

ABSTRACT

Pradana, Heindra. (2009). Poe's Perception of Death as Revealed in His Short Stories: The Mask of the Red Death, Ligeia, and The Cask of Amontillado. Yogyakarta: English Language Education Study Program, Sanata Dharma University.

Death is one of many phenomena that must be faced by every single person in this world. People perceive and face death differently from one to another. This has inspired me to conduct this study. This study discusses Edgar Allan Poe's short stories: The Mask of the Red Death, Ligeia, and The Cask of Amontillado which present and reveal death.

There are two issues that are discussed in this thesis. They are (1) what is Poe's perception of death as revealed in The Mask of the Red Death, Ligeia, and The Cask of Amontillado? and (2) how does Poe's perception of death as revealed in The Mask of the Red Death, Ligeia, and The Cask of Amontillado reflect Poe's life?

The method employed in this study is library research. I obtained the data from the three short stories themselves as the primary source. Whereas the secondary sources which are used to answer the issues above are the references from books and electronic articles about literary works and the life of Edgar Allan Poe which are supportive and relevant to this study. The approach I used to analyze the issues is biographical approach since this study refers to the life of Edgar Allan Poe.

The conclusion of the analysis is that in the three short stories: The Mask of the Red Death, Ligeia, and The Cask of Amontillado, Edgar Allan Poe perceives death as something fearful, terrible and horrifying, and not the calm and peaceful one. It can be seen in the analysis by comparing the death figure, the cause of death, and the characters' view of death in those three short stories.

Edgar Allan Poe's perception of death as seen in his short stories: The Mask of the Red Death, Ligeia, and The Cask of Amontillado is influenced by his real life. During his life, he experienced seeing and facing death of the persons he loved and most of them were so tragic and left great sadness to him. Moreover, his life is rarely happy. He often quarreled with his foster father that led to his intention to take a revenge to his foster father. Those experiences of life are reflected in the work of Edgar Allan Poe as his perception of death itself.

Besides providing the suggestion for possible future researches on Edgar Allan Poe's short stories: The Mask of the Red Death, Ligeia, and The Cask of Amontillado, this thesis also proposes material to teach English by using excerpts of the stories in teaching Intensive Reading II and Public Speaking I.

ABSTRAK

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Kematian adalah salah satu dari banyak fenomena yang harus dihadapi oleh setiap orang di dunia ini. Orang-orang melihat dan menghadapi kematian dengan cara yang berbeda satu dengan yang lain. Hal ini telah menginspirasi saya dalam melakukan penelitian ini. Penelitian ini mendiskusikan tentang cerita pendek Edgar Allan Poe: The Mask of the Red Death, Ligeia, and The Cask of Amontillado yang menyuguhkan dan mengungkapkan kematian.

Ada dua isu yang akan didiskusikan dalam skripsi ini, yaitu (1) apa persepsi Poe tentang kematian sebagaimana terlihat di The Mask of the Red Death, Ligeia, and The Cask of Amontillado dan (2) bagaimana persepsi Poe tentang kematian sebagaimana terlihat di The Mask of the Red Death, Ligeia, and The Cask of Amontillado menggambarkan kehidupan Poe.

Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah studi pustaka. Saya mengumpulkan data dari tiga cerita pendek tersebut sebagai sumber utama. Sedangkan sumber tambahan yang digunakan untuk menjawab isu di atas adalah referensi dari buku-buku dan artikel elektronik tentang karya sastra dan kehidupan Edgar Allan Poe yang mendukung dan sesuai dengan penelitian ini. Pendekatan yang saya gunakan untuk menganalisa isu-isu tersebut adalah pendekatan biografi karena penelitian ini berkenaan dengan kehidupan Edgar Allan Poe.

Kesimpulan dari analisa adalah bahwa di dalam tiga cerita pendek: The Mask of the Red Death, Ligeia, and The Cask of Amontillado, Edgar Allan Poe melihat kematian sebagai sesuatu yang menakutkan, mengerikan, dan bukan yang tenang dan damai. Hal ini dapat dilihat di dalam analisa dengan membandingkan sosok kematian, penyebab kematian, dan pandangan karakter terhadap kematian dalam tiga cerita pendek tersebut.

Persepsi Edgar Allan Poe tentang kematian sebagaimana terlihat di cerita pendek karyanya: The Mask of the Red Death, Ligeia, and The Cask of Amontillado dipengaruhi oleh kehidupan nyatanya. Selama hidupnya, Poe mengalami, melihat, dan menghadapi kematian dari orang-orang yang dicintainya. Terlebih lagi, hidupnya sangat jarang sekali bahagia, dia sering bertengkar dengan ayah angkatnya dan berujung pada keinginannya untuk membalas dendam. Pengalaman-pengalaman tersebut direfleksikan dalam karyanya sebagai persepsinya tentang kematian itu sendiri.

Selain menyediakan saran untuk penelitian-penelitian selanjutnya tentang cerita pendek Edgar Allan Poe: The Mask of the Red Death, Ligeia, and The Cask of Amontillado, skripsi ini juga menawarkan materi pengajaran Bahasa Inggris dengan menggunakan petikan dari cerita pendek di atas untuk *Intensive Reading II* dan *Public Speaking I*.