

ABSTRACT

Love in the Time of Cholera is a story which is full of symbolic meanings. As what the title implies, most of the symbols are associated with the love matter. Hence, each character may represent different symbols, yet still convey to the realm of love. Florentino Ariza is one of the story's characters with some symbols attributed to him. Performs the distinctive manner of dress and bears the chronic constipation are likely to create sense of peculiarity to this character. Florentino's dress manner and his constipation may not be so significant as symbols if they do not persist in such a long period of time. In addition to this, Florentino's later alteration in dress manner and the way he treats the disease are also assumed as symbols. Nevertheless, the effort of gaining decent interpretation may not be realized unless it is supported by appropriate approaches and theories.

Concerning the symbols' interpretation, Jonathan Culler's "semiotics of reading" will be applied as the approach. Along with certain field that is going to be specified, i.e. psychological approach, will be employed together with George Kelly's "personal construct" theory. The related studies are added in the purpose of providing valuable information upon the influence of one's dress manner and health condition towards personality. Finally, the approaches and theories will be utilized to interpret Florentino's symbols of love fulfilment as reflected in the story of *Love in the Time of Cholera*.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION