

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Culture is a way of life that develops, is shared by a group of people, and is passed adown from generation to generation. Culture is made up of many complex elements, including religious and political systems, customs, languages, tools, clothing, buildings, and works of art. When one tries to communicate with people of different cultures, and adapts to their differences, it proves that culture is learned. Culture is a comprehensive way of life.

Literature is an expression of human expression in the form of written or oral works based on thoughts, opinions, experiences, to feelings in imaginative forms, reflections of reality or original data wrapped in aesthetic packaging through language media. The above understanding is reinforced by Sumardjo & Saini (1997: 3) who argue that literature is an expression of the human person in the form of experiences, thoughts, feelings, ideas, passions, beliefs in a form of concrete images that evoke charm with language tools.

Literature is a beautiful work of art that comes from human life. According to Abrams, the term literature has been used since the 18th century as a marker of fiction and imagination writings including poetry, prose, stories and dramas. (Abrams 2009:177)

Understanding Poetry is a literary work in the form of an expression of the author's heart in which there are rhythms, lyrics, rhymes, and rhythms in each line. Packed in imaginative language and arranged with dense and meaningful words. Poetry is written in a way that different. Poetry is the result of human creativity which is poured through arrangement of words that have meaning. Language used in poetry also different. Poetry is an expression that takes into account the aspects of sound in it, as well as the poet's imaginative, emotional, and intellectual experiences from his individual and social life. Poetry is expressed in certain techniques so that it can evoke certain experiences in the reader or listener. To learn a poetry is not as easy to learn other scientific works or book, we can find the real events, denotative meanings, in the poetry we can find the kinds of figurative language style, the other elements that express their feeling, and the various connotative meanings. That is why, the definitions given to poetry are always different from one person to another.

Women with any deficiency and excess have roles and functions that same as men. Nevertheless, in many culture and social, women experiencing of subordination and marginalization. They are treated as parties are considered weak.

Expressive theory defines poetry as an expression, or overflow, or utterance, or feeling or as the products of poet's feeling. Poetry must be pure to express the feeling. In general term, the central tendency of the expressive theory may be summarized in this way. A work art is essentially

the internal made external, resulting from a creative process operating under the impulse of feeling, and embodying the combined product of the poet's perceptions, thoughts, and feelings. The primary source and subject matter of a poem therefore, are the attributes and actions of the poet's own mind. (Abrams 1979:22).

The author analyzes the three poems from Maya Angelou including *Still I Rise*, *Equality* and *Phenomenal Women* which describe how women lived during the slavery era in African-Americans. The reason the writer wants to analyze Maya Angelou's own poetry is because I am directly a woman and how much I want justice to be upheld by the oppressed as described in Maya Angelou's poem. The writer as a woman is interested in understanding how Angelou imagines women through his poetry.

1.2 Statements of Problem

Based on the background's explanation, the researcher raises two main issues that will become the focus of this research, as stated below:

1.2.1 What are the context of three selected poems by Maya Angelou?

1.2.2 How does the spirit of persistence portrayed in the three selected poems by Maya Angelou?

1.3 Scope of The Research

According to the statements of the problem above, this researcher only focuses on Maya Angelou's poems which describe how the spirit persistence of African-Americans at that time.

1.4 Objectives of Research

In accordance with the statement of the study, the purpose of this research are :

- 1.4.1 To know the context in the three selected poems by Maya Angelou
- 1.4.2 To identify the portrayal of spirit persistence in the three selected poems by Maya Angelou

1.5 Significances of The Study

In this research, two significances could be achieved by the readers both of theoretical significance and practical significance. The significance of the research such as :

1.5.1 Theoretical Significances

Theoretically, this research is expected to be discussed in literary studies, especially regarding the black feminism movement. This is because of the frequent oppression of women themselves. While, for students are expected to be reference and can give better understanding apply expressive theory in analyzing a literary work.

1.5.2 Practical Significances

Practically, this research aims to change the perspective and take care of the world and social life. People have to go back to seeing the world in a balanced way which means they have to treat other humans in the same way. Therefore, it is hoped that people will contribute to the improvement of relations between men and women and groups of people with different races.

1.6 Review of Related Literature

In supporting this research, the researcher looks for previous literary works or studies related to this title or research conducted on this manuscript. And also similarities in the object of research. The requirements for the literary review are the needs of relevant researchs by gathering ideas and information related to the topic, there are:

The first related literature is “**An Analysis Of Feminism In Sylvia Plath’s Poems (The Content Analysis Of General Meaning, Detailed Meaning And Intention)**” This research is aimed to know meaning and Feminism in Sylvia Plath’s Poems. The objectives of this research were to find out the general meaning and detailed meaning and to find out kinds of feminism in poems.

