Interpretation of the Meaning in the Poem "*Gerimis Jatuh*" by Sapardi Djoko Damono: A Semiotic Analysis of Roland Barthes

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Abstract: Semiotics is the study of signs. With this science, one can understand the meaning contained in the signs that appear in a work of literature and art. In studying a sign, semiotic approaches are needed, one of which is the approach proposed by Roland Barthes. To apply Roland Barthes' approach to a literary work of poetry, the author chose a poem by Supardi Djoko Damono entitled "Gerimis Jatuh". The type of research used is semiotic research with data collection methods in the form of literature and note-taking techniques. The methods and techniques of data analysis used are descriptive analysis methods associated with Roland Barthes' theory. The results of this study show that the poem "Gerimis Jatuh" is an expression of the author's feelings of sorrow for someone he misses.

Keywords: semiotics, Roland Barthes, poetry, gerimis jatuh

▪ INTRODUCTION

The existence of poetry can always be a forum for an author to express all his feelings and thoughts. In essence, poetry is a literary work that originates from the author's outpouring of heart and mind which is manifested in rhyme, rhythm, lyrics and rhythm in each line. Poetry is synonymous with language that is packaged poetically, concisely, and full of meaning. The language contained in poetry also uses more figurative language than other literary works. So, it is not uncommon for a reader to need to read and understand a poem many times, then he can interpret the poem well.

In interpreting a poem, a reader can use semiotic approaches that have been put forward by various language experts. One of these approaches is Roland Barthes' approach. Literally, Barthes' semiotic theory is derived from the theory of language proposed by Saussure. Barthes developed Saussure's thinking regarding the system of signifiers and signifieds into two levels of signification, namely denotation and connotation. Apart from that, Barthes also focuses on another aspect of signification, namely "myths" that can mark a society.

Roland Barthes (in Haerunissa, 2018: 9) focuses on the idea of two-stage significance, namely denotation and connotation. Denotation is the definition of the object of the word, while connotation is its subjective or emotional meaning. Budiman (2001:28) explains the differences between denotation and connotation. In a general sense, denotation is the actual meaning, while connotation is not the actual meaning.

To apply the study of Roland Barthes' semiotic theory to poetry, the author chose the poem "Falling Drizzle" by Supardi Djoko Damono. The poem requires a deep understanding to find out the hidden meaning in the poem, so it requires a semiotic approach in studying it. Like poetry in general, this poem also uses a lot of figurative language and signs which have various connotative meanings and can give rise to multiple interpretations in the reader's mind.

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▪ **METHOD**

This research uses a semiotic type of research because this research focuses on studying the meaning of the signs that appear in a literary work. The data and data sources used in this research are words, phrases, lines, stanzas, lexia, as well as connotative and denotative signs found in the poem "Gerimis Falls" by Supardi Djoko Damono. Collecting research data uses library or document methods and note-taking techniques. The data analysis from this research uses descriptive analysis methods and qualitative descriptive techniques.

▪ **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

Roland revealed that the first thing to do in studying a poem is to first break down the lexia which is then connected to Barthes' five semiotic codes. He explained that lexia is the smallest unit of reading which can be several words or sentences. The five semiotic codes (Barthes in Putri, 2020: 4) are as follows.

Hermeneutic code (puzzle code) is a code for searching for a truth that displays a text and a puzzle. Semic code (connotative code). is a code that provides signals, figurative meanings, and possible meanings offered by a signifying system. Symbolic codes are codes that appear "contrastive" in a text, such as feminine-masculine, open-closed, and day-night. Proairetic code (action code) is a code that shows a sequence of actions arranged linearly in a literary work. Cultural codes are text references to objects that are already known and codified by culture.

The study of poetry using Roland Barthes' theory can be taken in two steps, namely (1) collecting the lexias found in poetry using Barthes' five codes; (2) analyzing signs using Roland Barthes' semiotic chart. The following is a description of the study of the poem "Falling Drizzle" by Sapardi Djoko Damono using Roland Barthes' semiotic theory.

Lexia Analysis Using Roland Barthes' Five Codes

In the poem "Falling Drizzle" by Supardi Djoko Damono, there are two stanzas that will be analyzed using Roland Barthes' 5 codes to obtain lexia.

First Stanza

In the first stanza, there are four lines that will be analyzed. drizzle falls you hear a voice at the door.This array can lead to a hermeneutic code because the reader seems to be looking for justification from the array's statements. The shadow of the wind stands in front of you. This line can lead to semic code because it uses figurative language, specifically in the clause 'the wind stands' which uses personification figures of speech. You don't need to say anything; a thousand words. The array uses symbolic code because the language used appears contrasting. Turned into night, no one was there. The array includes a semic code. This is because the phrase 'incarnates the night' uses figurative language or connotations.

Based on the lines in the first stanza, the line that becomes lexia is the line 'the shadows of the wind stand in front of you'. This is because this line contains more meaning than the other lines in the first stanza.

