

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This is the last chapter of the research. In this chapter, the conclusion of the previous chapter and the recommendation for further research are represented. The conclusion consists of the summary of what have been discussed in the last chapter and also the result of the analysis. Then the recommendation includes some suggestions for future study.

5.1 Conclusion

5.1.1 Heuristic Reading Results

The heuristic reading of “*Her Grave*” shows acceptance of the death of the narrator’s beloved dog. The narrator reminiscing about the dog’s habit in life describes the grief’s acceptance. At first, the narrator finds it hard to let her go. However, following the dog’s funeral process, the narrator gets a new understanding of death. The forest becomes a place for the narrator to reflect on the values she has always believed in destiny over living things, the relationship between dog and the owner, and God’s power over nature. The meaning of it amazes the narrator at the incident of the dog’s burial. The narrator lets go of the dog with great courage, even though she feels sad because of her love.

On “*Bazougey*”, the heuristic reading shows acceptance of the death of the narrator’s beloved dog. Acceptance of grief in this poem is described by asking about the whereabouts of the little black dog that used to run down the street. The narrator concludes that the dog is gone. The dog has left the world the narrator

lives in for another world. The narrator feels sad and empty when the dog leaves. She felt sure that the dog had become part of another world. Then, the narrator invites the reader to go to the forest, where spring always takes place, as a gift from God almighty. The beauty of the forest experienced by the narrator makes him remember the little black dog who is now gone, and again, the narrator feels amazed to the event.

The results of the heuristic reading of "*The First Time Percy Came Back*" Poem shows acceptance of the death of the narrator's beloved dog. This poem describes the acceptance of this grief through the narrator's reunion with Percy, who has died on a beach. Percy hopped on the beach, and the narrator passionately wanted to hug him. However, the narrator cannot touch Percy like she only felt music. The two of them then had an imaginary conversation. Percy explained that things were different, not the same as they had been. But the narrator still desires to get back together with Percy. Percy emphasizes that all the narrator has to do is share Percy's story, true or false, but as it is. Next, the narrator and the dog walk hand in hand along the beach.

5.1.2 Semantic Indirection

The results of the discussion after the heuristic readings were that the three poems fulfill several categories of indirect expression: "*Her Grave*" contains six metaphors and eleven metonyms in the type of Displacing of Meaning; there are eleven ambiguities in the form of eight paradoxes and three ironies, one contradiction, and not using nonsense in the Distorting of Meaning category; The

use of alliteration and assonance as a rhyming strategy, the use of enjambment, but does not use Typography in the Creating of Meaning category. The poem “*Bazougey*” uses two metaphors and one metonymy in the Displacing of Meaning category; there is one ambiguity in the form of irony, with no contradictions, but there is one nonsense in the type of Distorting of Meaning; The use of alliteration and assonance as a rhyming strategy, the use of enjambment, but does not use typography in the Creating of Meaning category. The poem “*The First Time Percy Back*” contains two metaphors and one metonymy in the Displacing of Meaning category; there is one ambiguity in the form of irony, with no use of contradictions, but there is one nonsense in the Distorting of Meaning category; The use of alliteration and assonance as a rhyming strategy, the use of enjambment, but does not use typography in the Creating of Meaning category.

5.1.3 Hermeneutic Reading Result

The hermeneutic reading of “*Her Grave*” shows that grief is a feeling that must be accepted and grateful for rather than resisted or regretted, as we feel happiness. Even though it is hard to take, the narrator wants to convey that true love depends not on ego but on sincerity and fortitude. Love is the door that leads the narrator to the meaning of appreciation for life.

On “*Bazougey*”, the hermeneutic reading portrays that acceptance of grief leads the narrator to understand that there is something more significant than the feeling of love, namely destiny. This understanding makes the narrator more

sincere and fortitude. Death is no longer seen as scary but rather as a gift from God.

“The First Time Percy Came Back”’s hermeneutic reading tells that grief must be accepted with strong will to continue living. Death is not seen as the end because it revives the memories between the narrator and the dog. The narrator shows that accepting the dog's presence and absence is a way to love her.

5.1.4. Matrix, Model, and Variants

“Her Grave”, *“Bazougey”*, and *“The First Time Percy Came Back”* have the same matrix, which is the acceptance of grief. The actualization of the matrixes of each poems, or in other word, models, are also quite similar: Acceptance. The next is variants, or the detailed version of the models. In *“Her Grave”*, the variants can be found in the eighth, tenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth stanzas. In the poem *“Bazougey”*, the variants are shown on the third and fourth stanzas. While on *“The First Time Percy Came Back”* the variants are stated in the eleventh line until the nineteenth or the last line.

5.1.5 Hypogram

These three poems (*“Her Grave”*, *“Bazougey”*, and *“The First Time Percy Came Back”*) shares the same potential hypogram which is the elaboration of acceptance of grief as the matrixes. However, there are some differences on the actual hypogram. On *“Her Grave”* the actual Hypogram are the other poems in

the collection, *Dog Songs*. The poem “*Her Grave*” is one of the poems in the collection which is intended as a tribute to Oliver’s dog named Luke. The two other poems title are “*Luke’s Junkyard Song*”, and “*Luke*”. Oliver’s experiences as a dog owner also considered as the actual hypogram of this poem.

The actual hypogram of “*Bazougey*” is the one essay entitled “*Dog Talk*” in the same *Dog Songs* collection. Mary Oliver mentions Bazougey’s name along with the others dog. The experience of having dogs also influenced Oliver in writing this poem. While on “*The First Time Percy Came Back*”, the actual hypogram are other poems which intended as tribute to Oliver’s dog named Percy. Oliver wrote many poems about Percy on this collection: “*Percy*”, “*School*”, “*Time Passes*”, “*Untitled*”, “*Percy Wakes Me*”, “*The Sweetness of Dogs*”, “*Percy Speaks While I Am Doing Taxes*”, “*Percy, Waiting For Ricky*”, “*Percy (2002-2009)*”, and “*For I Will Consider My Dog Percy*”. The fact that Oliver has lived with Percy for almost seven years, which makes the relationship between them very close, is also the actual hypogram of this poem.

5.2 Recommendation

There are some recommendations that can be presented from the result of the analysis. The first recommendation concerns the other theories that can be applied to analyze the *Dog Songs* (2013) collection. The second recommendation is about the further application of the semiotic theory in literature. These recommendations are presented in the hope that they can benefit future researchers in literary research. The first recommendation is the other literary theory that can be applied to analyze the *Dog Songs* (2013) collection. Some

aspects of the poems can be analyzed using the Ecocriticism theory. Ecocriticism in literature can be used to analyze the representations of nature that appear in the collection of *Dog Songs* poems because many natural images, such as forests and seas, serve as the background for the events of these poems. The second recommendation is about the further application of the semiotic theory in literature. The semiotic theory focuses on studying signs and meaning, which is essential in understanding literary works. Various signs can be found in poetry, novels and other forms of literature. The use of semiotic theory, through an in-depth discussion of signs, is expected to open up new meanings regarding the poems in the *Dog Songs* collection.

