

CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter presents and discusses an analysis about the statement of the problem. The analysis concerns with Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poem, it includes study of figure of speech and finding the possible meaning which the contained in the poem. This chapter consist analysis, data source, identifying figure of speech and discusses to find the possible meaning and to find the reason why of figure of speech.

In this part of the study, the researcher presents an analysis of figure of speech in Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poems. The study is interested to analyze Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poems sonnets 43(fourthly three) and sonnets 14(fourteen) because these poems have verse that contain of figure of speech. The famous poems that contain of figure of speech are chosen to be analyzed and to find out the possible meaning of words or sentences which are made by the author of the poem.

Poem "How Do I Love Thee(sonets 43)"

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways. (1)
I love thee to the depth and breadth and height
My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight
For the ends of being and ideal Grace.

I love thee to the level of every day's (5)
Most quiet need, by sun and candlelight.
I love thee freely, as men strive for Right;
I love thee purely, as they turn from Praise.
I love thee with the passion put to use
In my old griefs and with my childhood's faith. (10)
I love thee with a love I seemed to lose

*With my lost saints,--I love thee with the breath,
Smiles, tears, of all my life!--and, if God choose,
I shall but love thee better after death.* (14)

The poem above contains some figures of speech which will be described as follows:

4.1 Personification

In the verse which contains personification is:

- *My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight*(3)

On the verse “*My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight*”(3) here it can be explained as personification because soul is described as the thing that is alive and soul can only move with help from human being. Also, soul is an animate. According to Perrine, personification is giving the attributes of a human being to an animal, an object, or concept (1992:64). As accordance with Perrine’s view, in the verse (3), it is possible if the author might think that the soul can attain love when the feeling is far from her sight. Thus, it is included as a kind of concept of human beings’ attribute. It means, the possible meaning in this verse reflects the author’s feeling about how much she believes in her husband, even though she does not know the ending of her love with her husband (Bildir, summary how do I love thee 2008)

4.2 Simile

In the verses which contain simile are:

- *I love thee freely, as men strive of right* (7)

- *I love thee purely, as they turn from praise* (8)

On the verse “*I love thee freely, as men strive of right*” (7) and “*I love thee purely, as they turn from praise*”(8) is seen as simile because “as men” and “as they turn” it also formed with the word the “as” means that like. According to Perrine, simile uses to compare and it is expressed by the use of some word or phrase such as “like” or “as”(1992:61). As accordance with Perrine’s view, in the verse (7), the author might said that, her love to her husband without restriction like selfish men who struggle for right. If in the verse (8), the author might say that, her love to her husband is neglect the praise and reward from her husband. It means, the possible meaning in the verses is reflecting the author’s expression that she loves her husband of her own free will and it is necessary for her husband to reach happiness but not necessary for her.

4.3 Assonance

In the verse which contain assonance are:

- *For the ends of being and ideal Grace*(4)

- *I love thee to the level of every day’s*(5)

On the verse “*For the ends of being and ideal Grace*”(4) and “*I love thee to the level of every day’s*”(5) they use assonance, because the pronunciation of are the same consonant “Grace” and “day’s” it is the words of a vowel sound that repeated and close together, which is “grace” [greiz] and “day’s” [deiz] vowel sound. Cuddon states assonance sometimes called “vocalic rhyme”, it consist of the repetition of

similar vowel sounds, usually close together, to achieve a particular effect of euphony(1999:78). As accordance with Cuddon's view, the verse tells about a repetition of similar sounds. It means, the possible meaning in this verse is reflecting the author expression that "Grace" and "day's" related with her love for her husband conveys the love of God and increase the beautiful aspect in the last sentences. She also loves him in a regular day to day way. So, they love will last everlasting.

4.4 Anaphora

The verse with contain anaphora is:

- *I love thee with a love I seemed to lose* (11)

On the verse "*I love thee with a love I seemed to lose*"(11) it is seen as anaphora because, "love" and "love" is the same word that is being repeated twice in the verse. Cuddon states a rhetorical device involving the repetition of a word or group of words in successive clauses (1999:57). It means, the possible meaning in the verse is reflecting the author's thought which imply that "love" and "love" at the verse above describes the fear of the woman that is afraid of losing the love of her husband.

4.5 Hyperbole

In the verse which contain hyperbole is:

- *How do I love thee? Let me count the ways* (1)

On the verse "*How do I love thee? Let me count the ways*" (1) it is seen hyperbole, because the word "count" here possibly means the number of love that the author has

for her husband whereas the love can not counted. According to Perrine, exaggeration in the service of truth(1992:101).As accordance with Perrine’s view, thus it is exaggeration in the verse. It means, the possible meaning in the verse is reflecting the impossibility of counting love, which nonetheless the woman for hyperbole reason, decide to count it.

