

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Background of The Study**

Life is just a game which includes history and complexity at one epic holiday. Since long ago, people compete based on the differential experience and background which refers to the journey in order to find the purpose of life. The most important thing in this part is the process of journey which leads to get what we called life's goal. Journey is a condition someone in act travelling from one place to another with any various reasons and interpretations which refers to the journey of body and soul. Definition of the journey of body explains the experience of someone travelling from one place to another, it might happen on the past or present which describes; hiking, camping, vacation or going on the public holiday. Meanwhile, the journey of soul has different interpretation that describes who someone comes in new perceptive from that complexity problems of life, it means the process transformation someone has metamorphosis in his thought which involves history and complexity. On the other hand, literary works are often said to be the reflections of the author's intention which lead to a certain reference, and one of kinds in literary work which has different interpretation is the poetry. As literary works; Poetry is a troubled and troubling genre, full of desire and anger and support and protest, but poem can also be used as the media of criticism towards certain conditions which describes the emotional feeling of the poet in order to express their point of view.

One of the most prominent literary figures of English literature which has different interpretation about poetry in the twentieth century is William Butler Yeats. Much of Yeats' poem, used symbols from ordinary life and from familiar tradition, and much of his poetry continued to reflect his interest in Irish subjects which it produced works belong of three major literary historical periods or traditions: the Romantic, the Victorian, and the Modernist. Base on *Dictionary of Irish Literature* at introductory paragraph runs as follows: "Yeats, William Butler (1865-1939), is a foremost poet of the English-speaking world, founder of the Abbey Theatre, dramatist, spokesman for the Irish Literary Revival, essayist, autobiographer, occultist, member of the Irish Free State Senate, and winner of the 1923 Nobel Prize for literature" (Hogan 1). And the introductory paragraph above which is proofed various Yeats interpretation seeing of his interests and works; politics, culture, Irish nationalism, theatre management, and etc.

The writer will analyses the poem "the Tower" by Yeats which was published in 1928. According to Jochum "Upon publication in February 1928", Yeats's tower has been one of the most complicated poems of his career (1). "The Tower" talks about complicated problems by speaker which is beyond of imagining the writer. Three sections where includes in the poem "The Tower" is reflection and obsession by Yeats which is described as narration of life, three-part-structure who interesting the writer to explore more about the speaker complexity. As Marjorie Howes argues "Yeats's tower is a symbol of elevation and isolation, genuine learning and false wisdom, strength and weakness" (15) It makes the writer to choose "The Tower" Yeats' which the journey as the issue of the poem.

Meanwhile, the term 'message' in poetry has not become so familiar, it can refer to significant points which it will be analyzed in this poem. The definition of message comes from an idea of the writer creative process which is referred to the significant meaning on the poem, which begins directly from a personal experience reflected the issue of the poem. The interpretation of the message has been correlated by the poem without denying the important of issue which represents the condition of the poet when it was written. It might become an important asset in the future for those who desire to understand the event which happens in the past, despite the fact that different poet may have different perspective towards their surroundings, and the condition of the poet which might be affected by the process of writing and result of writing. In case, the writer can also have interpretation of the poet based on the poem as the main source without relating to the poet historical background. Without denying of the fact that most works are not only contains meaning given by the poet, but also meaning by the reader. The writer will focus on issue of the poem, which is commonly refers to the character created by the poet. But, it seems hard to understand the message without good interpretation to the issue of the poem.

According to issue of the poem, journey is conditions in which someone is in an act of travelling from one place to another. It means, journey has various interpretations described as body, soul, and etc. In this case, when someone is doing hiking, camping or going on the public holiday such as vacation is called journey of body, and how about journey of soul that has difference interpretations, which describes metamorphosis on mind. Significantly, someone who comes in new

perceptive from that complexity was journey of soul. The idea of journey represents the character which is described as stories of life, and these statements above explains about the journey might be conducted by the speaker. In addition, the writer believed to find the message which is referred the significant meaning of the poem is not easily. As Reaske said, "No one could accurately or usefully to analyze some poems" (1). Remember, poem can be used as reflections of the poet which has been imagining and writing to describe emotional feeling which are represents to language or society; culture and tradition which gives the works meaning, poem also can be used by the media of criticism towards certain conditions which attracts the poet to write their opinion to express his point of view.

Analyzing "The Tower", the writer will apply New Criticism Theory. This theory is considered appropriate with this poem analyzed. To make judgment of the journey in the poem, the writer would use the elements of poetry and the writer would make the details focusing on the text of poem. New criticism theory is ways of how text itself works to represent a journey. Because, it can be seen through the elements of poetry, for instance; figurative language, the poetic diction, or the choice of words also has a function in representing the message in the poem. As Tyson argued that "the text itself" becomes the battle cry of the New Critical effort to focus our attention to the literary work as the sole source of evidence for interpreting it (136). The close reading on the text is needed to understand the problem and to find out the unidentified issue in Yeats's tower. This is where new criticism works in order to relate the character journey through the text. So, it is

supposed to do which the writer does to understand what the message in the poem “The Tower”.

