
ANALYSIS OF THE POETRY *MORNING AT THE WINDOW* WORKS OF TS ELIOT

Ai Sinta Meliani

English Literature Program, Faculty of Administration and Humanities

University of Muhammadiyah Sukabumi

melianiaiss8@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Poetry is one of the literary works that usually becomes a medium of expression for someone to express feelings, thoughts, visions and whatever that person feels. The unique characteristics possessed by a poem can differentiate it from other literary works. The form of expressing a feeling through poetry is also often done by famous poets, usually by using language that has semantic meaning and includes rhymes and rhythms in it. One of the famous poets who expresses his thoughts into a poem is Tomas Stearn Eliot, or better known as TS Eliot. One of TS Eliot's poems inspired by his thoughts, visions and feelings is his poem entitled *Morning at the Window*. This study aims to find out what intrinsic elements are contained in the poem *Morning at the Window* by TS Eliot. Furthermore, the focus of research in this analysis is to find themes, figurative language, and also images in *Morning at the Window* poetry. The method used by researchers in this study is a descriptive qualitative research method, using data analysis techniques that refer to the theory put forward by Aminuddin. The results of this study indicate that poverty and misery are the right themes for the poem *Morning at the Window*. Then there are also two figurative language found in this poem, the first is metaphor and the second is personification. The metaphorical figure of speech is found in the first and sixth lines, while the personification figure of speech is only found in the fifth line. Furthermore, two images are also found in this poem, namely visual imagery and kinesthetic imagery. Visual images are found in the first, sixth, seventh, and eighth lines. Meanwhile, kinesthetic imagery is only found in the fourth line.

Keywords: TS Elliot, Literary work, Poetry, Intrinsic elements, Morning at the window

INTRODUCTION

The form of human expression can be poured into a literary work in the form of writing with beautiful wording, for example in a poem. Poetry is one of the literary works that is much loved by various groups, from the young to the old. Nowadays, even many teenagers and the general public express their feelings of love and affection for the people they care about through poetry. However, not only teenagers and the general public express their feelings in poetry. But many poets also express their feelings or thoughts through poetry. Poetry itself has very unique characteristics that can distinguish it from other literary works.

According to Kosasih, (2012) poetry is a form of literary works that use beautiful and meaningful words. Pradopo (2009) said that poetry comes from someone's thoughts that can stimulate the imagination of the five senses in a rhythmic arrangement so as to evoke the feelings of the reader.

Poetry is an important recording and interpretation of human experience, composed in the most memorable form (Pradopo, 2009, p. 7)

In a poem, the poet usually uses language that has semantic meaning and incorporates rhyme and rhythm into the arrangement of lines and stanzas. Sometimes it is very difficult for some people to understand a poem because the poetic words used by poets are difficult to understand. Therefore, to understand a poem, it is necessary to do an in-depth analysis to get the general meaning of the poem.

According to Umry, (2014) studying poetry means analyzing poetry, observing poetry carefully in terms of giving meaning or interpreting poetry so that it can be understood clearly. Some famous poets also express their feelings and thoughts through verses of poetry. One of them is Thomas Stearns Elliot, or better known as TS Eliot. TS Eliot is an American poet who is often cited as the greatest poet of the 20th century. Eliot has published well-known poems that readers really like. One of these is *Morning at the Window* which was written in 1914, a few months after the outbreak of World War I. This poem was published in 1917 in TS Eliot's first poetry collection - *Prufrock and Other Observations*. In this poem, Eliot captures poverty, alienation, and unhappiness due to the poor living conditions in urban cities at that time. Europe lost an entire generation of youth because the world wars left many women to support the family economy. In this poem, Eliot uncovers the disastrous effects of things that corrupt the entire human race collectively, making people who are isolated in a deteriorating socio-cultural background distrustful of each other. From the phenomenon of cases and statements above, the writer is interested in analyzing the poem *Morning at the Window* with the title *Analysis of Poetry Morning at the Window by TS Eliot*.

DATA SOURCE

The main data source used in this research is a poem by TS Eliot entitled *Morning at the Window*, which was written in 1914 and published in 1917. The additional data source that the researcher uses is in the form of some information about the poem by TS Eliot which is researchers get from several sources such as articles, and also the internet.