This research used qualitative descriptive method using content analysis as the research method. This research used reading and taking note as collecting the data, and technique of analysis data in this research are

reading the whole poems, interpreting poems, and making the conclusion. This research concluded the kinds of feminism, they are Liberal Feminism, Radical Feminism, Psychoanalytic Feminism, Marxist Feminism, Socialist Feminism, Multicultural Feminism, Eco feminism, and Postmodern feminism, this research also concluded the kinds of feminism in the poems, they are; poem Daddy (Radical feminism, Marxist feminism, Socialist feminism), poem Lady Lazarus (Marxist feminism), poem Last word (Marxist feminism).

The second an article entitled ***Rising from the Dust: A Study of Maya Angelou's Poetry*** by Dr. Darshana Trivedi (2016). The article described Maya Angelou's poetry and characteristic of some poetry by Maya Angelou. The journal article talked about some of Maya Angelou's poems rheme and gave a brief analysis of each poem, especially Still I Rise. The researcher of this article found out that Maya angelou poems addressed social and political issues involving the African Americans and challenged the validity of traditional Americans values and myths. She found out that through Still I Rise, Angelou expressed the faith that one would overcome, one would triumph and one would rise in spite of adversity, dire conditions and circumsrances in site of racial epithets and hostilit.

The third, research conduct by Sri Wulandari (2012) from the Universitas Pesantren Tinggi Darul Ulum Jombang, in her journal research entitled "**The Oppression Against Women in Afganistan Potrayed in Khaled Hosseini's " A Thousand Splendid Suns" by Khaled**

Hosseini". This analysis focuses on five the types of oppression experienced by female characters. This oppression comes from their husbands and the society in which they live. So that both Mariam and Laila fight oppression to determine their own lives.

The fourth, ***The African American Life As Reflected In Maya Angelou's Still I Rise And Caged Bird Poems*** in this research described the African American life potrayed in two poems by Maya Angelou, *Still I Rise* and *Caged Bird*. In this research is used the sociocultural historical approach of the research since the poem address social issues. In this researcher finds out that the theme of the poems about the determination to get up from the adversity with the desire to survive. *Still I Rise* poem tells about the African Americans who get false assumptions and injustice from the White Americans. The researcher also gives some suggestions for the future researchers and for the English Language Education Study Program lecturers who are interested in analyzing Maya Angelou's poetry.

The fifth, ***Inhumanity Toward African-Americans In Three Selected Poems Of Maya Angelou (Viewed From Expressive Theory) by Indah Sari Hamid.*** in this reseach discuss -the inhumanity towards African-Americans and the impact of inhumanity reflected in three selected poems by Maya Angelou. The researcher applies qualitative method and descriptive analysis method that was carried out by deepening and appreciating the object of research which was then is described, also using expressive theory. In this research, there are two findings that potray

inhumanity and two findings the impact of inhumanity. The portraits of inhumanity are persecution and denial freedom.

The difference between the researcher above with this research is in the analyzing of the poems in the first researcher is analysis the general meaning. The second poem's analysis about the characteristic in the poem. The third research analyzing about the oppression in the novel and the last research analyzing about the African American life reflected in Angelou's poem. In which of the research are using the poems's to that described the struggle women especially about the slavery at the time, and the research also use the expressive theory and the descriptive qualitative method.

1.7 Theoretical Bases

In the theoretical base, the researcher puts the meaning of persistence and the expressive theory that will be used in this research. The main focus of this research is the black people in Africa-American.

1.7.1 Expressive Theory

This theory make the researcher can understand what the author expressed in his works because expressive theory is an theory that focus to author's thought and feeling that produced in the works. The theory is not purely expressive pay attention to how literary works were created, such as studies of the creative process in biographical studies, but other forms of what is happening in the literary works produced. If the

biographical study area is restricted to self-poet with the quality of his thoughts and feelings, the study area is self-expressive poet, the thoughts and feelings, and the results of creation.

Expressive theory is the literary theory which is concerned with the text and the author relationship. In this theory tends to an interest in the author's biography and psychology. In reading what authors writing in a prose, a drama or in a poetry, the reader tries to understand the intention of the author's writing. In this theory the reader also tries to understand how the relationship between the author's background and how they experience is in the literary work that they convey through the experiences they have gone through. Expressive theory makes more use of secondary data. so secondary data is meant data that is taken or has been raised through the activities of the author as the subject of the creator. To explain the relationship between the author, the universe, the reader and the literary work, Abrams made a diagram consisting of four main components, namely: expressive, mimetic, pragmatic and objective approaches.

