

EMOTION ANALYSIS IN SYLVIA PLATH POETRY “DADDY”

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ABSTRACT

In this analysis, the writer chooses poetry entitled “Daddy” written by Sylvia Plath. The aim of this analysis is to find emotion expressed in the poetry. The result of this analysis conclude that feeling of sadness often expressed in this poem because the poem describes the grief and suffering experienced during the Nazy German. The situation made Plat depression and despair, but she tried to get up and running her life for victory. Based on this analysis, there are emotions showing sadness, disgust, anger, anxiety, happiness, guilt, and love. In collecting the data, the writer applies the method and technique of observation log. Data taken from the poem “Daddy” and analyzed by using the theory of psychology of emotion discovered by Minderop (2003)

Keywords: emotion, poetry

A. Introduction

According to Leech (1998:40) literature is one kind of arts that is expressed human’s mind and feeling. It contains esthetic language, fine thinking, and deep messages. Author usually uses good diction in literature products to make readers and listeners feel it by heart, not only in their eyes or ears. In certain condition, author can make literary work which expresses emotion in beautiful word to deliver message between one to another. There are two groups of literature genre, those are imaginative and non-imaginative. Imaginative contain of literature results that are based on some things that aren’t fact, mean. Non-imaginative is based on fact and everybody knows about it. Practically, non-imaginative literature consists of creations like essays, critics, biographies, autobiographies histories. Meanwhile imaginative literature consists of fiction, poem, and drama.

Poetry can be called as the product of sincere and deep feeling, and it touches the heart and appeals to the emotions. It is an expression in beautiful language of some experience that appeals to the human heart. There are some element of poetry those are: imagination, truth, emotion, criticism of life, and metre. Poetry is also said to be an interpretation of human life and it is the motor of the movement of life. Emotion is the dynamic aspect of human life, without which life will instantly stop from turning round. Every act, every work, every thought, cannot be separated from emotion. We cannot deny that emotion goes along with every human step.

There are many expression that can be found in a poetry entitled “Daddy” written by Sylvia Plath. This poetry tells about life struggle of a girl who suffered from the death of her father in a battle. Her father died when she was not yet ready to accept it. It happened in Nazi Regime. Nazi Regime is a huge tragedy of civilization in the 20th century led by Adolf Hitler.

Poetry written by Sylvia Plath is one of a famous literary works in the world because there is German history as the source of the poetry created it. Thus, the writer is interested and gave the title of the analysis as **EMOTION ANALYSIS IN SYLVIA PLATH POETRY “DADDY”**

B. Theoretical Review

1. Poetry

Poetry is language creation which contains of personal feeling expression. Poetry contains of word system, good diction and figurative language created by author. Poetry is also as verbal composition designed to convey experience ideas, or emotions in a vivid and imaginative way. According to Frost in Kennedy’s book (1967:430) state that poetry is a rhythmical composition of word expressing an attitude, designed to surprise and delight, and to arouse an emotional response. There are other elements in a poem besides plain prose sense: sounds, images, rhythms, and figurative language.

According to Kennedy (2005:438) lyric poetry is the kind of printed poem. In general lyric poems contain less word-music and more thought and perhaps more

complicated feelings. Based on the nature of poetic composition and the poet's treatment of the theme, poetry may be divided into two classes: subjective poetry and objective poetry. In subjective poetry, the poet deals with himself, giving out here his own thoughts, experiences, moods and feelings. Meanwhile, in objective poetry, the poet deals with the objects of the world outside, their feelings, experiences, and situations, giving out here what he has found, felt and experienced in his interactions with the world outside. But in actual practice it is almost impossible to separate the one from the other. The most impersonal of poems may involve the author and the most personal of poems has objective contexts where the author leaves his own self and goes to the world outside. Thus the division of subjective poetry and objective poetry is only discussed theoretically.

2. Emotion

According to Minderop (2010:40) there are some classifications of emotion namely guilt, shame, sadness, hatred, and love.

a. Guilt

Guilt is often mild and fleeting, but can stay for a long time. Guilt also caused conflict between impulses expression and moral. Guilt flows directly from what felt as a transgression against morality.

b. Shame

Scheff (2000) in Kenneth book (2003:148) Shame is a self-reflexive emotion and relies on self-consciousness. Self consciousness has pros and cons. It leads to apparent freedom and choice, but brings with the possibility of anxiety and shame.

c. Sadness

According to Krech (1974:472-473) sadness associated with loss of something important or valuable. Sadness is emotion that concentrates attention on the self and an indication that the person needs help.

d. Hatred

According to Krech (1974:479) Hatred is closely related to anger, jealousy, and envy. Hatred always inherent in a person, never be satisfied before destroying.

e. Love

According to Izard (1991) in Keneeth book (2003:142) Love is an emotion. Love as the basic of human condition, as involving strong, based on social attachment to be full of interest and joy, but also run the full gamut of emotion.

