

CHAPTER V

C O N C L U S I O N

As stated in the background of the study, the problem of this thesis is how the idea of 'carpe diem' is reflected in some of Robert Herrick's poems. In this thesis there are five poems analyzed for the purpose, namely "Corinna's Going A Maying", "To The Virgins, To Make Much Of Time", "To Daffadils", "To Blossoms", and "To A Bed Of Tulips".

To attain the desired result certain theory, approach, and also method are used. For the theory, the writer applies the mimetic theory of M.H. Abrams, which allows us to see works of literature as the imitation of the real life, to understand the correspondence between the works of Robert Herrick and the reality. By this theory, we also know that Herrick's poems, especially those which are analyzed in this thesis, are other forms of the real world; it means that Herrick depicts events, things, feelings, etc. he witnesses in the world of reality, and with his competence he transfers them into the realm of imagination and emotion. To refer to the poems, we acknowledge the recapitulation of the fate of mortality embodied in all the five poems.

As the supporting tool, the analitic approach is used. This approach permits us to penetrate the works

through their intrinsic elements. This is due to the framework of the analysis which covers the intrinsic elements of the poems such as the theme, symbolism, and imagery.

Furthermore, to apt with the gap lies between two reasonably different periods of time namely the period when the works were written and the period when this analysis takes time, the writer decides to use the negative-hermeneutic method. By this method, the writer's interpretation which is obviously influenced by the modern concepts (or the concepts accepted at present) is liable.

The analysis shows us that it is true that the five poems convey the idea of 'carpe diem' in it. Each of the poems, however, finds its own way in reflecting the idea. In "Corinna's Going A Maying" the poet depicts the illustration of a indiscipline girl and the celebration of the May Day to develop the theme of "the fusion of 'carpe diem' and a love of English May-rites". In the famous verse "To The Virgins, To Make Much Of Time", the poet states 'carpe diem' clearly as the theme. it means that the statement of the theme is the same with the idea of the same poem as well as the other four poems. While in three poems --- "To Daffadils", "To Blossoms", and "To A Bed Of Tullips" --- the same theme seems to dominate them. The theme meant here is "the reansience of life and the beauty's decay". Even so, the subjects in those poems are

not the same, they are, for each poem, daffodils, blossoms, and tulips. Thus, the poet reflects the idea of 'carpe diem' in works of different themes.

Some other characteristics found in the poems in relation with the burgeoning of the idea of 'carpe diem' are:

- The poet utilises his favourite subjects in the poems, such as flowers and girls: Corinna, Virgins, daffodils, blossoms, and tulips.
- Beside the flowers and the girls, the poet also portrays his love to the country life, for example, in "Corinna's Going A Maying" he illustrates the celebration of May Day in the country.
- Except symbols contained in words, the poet also uses the setting, names, certain stanza, and even the whole poems to convey the intended symbolical meanings.
- Eventhough the poet suggests the idea of 'carpe diem' in those five poems, he remains a respectable man who never betrays his religious faith and his position as a priest as what he says about himself "Jocund his muse was, but his life was chaste" (Smith, 1944: 145).

Finally, we can conclude that Robert Herrick is a conscientious artist who laments his mind and idea about, in this case, 'carpe diem', but is still able to perform himself as a man with a devotion to his faith.

BIBLIOGRAPHY