Expressive theory defines the temperament of the Romantic era of writers and represents "the inner soul rather than the external world of the writer," and explores the emotions and feelings released from experiencing nature (Leitch 4).

Expressive theories defines a literary work as the overflow, utterance, or projection of the thought and feelings of the author or in other words, the work itself modifies and synthesizes the images, thoughts, and feelings of the author (Abrams, 1979: 21-22)

The most powerful impetus in expressive theory critical thought was the Romantic Movement that began in late eighteen century. This movement has deeply affected our modern consciousness and the common sense discourse of literary commentary. Expressive theory firmly stick to these three key terms. They believe that authorial individuality is something to be conveyed by a literary work, and to go beyond objectivist theorists prescription that a poets effort should be to flee personality and that criticism should focus on teh poem not on the poet. Wordsworthian notion that “a poem is inner made outer” put an emphasis on the poet in a poem, and emphasis has never eased.

1.7.2 Definition of Persistence

(Rentfrow, 2008:339) defines “persistence is the ability to maintain action regardless of your feelings”. The word persistence means the equality of being determined to do or achieve something. If people find themselves must constantly face against a brick wall, it is time to review what they are doing, they must be intelligent about achieving goals through persistence.

In the common perception, believe and persuade go hand, and properly so. From the fields we cover, there are plenty of examples of persistence and its imbalance. It is not uncommon to learn that years of effort went into creating one of the world's most famous works of music, art, or literature. Voluntary effort or will is a term that is frequently associated with persistence. In psychology today, there is a lot less talk of "will" than there was a few years ago. Once a popular term, it is now rarely used. However, the significance of its meaning warrants our attention in any discussion of persistence. Persistence is the fact of continuing in an opinion or course of action in spite of difficult or opposition. In the other hand, persistence is the fact of containing of people to do something despite difficulties. Connected to existence, persistence itself is then defined as the ability to maintain action regardless of feelings.

The characteristics of persistence according (Rent frow, 2008:369) asserts " can you identify a part of your life where you have demonstrated a pattern of long term persistence? I think if you can do such an area, it may provide a clue to your mission-something you can work towards where passion and self-confidence function synergistically. It means that to perform a long-term persistency, people must show their passion and self discipline. When people know about what they want in such a way then their vision do not change much, they will be more consistent and persistent in their action.

Grit (Duckworth, Peterson, Matthews & Kelly, 2007) Grit entails working strenuously toward challenges, maintaining effort and interest over years despite failure, adversity and plateaus in progress. The gritty individual approaches achievement as a marathon; his or her advantage is stamina. Whereas disappointment or boredom signals to others that it is time to change trajectory and cut losses, the gritty individual stays the course.

Self-confidence is the extent to which there is confidence in the assessment of the ability to succeed. Lauster (1978), states that self-confidence is an attitude or feeling of confidence in one's own abilities so that the person concerned is not too anxious in his actions, can feel free to do things he likes and is responsible for his actions, warm and polite. in interacting with other people, can accept and respect others, have the drive to excel and can recognize their strengths and weaknesses.

Perseverance or persistence is the course of action we take when there is meaning and a sense of purpose in our lives. We often draw on it in times of difficulty, when we meet obstacles or face discouragement (Park, Peterson, & Seligman, 2004). The word itself has a number of synonyms – persistence, self-discipline, resilience, grit, agency and engagement – and these will at times be used in this discussion.

(Hindie, 1999:28) states, that for most part people see their behavior as changing only within limits, and theirself as persisting across situation.

But some people do see themselves as having a number of selves. For instance, a work-self and home-self. A sense of unity may yet prevail because of resemblances between the selves and the sense of continuity over time.

In other words, the fact of continuing to do something as the sense of persistency is accepted by common people as unity between their individual nature and the longing of adaption towards any past, present, and also future living condition.

1.7.3 Definition of Context

Context is defined as the environment in which a written work is located. The intended message is given meaning and clarity by context. A literary work's contextual hints build a rapport between author and reader and help the reader comprehend the writing's purpose and general direction better. In order to offer context to the usage of a statement or fact from a source, authors must always tell their readers something about the source. Context is the name given to this piece of knowledge. Context sheds light on the text's significance and meaning as well as any cultural, historical, social, or political elements.