f. Anxiety

According to Keneeth (2003:135) Anxiety only can be understood by taking into account some of its cognitive aspects, particularly because a basic aspect of anxiety appears to be uncertainty.

g. Disgust

According to Izard in Kenneth book (2003:138) Disgust is about rejection of what might be contaminated or might be distasteful, either physically or psychologically. Disgust is also associated with aesthetics and moral judgements.

h. Jealousy

According to Smith (1998) in Kenneth book (2003:140) jealousy is reaction to the threat that a person might lose the affection of someone important. Thus, jealousy is based on the possibility of losing an existing relationship and envy is based on the possibility of possessing something that another person has.

i. Grief

According to Averill in Kenneth book (2003:141) the purpose of grief is to help maintaining social bonds. Thus, it seems to have work through its course even though it is so full of anguish in the case of bereavement.

j. Happiness

According to Izard (1991) in Kenneth book (2003:137) Happiness is enjoyment, joy and distinguishes between the experience of joy and the experience of satisfaction or sensory pleasure.

3. Functions of emotion

According to Goleman and Mammen (1997) in Rachmat said, there are at least four functions of emotion:

1. Emotion is energy generator (energizer). Emotion evokes and mobilizes our energies; angry moves us to attack, fear moves us to run, and love encourages us to come closer and making out.
2. Emotion is the carries of information (messenger).
3. Emotion is also the source of information about our success.

C. Research Methodology

In this analysis, the writer uses descriptive qualitative approach to analyze the poetry. According to Ary (2002:425) the qualitative inquirer deals with data that are the subject's experiences and perspectives. The qualitative research attempts to describe the description of people, objects, events, places, conversations, and so on. Furthermore, there are two types of data namely primary and secondary data. Primary data of this analysis is the poem entitled "Daddy" written by Sylvia Plath. Meanwhile, secondary data is a document or physical object which was written or created during analyzes it.

D. Finding Analysis

1. Emotion Conveyed by Sylvia Plath Poetry "Daddy"

a. Sadness

Sadness would be thought of as a negative emotion and it does have obvious negative aspects, it also has positive side be a life color of author. Experientially, it is made up of downheartedness, discouragement, loneliness and isolation. Typically causes are the commonplace circumstances of everyday life, but especially those that usually involve loss.

Data 1

“for thirty years, poor and white
Barely daring to breath or Achoo”
(Plath, Couplet 1; line 3)

Based on the above data, there is an expression showing a sadness emotion. Author felt so sad with her life’s condition. Her sorrow explained by the word “poor”

b. Disgust

This expression conveyed by author felt the pain and suffering in her life as a result of the act of those who oppress her. She cannot speak again with her father. She only could be silent and save all words that she wants to convey to her father. It can be seen from the following data:

Data 2

“I never could talk to you
The tongue stuck in my jaw.”
(Plath, Couplet 5: Line 5)

c. Grief

There are obvious links between sadness and grief. Grief is the experience of someone who loss something valuable. In the poetry entitled “Daddy”, the writer of the poetry has loss her beloved father it can be seen from the following data:

Data 3

“ says there are a dozen or two
So I never could tell where you
Put your foot, your root,”
(Plath, Couplet 5; Line 3)

The above data shows there is grief emotion based on the sentence “I never could tell where you Put your foot, your root,”. The author lost her

father's footsteps and she will no longer talk about him because she does not find the information from those around.

d. Anger

Anger is always included in list of discrete emotions and it is usually categorized as negative. The likely reason for this is that it is an integral part of aggression, hostility and violence, which are so negative for society. Disgust and contempt, describing the author anger emotions as often interacting in author experience which dictators pressed her life.

Data 4

“not god but swastika
(Plat, Couplet 10; Line 1)

Based on the data, author would like to express her feeling that is anger. The swastika described the power to oppress the weak and made the suffering of the poor as a party.

e. Happiness

Happiness is one of enjoyment. Joy as involving a sense of confidence and contentment, and often as including a feeling of either being lovable or, more specifically loved.

Data 5

“with my gipsy ancestress and my weird luck”
(Plat, Couplet 8; Line 3)

The data above describes happiness explaining her sense of proud for gipsy as the doctrine of the ancestors which now could be applied for a way of life.

f. Love

The various types of love such as love for parents, love for siblings and love in a romantic sense. The expression of love can be seen from the following data:

Data 6

“and a love of the rack and the screw.
And I said I do, I do.
So Daddy I’m finally through.”
(Plath, Couplet 14; Line 1)

E. Conclusion

After analyzing the poetry “Daddy” there are some expressions that can be found in it such as sadness, disgust, anger, happiness, and love. This poetry talk about the love of the author for her father and she is so proud of her father struggling to take good way in life. It can be concluded that emotion is one of the elements that can be used to create a good literary work.

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