

ABSTRACT

Dini Mustika, 1125030073: Symbol of Love and Death in Christina Rossetti's Six Poems. Graduating Paper, English Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, Islamic State University Sunan Gunung Djati. Advistors: 1. Dr. Dewi Kustanti, M.pd; 2. H. Lili Awaludin, S.S., M.A

The expression of love and death can be found further presented in some literary works, especially poetry. A poet, through his/her poetry can express the ambiguous conception of love and death which is delivered through words and phrases aesthetically. The research explored the poems of Christina Rossetti's to find out the concept of love and death and the symbols used in expressing love and death in her poems. Since symbol is one of poetic devices that can be explored in the text of poem itself, this research applied New Criticism as the approach to analyze the symbols of love and death as well as the meaning of those symbols through applying close reading. The employed method in this research is structural analysis method. Teeuw (Suwondo in Jabrohim, 2003:55) insists that the structural analysis method is to dismantle and elaborate prudently the interrelatedness of literary works that results a comprehensive meaning. It implies that what is important in structural analysis is the contribution of the elements to the whole body of meaning in its relationship and its entanglement. The result of analyzing data The six poems analyzed have love and death theme. As the first conclusion, there are several ideas of love and death that can be drawn in this part.

In “Remember”, love of man is something broken that is symbolized by darkness and corruption. It does not deserve to be remembered. Then, in “Song”, love for women is not such to be sacrificed. It does not need a sacrifice because love of man is vain. The poem anticipates death that can bring to God, the eternal one. Therefore, it meets in conclusion that death is not such to be mourned. It can be seen in lines “sing no sad song when I am dead, my dearest”. Death is a gain because it sets free from suffering. In “A Pause”, death is something that is longed for. It can be seen in the line “my thirsty soul kept watch for one away.