Five types of context for literary works there are authorial context, socio-historical context, philosophical context, literary context and Critical context.

Authorial context is also known as a biographical background. It would be a stretch to suggest that authors write only from their experiences (imagination plays a crucial role, too), but their personal experiences always have an impact on their writing. That does not imply, however, that the author empathizes with the protagonist or even the narrator in a novel or the speaker in a poetry, nor does it imply that the events or experiences he or she recounts truly occurred and the author is just recounting what he or she has seen. A piece of writing is related to the author's life via the authorial context. Did it happen in the start, in the middle, or towards the conclusion of their career? Was that career successful thus far, or not? Some instances, The complete career is contained in one volume. Take into account the setting in which a piece of writing was composed. What events were occurring in the author's life? What particular events or personal situations, either present-day or historical, drove the author to write it? In other words, how does the author's life fit into this work, and how has that life influenced it? Biographies of the author, autobiographies or memoirs by the author or by individuals who knew him or her, and critical works that pay particular attention to the author's biography are all helpful sources for investigating biographical background.

Historical and social context. literary works frequently (though not always) react in some manner to the culture in which they were produced, and this reaction most frequently (though not always) takes the shape of

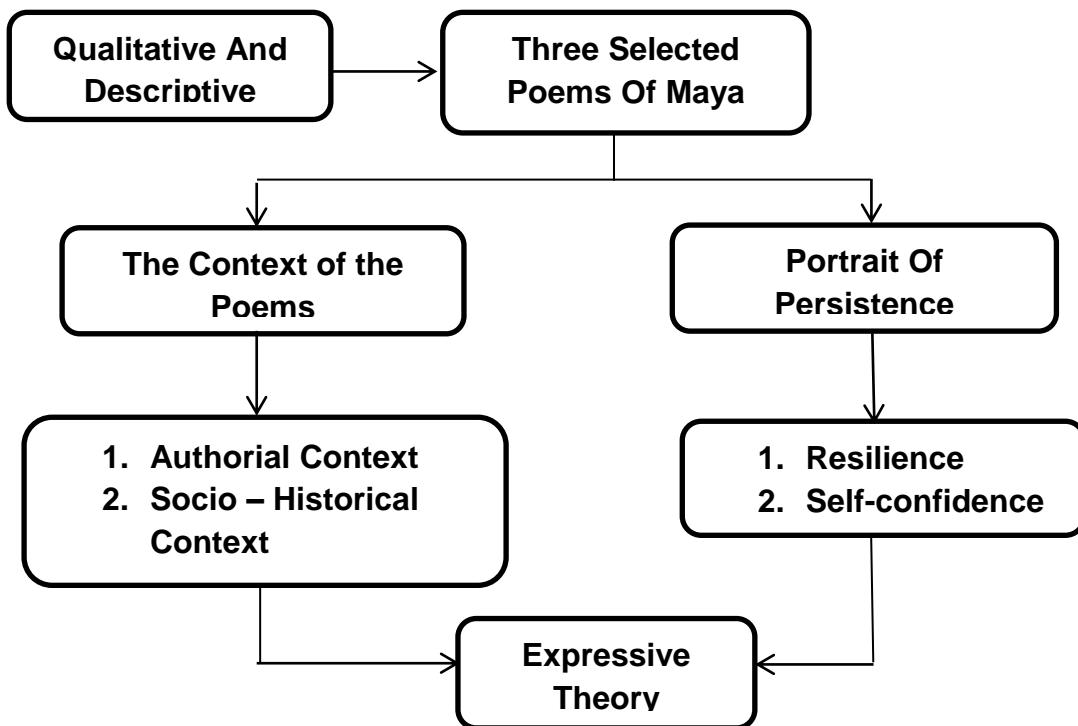
criticism. Consider the social commentary this specific piece makes. What societal concerns does it address? What perspective on society does the author appear to have? If you notice criticism, who or what are you criticizing? What societal changes do you believe the author would want to see? Where can you find examples of this in the work? Does the piece depict actual occurrences or some that are eerily reminiscent of them? Works (books and articles) of history or sociology that discuss the advantages, disadvantages, and modifications taking place in the author's time period or the culture in which they lived, as well as critical studies that highlight the relationship between the society and the art.

Philosophy tends to develop trends and fashions just as music, painting, and clothing do. Find out which philosophical tendencies the author supports and which they reject in order to take philosophical background into account. How does the piece show this? However, once you identify which philosopher(s) influenced the work, you also need to locate at least one work that explains the philosopher's ideas, whether it was written by the philosopher or by someone else. Critical sources that explain the relationship between the work and philosophy are important here (but this person should not be writing about the literary work).

