TONE ANALYSIS ON
NAOMI SHIHAB NYE’S POEMS

CHAEZAR IQBAL ALBERT ALI PASYA
NIM: 105026000929

English Literature Department
FACULTY OF ADAB AND HUMANITIES
STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY
SYARIEF HIDAYATULLAH
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2010
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A Thesis
Submitted to Letters and Humanities Faculty
In partial fulfillment of requirements for
the degree of Strata One

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ABSTRACT

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As a part of literature fields, Poetry may be seen as a realistic sound of speaker furthermore Naomi Shihab Nye’s poem inclusively family, and social life issues collected in a poem constructed the speaker experience in one place to another place. This research concerned about the discussion and analysis of Naomi Shihab Nye’s poems; my friend’s divorce, The Rider, and blood.

The research needed several ways using the collective data in several research sources. The writer uses a descriptive method in which he describes the tone and other meanings to support and influence the theme. It is analyzed qualitatively based on the relevant theory of the study. The writer employs himself to collect the data; by reading text, and marking them to make it easier to analyze. In his conclusion, the writer found that the three of Naomi Shihab Nye’s poems have given something new as a message, information and stand like a command to make more valuable in life.
A SYNOPIS OF A THESIS
“TONE ANALYSIS OF NAOMI SHIHAB NYE’S POEM"

A. Background of the Study

Poetry is also distinct from other genres because of its compact form. Of course, the writers of plays and short stories use figurative language, image, simile, metaphors, and symbols. But the poets make use of these devices much more often because they seek to convey feeling, experiences, pleasures, and sorrows in far fewer words. It is like Kennedy says in his work book (an introduction to poetry, second edition, 1971) he says that “a poem differs from most prose in several ways. For one, both writer and reader tend to regard it differently. The poet’s attitude is as if, sticking his neck out”, and as a poem—that is, more perceptively, thoughtfully, and considerably, with more attention to sounds and connotations.

In some ways reading poetry is much like reading fiction: we observe details of action and language, make connection and inferences and draw conclusion. The language in poem is not just an instrument but rather a framework through which we look at and make sense of the world. The language of poem has characteristics that are density of meaning and tend to use unadorned words. It may exist to bring us a sense and a perception of life, to widen and sharpen our contacts with existence and concern with experience. Poets, from their own store feeling, observed, or imagined experienced, select, combine and recognize. They create significant new experiences for their readers—significant because focused and formed in which readers can
participate and from which they may gain a greater awareness and understanding of their world. More than reading a fiction, poetry is an art of condensation and implication; poems concentrate meaning and distill feelings. Reading poetry well and to savor its pleasures involves learning to ask questions about how we experience poems, how we interpret them, and how we evaluate them. In finally, the question include the following what feeling does the poem evoke what the sensation, what the ideas the poem expresses, either directly or indirectly. And also what view of the world means the reader to the poet present. By understanding the several meaning of poetry, we can catch the mean of the poet; we can conclude the message in each theme of poems. We will reflect on how the poem may be related to our lives concerned with subjective response and personal reactions.

In our daily communication, tone can be recognized by looking into the eyes or hearing speaker’s voices, but the same thing can not be done in reading poetry. According to siswantoro “nada kemarahan dapat dikenali langsung lewat sorot mata penutur yang melotot, gigi yang bergemeretak, tangan mengepal dan dengus nafas yang tertahan serta kerasnya suara. Sebaliknya kesedihan bias dirasakan lewat sorot mata yang memelas, ketidakdinamisan gerak tubuh serta cara penyampaian yang kurang bersemangat dan lain-lain”(Tone of anger can be identified directly through the speaker’s eyes building, teeth chattering, hands clenched and muffled snort of breath and loudness. Instead of sadness is felt by the pleading eyes, static gestures and ways of delivery less energetic and others).
As the readers of the poem, we could not see the expression on speaker’s faced and hear the intonation of speaker. Readers of poem have only facing the text as a silence object. If we did not try to understand the tone of the poem, we can not feel how the poet’s feeling whether he feels sad, happy, sarcastic, angry etc. to understand poem, we can recognize it through intrinsic elements of poetry on the poem. And in this analysis, especially in Nye’s poem, the writer explores the Tone and the aspect correlated with it such the intrinsic elements, figure of speech like personification, symbol, and other.

B. Research Methodology

In this thesis, the writer concerned about the explanation and analysis The research focused on tone element that construct Naomi Shihab Nye’s poems such as: my friend’s divorce, the rider and hidden, and it also wants to know whether the tones influence the theme of each poem or not. This study uses qualitative method with descriptive analysis by explicating of the poems and analyzing the tone. Then, the writer explores the message and connects to the theme in each of her poem.

C. The Theories

a. The Nature of Poetry

For some people today, poetry may seem an artificial refinement of natural speech, but in the literature of every country, poetry comes before prose does it closer than prose to the origins of languages, we can even say it more natural; more primitive, more basic, and more total expression of the muscular sensuous, emotional,
rhythmical nature of the human animal. Here are the meanings of poetry according to several perceptions;

According to Perrine, poetry might be defined as a kind of a language that says more and says it more intensely than ordinary language does. It means that poetry uses certain language: it is not ordinary language that we use everyday. Because the ordinary language has function to communication but, poetry is not primarily to communicate only. This exist to bring us sense and perception of life with the experience before, to know the experience of other, and to understand our own experience better.

While Carl Sanburg wrote that poetry is the capture of the picture, a song, or flair, in a deliberate prism of words. In a poem, a human being expresses his unique and personal experience of his world and his life. The poet imaginatively explores and orders such experience. And in other source like Wallace Steven says that poetry is a revelation in words by mean of the word. Other meaning of poetry according to Samuel Taylor Coleridge that poetry is the best words in the best order.

Poetry like a prose is a form of discourse whose instrument is language. Its function is to communicate, and its must never allow its emotional content to obliterate its message. The poet means the thinker, and although not all the thinkers are great poets, few great poets are shoddy thinkers. Poetry is frequently concerned with the very feeling, and reactions, and attitudes which the prose writer may avoid because they interface with the directness and clarity of the statement. But with
metaphor and symbol the poet expresses concept that are so far-ranging and complex that they could be encompassed prose only with the greatest difficulty.

b. Diction

In literary criticism, diction means the uses or choice of words. From the whole of language, one consciously or unconsciously selects certain words and grammatical constructions; this selection constitutes one’s diction. Diction or word choice helps to establish a writer’s style and tone. Some writer for example, chooses to use many descriptive words, whereas some use almost none. Poetic diction treats of the manner in which language is used, and refers not only to the sound but also to the underlying meaning and its interaction with sound and form. Many languages and poetic forms have very specific poetic dictons, to the point where distinct grammars and dialects are used specifically for poetry.

The poet’s poem uses words as the composer uses sounds in his work. Language is the poet’s medium of expression and may be structure and shaped to communicate a particular meaning and effect. A poet organizes language in each works into forms and image. He may experiment with language such choosing others word, create new words, borrow from foreign languages, or use well-know words in new. Each poet has varieties of style in using the language in works and most become an important to understand the diction means for the reader. Often for both poets and readers the “best words” are those that do the most work; they convey feelings and indirectly imply ideas rather than state them outright. Poets choose a particular word
because it suggests what they want to suggest. Its appropriateness is a function of both its denotation and its connotation. Both denotative (literal meanings) and connotative (associate, suggested meanings) in a literary work Author’s use very specific word choices (diction) to create tone and theme. Writers may choose to use abstract or concrete words depending on the response they want to evoke from the reader. Although the more abstract words tend to be used impersonally to convey universal truths and emotions, writers in general tend to use specific, concrete words to describe people, places, and objects and Good writers also use active verbs to describe action.

c. **Tone**

Tone, in literature, may be defined as the writer’s or speaker’s attitude towards his subject, his audience, or himself. It’s the emotional coloring, or the emotional meaning, of the work and is an extremely important part of the full meaning. The tone is conveyed by diction, sometimes rhythm, and other devices. And in other means tone is a speaker relies on the modulation and inflections of his voice on his facial expression to communicate his attitude. But since poem are more often read then heard, tone must be conveyed by the poet through the selection and organization of words and images. The tone of poem may be ironic, bitter, joyful, satiric, sorrowful, humorous, urgent, personal, or objective. It means the tone represents the poet’s attitude toward his theme and subject. And the mood of a poem
is different from its tone: mood implies the atmosphere created in the poem itself, rather than the poet’s attitude.