Poem “If Thou must love me”(sonnet 14)

If thou must love me, let it be for nought (1)
Except for love's sake only. Do not say
‘I love her for her smile ... her look ... her way
Of speaking gently, ... for a trick of thought

That falls in well with mine, and certes brought (5)
A sense of pleasant ease on such a day'
For these things in themselves, Beloved, may
Be changed, or change for thee, --and love, so wrought,

May be unwrought so. Neither love me for
Thine own dear pity's wiping my cheeks dry, (10)
A creature might forget to weep, who bore
Thy comfort long, and lose thy love thereby!
But love me for love's sake, that evermore
Thou may'st love on, through love's eternity. (14)

The poem above contains some figures of speech which will be described as follows:

4.1.2 Alliteration

In the verse which contain alliteration is:

- *Thy comfort long, and lose thy love thereby*(12)

On the verse “*Thy comfort long, and lose thy love thereby*”(12) it is seen as alliteration. According to Abrams, alliteration is the repetition of a speech sound in a sequence of nearby words(1999:8). As accordance with Abrams’s view, thus the word “thy” as “you” is repetition of the same word in the verse. It means, the possible meaning in the verse is reflecting the author’s thought imply that the woman long for the comfort of love and, at the same time, she afraid of losing her husband’s love.

4.1.3 Assonance

In the verse which contain assonance are:

- *Of speaking gently, for a trick of thought*(4)
- *That falls in well with mine, and certes brought*(5)
- *A sense of pleasant ease on such a day*(6)
- *For these things in themselves, beloved, may* (7)

On the verses “*Of speaking gently, for a trick of thought*(4)”, “*That falls in well with mine, and certes brought*(5)”, “*A sense of pleasant ease on such a day*(6)” and “*For these things in themselves, beloved, may* (7)” it is seen as assonance because, the last verses “thought” and “brought” is a repetition of similar vowel sound. The same word pattern also occur in “day” and “may”. Cuddon states that, assonance sometimes called “vocalic rhyme”, it consist of the repetition of similar vowel sounds, usually close together, to achieve a particular effect of euphony(1999:78). It can be conclude

on the verses to tell repetition of similar vowel sounds, as seen in “*Thought*” and “*brought*” followed by “t” in “*day*”, and “*may*” followed by “y”. It means, the possible meaning in the verse is reflecting the author’s thought imply that, the woman’s conviction in having a trick to have a pleasant day with her husband.

4.1.4 Metaphor

In the verse which contain metaphor are:

- *I love her for her smile, her look, her way*(3)

On the verse “*I love her for her smile, her look, her way*”(3)it is seen as metaphor because, the word ”love” is compared with her physics appearance. Perrine states metaphor is the comparison that is implied in the figurative term. In simile the comparison is expressed (1969:61). It means, that the metaphorconcluded is an implicit comparison between two different things. It means, the possible meaning in the verse is reflecting the author’s thought that imply the man’s conviction in loving her wife regardless her appearance. Then, her sweetheart should love her despite her appearance.

4.1.5 Hyperbole

In the verse which contain hyperbole are:

- *But love me for love’s sake that evermore*(13)
- *Thou may’st love on through love’s eternity*(14)

On the verse “*But love me for love’s sake that evermore*(13), “*Thou may’st love on through love’s eternity*(14)” it is seen as hyperbole because, the word “evermore” as forever and “eternity” until death come in, the verse uses exaggeration to convey strong feeling. Perrine state, exaggeration in the service of truth(1992:101). As accordance with Perrine’s view, it can be concluded the verse is an overstatement of deep feeling. It means, the possible meaning in the verse is reflecting the author’s that imply the woman’s wish for her husband to only love her forever until the end of time.

4.3 The contribution of figures of speech toward the poem’s meaning.

4.3.1 “How do I love Thee”

This poem contains several figures of speech such as: Personification, it is seen on the verse *My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight*(3). This figure contribute to this poem because the author use the word “soul” which described as a live human in which the personification give manifestation effect in this poem. Simile it is seen on the verse *I love thee freely, as men strive of right* (7) *I love thee purely, as they turn from praise* (8). This figures contribute to this poem, because the author use the word “as” which described the simile in giving comparison effect in this poem. Assonance it is seen on the verse *For the ends of being and ideal Grace*(4), *I love thee to the level of every day’s*(5). This figure contribute to this poem because the author use assonance to give similar vowel sound effect in this poem. Anaphora it can be seen on the verse *I love thee with a love I seemed to lose*(11). This figure contribute to this

poem, because the author use anaphora to give an explicit effect in the poem. Hyperbole it is seen on the verse *How do I love thee, Let me count the ways* (1). This figure contribute to this poem because the author use hyperbole to give an exaggeration or overstatement effect in this poem the impossibility of counting love, which nonetheless the woman for hyperbole reason, decide to count it. So, each figure make the poem more beautiful, and romantic in meaning.

4.3.2 “If Thou Must Love Me”

This poem contains several figures of speech such as: Alliteration it is seen on the verse *Thy comfort long, and lose thy love thereby*(12). This figure contribute to this poem because the author use alliteration to give an explicit consonant “th” which “thy” is meaning “you”(her husband) effect in the poem. Assonance it is seen on the verse *Of speaking gently, for a trick of thought(4), That falls in well with mine, and certes brought(5), A sense of pleasant ease on such a day(6), For these things in themselves, beloved, may(7)*. This figure contribute to this poem because the author use assonance to give similar vowel sound effect in this poem. Metaphor it is seen on the verse *I love her for her smile, her look, her way*(3). This figure contribute to this poem because the author use metaphor to give an implicit effect in the poem. Hyperbole it seen on the verse *But love me for love’s sake that evermore(13), Thou may’st love on through love’s eternity(14)*. This figure contribute to this poem, because the author use the word “evermore” and

“eternity” as her husband love forever to her, it make hyperbole to give an exaggeration effect in this poem. So, each figure makethe poem more romantic, vivid, and beautiful meaning.