

## ABSTRACT

Suryati, Erni. (2018). *The Relation between Symbols in Maya Angelou's Caged Bird Poem and I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings Autobiography*. Yogyakarta: English Language Education Study Program, Faculty of Teachers Training and Education, Sanata Dharma University.

*Caged Bird Poem* and *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings Autobiography* are two literary works which have similar titles. Both are created by the famous poet, writer and civil right activist Maya Angelou. This research is aimed to conduct an investigation about the relation between symbols found in *Caged Bird Poem* and *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings Autobiography* both by Maya Angelou. The *Caged Bird* is a poem which tells about two different stories about a bird who is tortured and imprisoned in a cage and a free bird who can do whatever it wants. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings Autobiography* tells how Maya struggled to face the racism of being an African American during her childhood.

The objective of the study attempts to reveal the relation between those two literary works through the symbols which are contained in the poem. This study used two research questions. The research questions in this study are: (1) "What are the symbols which can be found in the poem?" and (2) Where are the symbols' representations are described in *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* autobiography?.

This study used the formalist and socio-historical approaches. The formalist approach was used to answer the first research question to identify significant symbols in the poem. The socio-historical approach was used to answer the second research question which attempts to reveal the relation between those symbols and the autobiography.

After analyzing the poem, the researcher found five symbols. They are the free bird, the orange dawn sky, the caged bird, the cage, and the caged bird's song. The free bird symbol's representation is described in chapter four, five, seven, and sixteen. The orange dawn sky symbol's representation is described in chapter four, eight, and sixteen. The caged bird symbol's representation is described in chapter one, three, six, and twenty five. The cage symbol's representation is described in chapter twenty four and thirty four. The caged bird's song symbol's representation is described in chapter nineteen, twenty four, and thirty four.

The suggestions for future researchers are to investigate other intrinsic aspects, such as the theme, tone, and other figurative languages. The future researchers can also investigate the relation of Maya Angelou's *Caged Bird Poem* and Paul Laurence Dunbar's *Sympathy Poem*, because Maya got inspired to write *Caged Bird Poem* after she read *Sympathy Poem*.

**Keywords:** symbol, poem, autobiography, Maya Angelou

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Puisi *Caged Bird* dan Otobiografi *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* adalah dua karya sastra yang memiliki judul yang mirip. Keduanya adalah ciptaan penyair, penulis dan aktivis hak-hak sipil Maya Angelou. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk melakukan investigasi tentang hubungan simbol-simbol yang ditemukan dalam Puisi *Caged Bird* dengan Otobiografi *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* yang keduanya diciptakan oleh Maya Angelou. *Caged Bird* adalah sebuah puisi yang menceritakan tentang dua cerita berbeda tentang seekor burung yang disiksa dan dipenjara dalam sangkar dan burung bebas yang dapat melakukan apapun yang diinginkannya. Lalu Otobiografi *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* menceritakan bagaimana Maya berjuang untuk menghadapi rasisme karena menjadi seorang Afrika Amerika selama masa kecilnya.

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengungkapkan hubungan antara kedua karya sastra tersebut melalui simbol-simbol yang terkandung dalam puisi. Rumusan masalah dalam penelitian ini adalah: (1) "Apa simbol-simbol yang dapat ditemukan di dalam Puisi *Caged Bird*?" dan (2) "Dimana penggambaran dari simbol-simbol tersebut dideskripsikan di Otobiografi *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*?"

Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan formalis dan sosio-historis. Pendekatan formalis digunakan untuk menjawab pertanyaan penelitian pertama yang menemukan simbolisme dalam puisi. Pendekatan sosio-historis digunakan untuk menjawab pertanyaan penelitian kedua yang mengungkapkan hubungan antara simbol-simbol tersebut dan otobiografi.

Setelah memahami dan menganalisis puisi tersebut, peneliti menemukan empat simbol. Simbol-simbol tersebut adalah *the free bird*, *the orange dawn sky*, *the caged bird*, dan *the caged bird's song*. Penggambaran simbol *the free bird* dideskripsikan di bab empat, lima, tujuh, dan enam belas. Penggambaran simbol *the orange dawn sky* dideskripsikan di bab empat, delapan, dan enal belas. Penggambaran simbol *the caged bird* dideskripsikan di bab satu, tiga, enam, dan dua puluh lima. Penggambaran simbol *the cage* dideskripsikan di bab dua puluh empat dan tiga puluh empat. Penggambaran simbol *the free bird* dideskripsikan di bab sembilan belas, dua puluh empat, dan tiga puluh empat.

Saran untuk peneliti yang hendak melakukan penelitian untuk menginvestigasi aspek intrinsic lain, seperti tema, nada, dan bahasa kiasan lainnya. Peneliti juga bisa menginvestigasi relasi antara Puisi *Caged Bird* Maya Angelou and Puisi *Sympathy* Paul Laurence Dunbar, karena Maya terinspirasi untuk menulis Puisi *Caged Bird* setelah membaca Puisi *Sympathy*.

**Kata kunci:** symbol, poem, autobiography, Maya Angelou