Literary context is background knowledge or circumstances that you provide to explain why a certain event is occurring. Context may also be a character's past that you include to explain their conduct and personality.

Critical context is the once any work is published, it begins to attract criticism — if it is noticed at all. That is, reviewers start writing about it and expressing what they like and don't like about it. Early criticism frequently takes the form of book reviews, which are typically succinct and focus largely on describing to potential readers the subject matter, theme, tone, and style of a work and if it is any good. Critics, though, eventually start to think more thoroughly. Instead than urging readers to pick up a book, they now presume that many people have already done so and instead try to explain something about it that a typical reader would not have noticed or thought about. They emphasize They establish links between this work and others, as well as between this author and others, through hidden meanings, influences, and patterns. This is where serious literary criticism is concerned. Critical works are crucial for any paper you write for this subject, but you must distinguish between recent reviews and later, more in-depth analysis. On the other hand, nothing ensures advancement once deeper critical reflection starts to emerge. In the humanities, writing from 1900 or 1940 could be more insightful and engaging to read than writing from 1990. Additionally, anything published fifty years ago that is still in print may be superior to something written now since time tends to weed out bad critical works (just like it tends to weed out bad literary works).

1.8 Conceptual Scheme



Based on the conceptual scheme above, the researcher uses some step to achieve the best result of the study. Researcher analyzed about the spirit persistence in three selected poems of Maya Angelou. The researcher uses qualitative method, descriptive analysis method, and expressive theory.

1.9 Method of Research

For the method of the research, the researcher uses the qualitative method and analysis descriptive method.

1.9.1 Qualitative Method

"A qualitative study is defined as an inquiry process of understanding a social or human problem, based on building a complex, holistic picture, formed with words, reporting detailed views of informants, and conducted in a natural setting According to Cresswell (1994).

Qualitative research is multi-method in focus, involving an interpretive, naturalistic approach to its subject matter. This means that qualitative researchers study things in their natural settings, attempting to make sense of or interpret phenomena in terms of the meanings people bring to them.

Qualitative research involves the studied use and collection of a variety of empirical materials case study, personal experience, introspective, life story interview, observational, historical, interactional, and visual texts-that describe routine and problematic moments and meaning in individuals' lives Denzin and Lincoln (1994).

1.9.2 Descriptive Analysis Method

Descriptive method is used in this research are here because of the qualitative applying the method where the data is collected that shape into numeral words. Such as, information geined thrigh the poems that researcher have to understand aspects of aspects related literature themselves.

In comprehending further analysis, the researcher applies the descriptive analysis method. According to Kutha Ratna (2003:53) "descriptive analysis method is aimed to describe the characteristic of current research and investigate the causes of particular phenomenon". The aim of using this methods is to identify and describe how Maya Angelou's life reflected of the four selected poems.

From on the explanation above, the researcher used this method have the role to describe and explain the facts. Thus, the researcher decides to use the descriptive method because researcher wants to describe how the African-American life in slavey era. And how are the impact for them when they life in the majority of white people.

1.10Technique of Collecting Data

In this research, the researcher divide technique collecting data in the three techniques to collect data in this research, namely:

1.10.1 Library Research

In this section, the researcher using the library research to collect the data and find many references. This section can help us to find the data needed in accordance with the study.

1.10.2 Reading Comprehension

The reading comprehension in this collecting data is aimed to find the information is very related with the topic. This way also makes easy the researcher to understand about the literary work will be discussed.

1.10.3 Internet Browsing

The researcher used the internet to browse an information to this research that can help to analysis these poems by Maya Angelou. In this researcher used feminism theory in analyzing data. This way can make it easier for us to find difficult objects of study. And there are many references from various journals and theses in previous research.

1.11 Technique of Analyzing Data.

The research uses a technique of analyzing data to analysis this data in the four poems to the analysis, those are:

1.11.1 Classification

The researcher needs to classify the content in the three poems that are related to the title.

1.11.2 Interpretation

After classified, the researcher continues to interpreting the data. The researcher interpreting the content in the poem such as the word by word, line by line, or the stanza.

1.11.3 Explanation

In this part, the researcher describes the data and give the explanation about the analysis and related it with what is the theory using in this research.

1.11.4 Conclusion

In this section, the researcher will describe the conclusions with interpretations as a result of the analysis in this study.