METHODS

In this study, researchers used descriptive qualitative research methods, because descriptive qualitative research methods are methods that reveal certain social situations by correctly describing, exploiting, explaining, and predicting events in social settings.

According to Moleong in Nurbayani (2021) Qualitative research is research that aims to understand phenomena related to the experiences of researchers, for example behavior, observations, motivations, actions, and so on, comprehensively and with the help of descriptions in the form of words and language in certain contexts. naturally and with various natural methods

The research object taken by the researcher is a poem by TS Elliot entitled *Morning at the Window*. The researcher reads line by line of the poem to be able to find figurative language and also the images contained in it.

With reference to the theory put forward by Aminuddin (2011) who explained that in analyzing poetry as a form of literary appreciation it uses an analytical approach, with the following steps:

- 1) Prepare the poem to be analyzed.
- 2) Read the poem to be analyzed.
- 3) Determine the items of the problem to be analyzed and determine the sequence.
- 4) Analyze the poem according to the problem and sequence that has been determined by referring to the analysis rubric that has been developed as an analytical tool.
- 5) Developing the concept of analysis results. If the concept that has been compiled has been able to accommodate all the questions that have been set, then the next step is to re-examine the points of the concept that has been arranged and compare them with the poem that has been analyzed while making revisions and improvements.
- 6) Summarize the results of the analysis. Concluding the results of the analysis does not mean reducing the results of the analysis in a concise form, but rather reducing the concepts that have been prepared in a more thorough, complete, systematic and neat manner.

THEORETICAL REVIEW

There are three intrinsic elements that researchers will discuss in this study. Among them are themes, figurative language, and images. The style of language contained in this poem is personification and metaphor, while the images contained in this poem are visual and kinesthetic/movement images.

Suroto (1990) said that something that became the subject matter or something that became his thought was called a theme. Language style is a way of expressing thoughts through a distinctive language that shows the soul and personality of the writer. A good language style must invite three elements, namely honesty, politeness, and interesting (Keraf, 2007, p. 113).

According to Keraf, (2007) personification or *Prosopopoeia* is a type of figurative language that describes inanimate objects as if they have human characteristics. Metaphor is a kind of analogy that compares two things directly, but in a short form (Keraf, 2007, p. 139). Imagery is a word or arrangement of words that can express sensory experiences, such as seeing, hearing, and feeling (Herman J, 1987, p. 78). Meanwhile, according to Pradopo (2009) Poetry uses wishful images called imagination. Images are words that can create images in the form of images, mental impressions that show the relationship between thoughts and feelings in poetry.

According to Pradopo(2009) visual imagery stimulates the sense of sight, so often things that are not seen become as if seen. According to Ma'ruf, (2009) kinesthetic imagery describes something that actually does not move but is described as moving. Motion imagery is often used in literary works because it can evoke the reader's image.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the Morning at the Window poem, figurative language is found, namely 2 metaphorical figures of speech and 1 personification figure of speech. Furthermore, the researchers also found 4 visual images, and 1 motion image.

Table 1. Figurative Language

No	Figurative language	Found in Line
1	personification	5th row
2	Metaphor	Rows 1 and 6

Table 2. Images

No	Image	Found in Line
1	Visual	Rows 1, 6, 7 and 8
2	Movement	4th row

First verse

They are rattling breakfast plates in the basement kitchens,
 And along the trampled edges of the street
 I am aware of the damp souls of housemaids
 Sprouting despondently at the gates area.

(Elliot, 1917)

The first stanza shows the scene and setting of the poem. the speaker started talking about “*They*” who were “*rattling breakfast plates in basement kitchens.*” Thus, the sentence of the first line appears to be that of an observer viewing the scene of people at work from a distant perspective. The image of the situation described by the speaker is object correlative, which means that the objects and situations described correspond to certain ideas and emotions in the perspective of the speaker in the poem and also in the minds of the readers. Later, the speaker stated that he was on the street and suddenly became aware of what was happening around him: “*And along the trampled edges of the street.*” *I am aware of the damp souls of housemaids / Sprouting despondently at the gates area.*” The speaker shows the image of urban poverty in modern London and describes it as an everyday sight that he is used to seeing, without describing the individuality or moralizing of his environment. This first stanza presents a very humane picture, but the speaker states the daily life that is told without mentioning the individual circumstances of the workers in the city. the speaker chooses to tell what he observes and focuses on his point of view.

