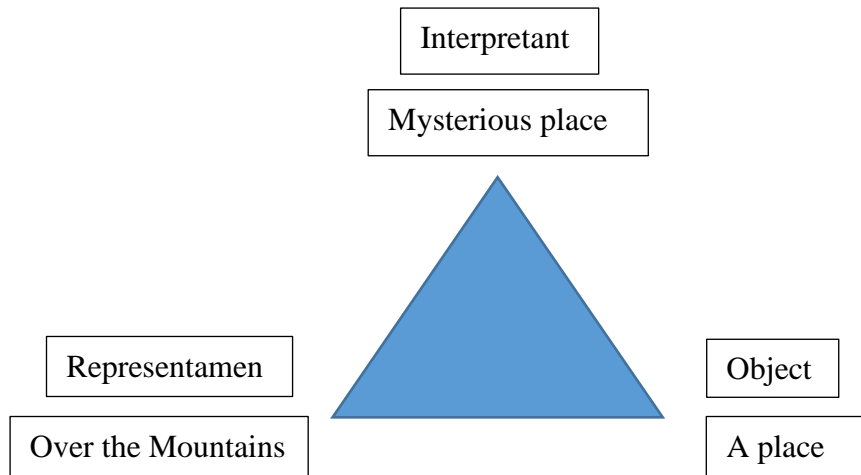


Figure 4.1.7 The Process of Triadic

This can be proven by the Chibcha tribe, is a tribe that inhabits the highlands in the Andean territory of the Columbia mainland. The explorers and gold hunters mostly died while exploring, because they traced the mountains, fought the tropics, and died of exhaustion. Symbol of over the mountain has the meaning as the main misterious sought so far.

In Eldorado of Poem Poe interpret over the mountain with the intention of the misterious place hidden in the sentence over the mountains. The meaning of the symbol relates to the socio-historical approach. However, the destination that he considered a search actually made most of them eventually died. Killed in the wilderness of South America in the Andes mountains. The reference to "Moon Mountains" is very similar to the reference to Eldorado. The point is that a misterious place is claimed to exist, but no one can confirm the existence of a

mysterious place. The legend in this case is much older after being around since ancient times.

Then, the symbols of Eldorado, gallant knight, Eldorado, shadow, a pilgrim shadow, shade and over the mountains of Eldorado poem symbols indicate hidden meanings in Eldorado's poem relating to the socio-history during the gold rush. The discovery of the chunk of gold was the longest lasting tragedy and the determination of the position of the United States in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, although still not comparable to the events of the Civil War.

## CHAPTER FIVE CONCLUSION

Based on the discussion from the previous chapter, the writer conclude that Edgar Allan Poe reveal his idea in his poem Eldorado by using a great semiotic elements. However, the writer find a symbol of Eldorado poem by looking a socio-historical approach. To find a meaning of the symbol, the writer describes the meaning with sociohistory. The use of semiotic in each stanza is to find out the true meaning of the word. As writer Poe wrote Eldorado on 1849 as figuratively to described as sort of idealized feeling that poet seeks.

In Eldorado poem, the writer finds out that in the socio-historical approach. Poe wrote Eldorado poem on 1849 where at that time gold was found in California that caused a massive gold rush. The first place where the gold was found is in California its called gold land. Every people at that time was very excited to found the legendary city of gold, but most of those pursuing gold in California did not get rich.

In 1849, a knight dressed beautifully and proudly sang day and night in search of Eldorado, but as time went by, he grew older and more pathetic because he could not find Eldorado. When he lost his strength, he asked for a "pilgrim's shadow" for Eldorado's whereabouts and the pilgrim's shadow replied that he had to go "across the moon mountains" and "down the Shadow Valley" to find Eldorado. That it actually shows signs of the death of a knight.

Eldorado poem symbols are gallant knight, Eldorado, shadow, a pilgrim shadow, shade and over the mountains. Those symbol has a deep meaning inside the word. Those symbols are considered to represent the Poe's view about the place where there really is not any, instead they actually pick up their own death to look for a place that is considered to enrich life with gold. Those symbols are the form of manifestation of what Poe wants to convey in his poem until the reader can clearly conclude and understand what Poe's tells and conveys in his work.

The writer utilize triadic-theory of semiotic process which are proposed by Charles Sanders Pierce to know the meaning of each symbol, they are: representamen, object, and intepretant. The representamen is the form which the sign takes. An interpretant is not an interpreter but rather the sense made of the sign. While object is to which the sign refers. Reasoning is done through signs. Signs enable humans to think, relate to others, and give meaning to what is shown by the universe.

This semiotic literary study in an attempt to analyze literary works as a system of signs and determine what conventions allow literary works to have meaning. Pierce's theory is used in this study because in poetry many signs are used which can be seen from the conventions found in structural-semiotic processing. So, the overall contents of the poem will be known.

By looking to the socio-historical approach of Eldorado peom. The writer can find a symbol of word that has a meaning related to the socio-history. The describe a symbol itself. The writer using a theory of semiotic analysis by Pierce. Then, the

symbols of gallant knight, Eldorado, shadow, a pilgrim shadow, shade, and over the mountains shows the meaning related to the socio-history. Those symbols represent the meaning, where actually Eldorado is true of a wealthy city made of gold. However, Eldorado is not a place but a person. The whole journey of Europeans to find a golden city, is in vain. Eldorado's poem is related to the symbol of time in 1849 in California, where the attitude of the Muisca tribe is different from the people of Europe who see gold as a symbol of wealth, as well as power. Furthermore, the minds of Europeans who heard the story were only fascinated by how much gold was thrown into the lake or buried in shrines throughout Colombia. Not the meaning of gold itself. That is why Poe revealed a poem entitled Eldorado which means that Eldorado itself was actually a rich king who had covered his entire body with a gold.

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