A STUDY OF LITERAL MEANING AND FIGURATIVE MEANING IN SOME OF ROBERT FROST'S POEMS

A THESIS

As Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Teaching Faculty

By:

DIANAWATI WANGSAPUTRA
1213098112

UNIVERSITAS KATOLIK WIDYA MANDALA SURABAYA
FAKULTAS KEGURUAN DAN ILMU PENDIDIKAN
JURUSAN PENDIDIKAN BAHASA DAN SENI
PROGRAM STUDI PENDIDIKAN BAHASA INGGRIS
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This thesis entitled **A STUDY OF LITERAL MEANING AND FIGURATIVE MEANING IN SOME OF ROBERT FROST’S POEMS** prepared and submitted by Dianawati Wangsaputra has been approved and accepted as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Sarjana Pendidikan degree in English Language Teaching by the following advisors:

**Drs. Antonius Gurito**  
First Advisor

**Yohanes Nugroho Widjanto, S.S.**  
Second Advisor
This thesis has been examined by the committee of an Oral Examination with the grade of _____ on November 2, 2002.

Dr. Agustinus Ngadiman, M. Pd.
Chairman

Drs. B. Himawan, S.W., M. Hum.
Member

Mateus Yumarnamto, M. Hum.
Member

Drs. Antonius Gurito
Member

Yohanes Nugroho Widiyanto, S. S.
Member

Approved by

Dr. Agustinus Ngadiman, M. Pd.
Dean of the Teacher Training Faculty

Susana Teophilus, M. Pd.
Head of The English Department
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ABSTRACT

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Keywords: Literal Meaning, Figurative Meaning, Robert Frost's Poetry.

Literature, for it may extend our personal experience through reading about the experience and imaginative experience of others, may broaden our vision toward life. Therefore, it may make people mature. One of genres in literature is poetry. It usually expresses ideas through imagery and figures of speech. Poets generally do not state directly what actually their ideas are. This interests the writer to study some of Robert Frost's poems since they are rich of imagery and figures of speech. The problem is stated as 'What is the literal meaning identified in each of selected Robert Frost's poetry?' and 'What is the figurative meaning identified in each of selected Robert Frost's poetry?'. The writer selects ten poems of Robert Frost as the representative of the others. The writer selects them for they are rich of imagery and figures of speech, and contain both literal and figurative meaning.

All the selected poems are analyzed to find their literal meaning and figurative meaning. The literal meaning of them may be identified after several serious readings. Meanwhile, the figurative meaning is found after the writer paraphrased them; then identified the imageries, figures of speech and symbols used in them.

After analyzing all the ten poems, the writer finds that the literal meaning of Robert Frost's poetry is mostly description of nature. It covers woods, animals, fire, ice, dusts, and some other elements of nature. In line with the second question, the figurative meaning appears as the description of modern society, commitment in life, and death.