Second Stanza

In the second stanza, there are four lines that will be analyzed. No need to say freeze, second. This array leads to semic code because it uses figurative language. Tapering at the Sepi's end. This array is included in semic code because it uses figurative language. Slipping down. This array is included in the proairetic code or action code because it

shows actions that are arranged linearly. When you close the door. Your sorrows have not yet subsided. The array uses a hermeneutic code because it makes the reader wonder about the truth of the array.

The line that becomes lexia in the second stanza is "when you close the door. Your sorrows have not been shaded" because it has more meaning and distinctive function than the other lines in the second stanza. Together with the lexia found in the first stanza, these lexia can describe the entire meaning of the poem "Falling Drizzle".

Lexia Analysis Using the Roland Barthes Chart

After determining and analyzing lexia using the five Roland Barthes codes, the lexias were then analyzed using the Roland Barthes chart. The following is a chart put forward by Roland Barthes.

1. Penanda   2. Petanda

3. Tanda (Denotatif)

I. Penanda   Ii. Petanda

Iii. Tanda (Konotatif)

Information:
1. Marker (1): signifier in the realm of denotation
2. Signified (2): signified in the realm of denotation
3. Sign (3): a sign in the realm of denotation, is a conclusion as well as a new marker (1)
4. Marker (I): signifier in the realm of connotation
5. Signified (II): signified in the realm of connotation
6. Sign (III): a sign in the realm of connotation (numbers (1,2,3) are included in the realm of denotation and Roman letters (I, II, III) are included in the realm of connotation).

The following is an analysis of lexia in the poem "Falling Drizzle" using Roland Barthes' chart.

The shadow of the wind stands in front of you

1. Bayang-bayang angin   2. Angin menerpa

berdiri di depanmu   wajah seseorang

3. bayang-bayang angin menerpa seseorang

I. Bayang-bayang masa lalu   II. Sosok dari masa lalu

III. Kenangan dari masa lalu yang hadir kembali bersamaan dengan

turunnya hujan

Marker (1) "The shadows of the wind stand in front of you" occupies the denotative realm. This array has a denotational meaning, namely the shadow of the wind blowing in front of the character "you". This signifier (1) produces signifier (2) in the denotative

realm, namely "The wind hits someone's face". Furthermore, the signifier (1) and signified (2) which are in the denotative realm produce a sign or conclusion, namely "the shadow of the wind hitting someone". This sign then produces another meaning, namely marker (I) which is in the connotative realm.

In this case, the meaning of the shadows of the wind blowing against someone's face can be indicated by a presence, so that the word shadow can be interpreted as someone's presence. This presence shows the shadows of the past which are visualized as the wind blowing through the memories of the character "you". The shadows of the past are markers (I) which are in the connotative realm. Furthermore, these shadows of the past can be interpreted as figures from the past who become signs (II) in the connotative realm. Based on the sign (II), sign (III) was born which summarizes the meaning of the lexia, namely memories from the past that come back together with the fall of rain.

When you close the door. Your sorrows have not yet subsided

1. Waktu kaututup pintu.   2. Ekspresi wajah

Belum teduh dukamu   yang masih berduka

3. Rasa sedih yang tidak kunjung mereda

I. Sudah berusaha menutup masa lalu   II. Hatinya belum teduh

III. Walaupun sudah berusaha melupakan dan berdamai dengan masa lalu,

tapi rasa duka itu masih belum mereda.

Marker (1) "When you close the door. "Your sorrows have not been shaded yet" occupies the denotative realm because it has a denotative meaning. The meaning of marker (1) then produces signifier (2), namely "Facial expression that is still grieving" which is also in the denotative realm. The meaning of signified (2) then produces a denotative sign which also opens up a new signifier in the connotative realm. The denotative sign in question is the feeling of sadness that never subsides experienced by the character "you". The character "you" has actually tried to cover up the never-ending feeling of sadness, but his heart is still not calm. The character "you"'s efforts to close the past is a marker (II) which is in the connotative realm, namely "a feeling of sadness that never subsides". This sign then produces a signifier (II) which is also in the connotative realm, namely "His heart is not yet calm". Furthermore, this sign (II) can produce a sign (III) or myth which concludes the meaning of the line, namely "Even though we have tried to forget and make peace with the past, the feeling of sorrow still has not subsided."

- **CONCLUSION**

The poem "Falling Drizzle" by Supardi Djoko Damono was the author's choice in applying the theory put forward by Roland Barthes regarding the semiotic approach. This research uses Rolland Barthes' five codes and charts proposed by Barthes in analyzing the various data that have been collected. Based on a semiotic study of the poem "Falling Drizzle" which uses Roland Barthes' theory, it can be concluded that the poem discusses the atmosphere of sadness that haunts the feelings of the character "you" so that the presence of drizzle adds to the impression of melancholy that he experiences. In this

poem, even though the character "you" has tried to close the pages of the past, the sadness and grief he experiences still does not subside. (one and a half spaces blank)

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