Second stanza

The brown waves of fog toss up to me
 Twisted faces from the bottom of the street,
 And tears from a passer-by with muddy skirts

An aimless smile that hovers in the air
And vanishes along the level of the roofs.

(Elliot, 1917)

The second stanza shows the characteristics of modern city dwellers. (" The brown waves of fog toss up to me ") the speaker described air and pollution as a consequence of modern industrial cities. Just like the air comes to him in a certain way, the speaker also sees the activities of the people on the street. "*Twisted faces from the bottom of the street.*" "*And tear from a passer-by with muddy skirts*". Watch how they are presented by the speakers, people look sad and dirty.

There is no cheerful and positive facial expression in this portrait of modern London due to the rampant poverty in the streets. In addition, the speaker also described possible attempts to turn things around in the city, but in vain "*An aimless smile that hovers in the air*" "*And vanishes along with the level of the roofs.*" This second stanza, and the rest of the poem, presents a decidedly modern view of a city, most likely London, where some of the people live in poverty. By focusing on the minute details of everyday life and elevating them to a "pseudo-transcendent quality."

The theme of *Morning at the Window* is poverty. This poem presents a very humane picture of poor people in the slums of European cities. This poem presents a series of typical images showing poverty, depression, misery, and destitution in the slums (poor and dirty areas of the city) where the poor live. The poet also mentions the state of mind of the housekeepers. So thematically the poem contains the problems of poverty, depression and destitution in the lives of the poor in the city. Perhaps more terrible than poverty is the problem of depression and distress that poor people experience in living their lives. The damp soul of a housekeeper, the crooked faces of passers-by, the sadness in the eyes of a girl also wearing a muddy skirt, and the aimless smiles of people who try to smile but fail are indicators of sadness and frustration and poverty. Poor people can sometimes be happy, like in a tribal village. However, what is presented in this poem is the problem of unhappiness that seems direr.

People shaking breakfast plates in the morning denotes the poverty of those who have to go to work early. They also live in the basement of the house because they can't afford to live in a better apartment. The speaker felt that the housekeeper was as hopeless and miserable as that poor girl who had appeared out of nowhere at the city gate. The speaker then noticed a series of other images of poverty and sadness. He saw the twisted faces of the people who must have had pain and hardship. He saw a girl with tears in her eyes and a skirt full of dirt on it. Then someone walked by with an aimless smile. All these images are objective correlatives of poverty, which is the main theme of the poem.

The speaker of "*Morning at the Window*" looks down from the roof of his window at the street full of people bustling about. Watching the housemaids or "*housemaids*" and other service workers busy going about their morning business. The writer realizes that the souls of the *housemaids* are sad souls, showing that the workers from the lower class live an unhappy and difficult life in a gloomy urban environment.

Through detailed brief sketches, this poem shows that modern life, especially for those who are lower in the class system, is very limited and foreign to some people. The word "bottom" in the sixth line has a difficult meaning, the housemaids are in a very difficult situation because of their socio-economic conditions they grow up in despair. In other words, they didn't really want to be there but because they had no choice. This poem features a street literally divided by class, the poet has a privileged vantage point from the window of his house above them (*Housmaids*). Servants work under the people they serve; they are shown as anonymous "They" who prepare food for their employer. Housemaids appeared like unfortunate souls from the underworld, preparing food for their masters at the gate to run errands for them.

Meanwhile, the second stanza shows the poverty and neglect of the lower class people. The wave of pollution added to the gloomy atmosphere of the city at that time. The faces of the housekeepers were filled with rage and pain. In fact, the reference to the words "souls" (fifth line) and "twisted faces" (sixth line) makes the urban scene sound downright terrifying. In this case, the word "smile" (eighth line) is an anomaly that attracts the poet's attention. The gap between poets who likely belonged to a higher class and those below them reflected a wider sense of urban alienation. This poem shows that modern city life which is polluted by industry and grouped by class system prevents people from relating to each other. To the poet, the faces below looked like disembodied images. The smile of passers-by is usually a symbol of intimacy and human connection. On the one hand, the smile can rise and reach the poet's heights. However, the owner of that smile is shunned by the city's physical or social divisions. In short, this urban environment seems to forbid any real human connection.