## **1.2 Statement of The Problem**

In order analyze the journey of the character, The Tower, presented in poem the writer would like to state the question to elaborate the analysis:

How the message represents with the journey in W. B. Yeats’ “The Tower”?

## **1.3 Objective of The study**

Regarding the statement of the problem above, the objective of this study is the study is:

To find out the message of Journey which is contained in the poem “The Tower”.

## **1.4 Significance of The Study**

Literary work cannot be separated with our lives today whether it is expressed as a form of entertainment or it was created by the author as a criticism toward certain issue which was valued by the author, while, the reader may found that message of conveyed in the poem may be varies toward the author intention or even the other reader. the readers are expected to get a better understanding about the whole purpose which conducted by the speaker in poem “The Tower”. This study provides information of how interpretation of literary works using new criticism theory which talking reference mainly through interpretations of the text, and also as a sample of how interpretation of the text could give its message that might be different from what the author intended in their works. Moreover, this study also provide some information and enrich the knowledge in studying poetry

which could give benefits and contribution to the study of literature for students, especially English Department, Faculty of Humanities at Airlangga University.

### **1.5 Scope of Limitation**

In the analysis, scope and limitation is needed in order to keep the study arranged systematically. The object is the poem "The Tower" (1928), a works of William Butler Yeats as the main source of the analysis. The study of this poem is focusing on the representation of journey by the speaker in the poem and how the poem portrays the journey in "The Tower". The theory that will be used in this analysis is New Criticism using the text as the main source in order to obtain the primary data without closing the possibilities of secondary sources.

The journey in the poem will be analyzed through the elements of the poem "The Tower", especially the language used in the poem, paradox, irony, ambiguity revealed in the text. The research will be focused on the data taken from the poem. On the other hand, this study investigates used theoretical framework to find the journey such as; Figurative language is including the metaphor, personification, symbol, and etc.

### **1.6 Theoretical Background**

In this theoretical background, the study will be focusing on the journey of the speaker which is described as three sections Yeats's Tower to get the significant meaning as message of the poem. The writer would like to use New Criticism theory for analysis. The theory itself talks about a theory which concerns on the text only and giving the interpretation of the meaning of the poem without seeing the author's background. The interpretation of the text which was being analyzed in new

criticism can be referred the writer's participation toward the text they care about or giving the significant meaning of its own, which means that the words that exist on literary texts have multiple meanings as "a play on words". As Tyson stated that some of its most important concepts concerning the nature and importance of textual evidence -the use of concrete, specific examples from the text itself to validate our interpretations- have been incorporated into the way most literary critics today, regardless of their theoretical persuasion, support their readings of literature (135).

According to Tyson, New Criticism is a theory which sues the readers to use "close reading" method to examine the "the text itself" for representing the poem's meaning objectively. Close reading, the scrupulous examination of the complex relationship between a text's formal elements and its theme, is how the text's organic unity was established by the New Critic. Based on the explanation above, this study focuses on the elements of poetry to find out the journey of life by the speaker which is portrayed in the poem. Even though, there might be an ambiguity the important part is that it will be an organic unity which supports the main idea in this case, is the journey of life in Yeats' Tower. The formal element, linguistic devices, and aspect have to support the thesis, in order to establish the organic unity.

### **1.7 Method of Study**

The main source of this analysis is the poem "The Tower" by W.B. Yeats. The poem will be examined with close reading as the main source of data collecting in order to analysis the elements of the text which will build the meaning of the

poem interpretation that will establish the organic unity. Through the formal elements and linguistic devices of the poem, moreover, the writer used qualitative method in this study which includes collecting data in the library and online source in order to help to find the reference stated, both are used in order to support and ensure the elaboration of the poem.

In analyzing data the writer uses interpretative descriptive method, the data which are collected and elaborated will be reformed in the form of descriptive explanation to prove the journey through the analysis. The analysis of the poem is divided into four stages; the first is the illustration to give clear understanding about the poem. The second of analysis of the formal elements which are consists of imagery and figurative language of the poem. The third one is the analysis of the linguistic devices consisting of paradox, ambiguity, irony, and tension. The analysis will be wrapped up in organic unity to see how far the formal element and linguistic devices support to the meaning and the theme of the poem. And the last is finding the significant point as the message of the poem will be the purpose in this study.

### **1.8 Definition of Key Terms**

**Journey** : Conditions which lead someone act of travelling from one place to another.

**Complexity** : Conditions which lead someone has difficult moral questions.

**Message** : The significant point of the poem meanings.

**Metamorphosis**: Conditions which someone has transformation or new ideology.

**Tower** : Denotatively is the tall narrow building, which is freestanding or forming part of a building such as a church or castle.



**Connotatively is the symbol of achievement that refers to someone interpretation.**

# **CHAPTER 2**

# **LITERATURE REVIEW**