There are two styles of language used by Eliot in writing this poem *Morning at the Window*, the first is a personification figure of speech which compares inanimate objects to humans. The personification figure of speech in the poem *Morning at the Window* is found in the fifth line, namely in the sentence "fog toss up to me" which, when translated, means 'the fog enveloped me.' But here, the sentence likens the deteriorating state or mentality of domestic workers due to the adverse effects of urbanization, industrialization and poverty which also harm the upper class.

The second is a figure of speech metaphor. There are two metaphorical figures of speech in this poem, the first is in the third line or more precisely in the word "damp soul" which, when interpreted, means 'moist soul.' But in this poem, the poet uses the word as a comparison which implies the unhappy state and thoughts of the household servants. Their lives are burdened because of a lack of economy, heavy with all the despair and unable to live freely. The first stanza describes the speaker's distant observations of the daily life of a poor housekeeper in poor living conditions. Her emotions are expressed through the use of negative words and similes such as "trampled edges of the street," "damp souls of housemaids" and 'sprouting despondently.' His sympathy and awareness of the hard life of poor domestic helpers is demonstrated by the use of the 'damp souls' metaphor. The damaging effects of the first world war which stole the male workforce is reflected in the many domestic workers 'sprouting' at the area's gates.

The second metaphorical figure of speech is found in the sixth line, to be precise in the word *twisted faces* which, when interpreted, means 'crooked face.' But in this poem, the poet implies the

word to mean unhappy workers. The poet sees the dirty clothes of the workers through his window, his eyes penetrate the dirty clothes of the workers and their faces that are full of regret and occasionally flash a smile. Mist and muddy skirts indicate environmental pollution in a densely populated industrial environment. The poet tries to catch a smile that quickly disappears along the eaves. " *Vanishes along the level of the roofs*" which shows that happiness is something that is difficult to find in a society that is burdened with hard work and poverty. " *twisted faces*" and " *tears*" are vivid descriptions of the plight of the urban poor.

Furthermore, there are two types of imagery in this *Morning at the Window poem*. The first is a visual image or visual imagery that stimulates the senses of sight, so that readers sometimes imagine things that are unseen as if they are visible. There are four visual images in this poem, the first is in the first line, namely the sentence " *They are rattling breakfast plates in basement kitchens.*" when reading the sentence, the reader can imagine and seem to see how bad the living conditions are for domestic workers who have to vibrate or in other words prepare their employers' breakfast plates in the basement kitchen. While they may not even have eaten their own breakfast, but because of the demands of work and in order to get paid they inevitably have to do all the work even though it feels heavy. Second, the visual image is in the sixth line, precisely in the word " *Twited faces.*" Readers can imagine the look on the face of the domestic worker. The sad, tired, and hopeless faces of domestic workers who are struggling with their economic difficulties. Third, it is in the seventh line, namely the word " *muddy skirt.*" Readers can imagine how dirty their skirts or clothes are due to the work they do. Readers will automatically imagine what the maids do until their clothes and skirts get so dirty. Fourth, it is found in the eighth line, namely in the word " *aimless simple.*" The sad smile that the reader will imagine when reading the word. The reader will imagine the smiles to be filled with pain and despair for domestic workers, and again the reason for this is their difficult economic situation.

The second image is the image of movement, used with the aim of further enlivening the picture by depicting something that is still as if it were moving. The movement image is contained in the fourth line, namely the sentence " *Srouting despondently at the gate area*". When reading these sentences, the reader can imagine how the housemaids were " *Sprouting*" or growing like blades of grass that raised their heads from the ground, similar to the housemaids moving out of the gate area with desperate, sad and unhappy faces. no happiness at all.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results and discussion, the researcher can conclude that the theme of the poem *Morning at the Window* is about poverty which presents a series of typical images that show poverty, depression, misery, and poverty in the lives of the urban poor. Furthermore, the figurative language contained in the *Morning at the Window poem* is personification and metaphor. The personification figure of speech is in the fifth line, while the metaphorical figure of speech is found in the third and sixth lines. then there are two imageries in the poem *Morning at the Window*, namely visual imagery and movement imagery. The visual imagery is found in the first, sixth, seventh and eighth lines, while

the movement image is only found in the fourth line of the *Morning at the Window* poem.

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