"The word tone in literary discussion is borrowed from the expression tone of voice. Tone is the manner in which a poet makes his statement; it reflects his attitude toward his subject. Since printed poems lack the intonations of spoken words, the reader must learn to "hear" their tones with his mind's ear. Tone cannot be heard in one particular place since it reflects a general attitude, it pervades the whole poem."

(Poems: Wadsworth Handbook and Anthology by C. F. Main & Peter J. Seng) "Tone expresses the poet's attitude toward his audience. We all experience tone in everyday life. A speaker's placing of emphasis, his tone of voice, his facial expression, even his gestures all help the hearer to determine the speaker's meaning and attitude." (The Order of Poetry, an Introduction Bloom, Philbrick and Blistein)

d. Figurative language

Figurative language is language that uses words or expressions with a meaning that is different from the literal interpretation. When a writer uses literal language, he or she is simply stating the facts as they are. Figurative language, in comparison, uses exaggerations or alterations to make a particular linguistic point. Figurative language is very common in poetry, but is also used in prose and nonfiction writing as well. And here are the following parts of figure of speech as written as the writer uses in this research.
1. Personification

Personification is a figure of speech in which non-human things, e.g., animal, abstract ideas, inanimate objects, or imaginary beings, are given human characteristics or capabilities. Attribution of human qualities to animal, ideas, or inanimate things or objects.

Olson attributes voices to bells. Of all figures, personification most surely gives to airy nothings a local habitation and name. Or Personification is an ontological metaphor in which a thing or abstraction is represented as a person; the term "personification" may apply to:

a. A description of an inanimate object as being a living person or animal as in: "The sun shone brightly down on me as if she were shining for me alone". In this example the sun is depicted as if capable of intent, and is referenced with the pronoun "she" rather than "it".

b. An outstanding example of a quality or idea: "He's invisible, a walking personification of the Negative" (Ralph Ellison).

c. An artistic representation of an abstract quality or idea as a person, for example the four cardinal virtues or nine muses.

In personification, something abstract is given human attributed, as in this example from Keats’ “To Autumn,” where the season is personified as a woman:
Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?
Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find
Thy sitting careless on granary floor
Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind;

2. Metaphor

A metaphor is a figure of speech concisely expressed by an implied analogy between two objects or ideas, conveyed by the use of a word instead of another. And according to Mc. Laughin metaphor perhaps is the most important figure of speech. Sometimes it is also the most difficult part to detect. according to Perrine, in his book sound and sense: an introduction to poetry, in metaphor the comparison is implied that is the figurative term is substituted for or identified with the literal term. Metaphors may take one of four forms, depending on whether the literal and figurative terms are respectively named or implied. In the first form of metaphor, as in simile, both the literal and figurative terms are named. In the second form, the literal term is named and the figurative term is implied. In the third form of metaphor, the literal term is implied and the figurative term is named. In the fourth form, both literal and figurative terms are implied. And because it does without like or as, suggests that the thing compared and the thing it’s compared with are not merely similar but, for the purposes of the poem, some how identical. This is called metaphor. It can be seen like the sample below:

... a flower stand
Above which hovers an expoding rose
Fired from a long-necked crystal vase . . .
(Wilbur, “playboy”)
A metaphor asserts the identity, without a connective such as “like” or a verb such as “appears,” of term that are literally incompatible.

3. Simile

Simile A figure of speech in which a comparison is expressed by the specific use of a word or phrase such as: like, as, than, seems or "as if,” example:

✓ Mending Wall: like an old-stone savage armed
✓ Stars: like some snow-white/ Minerva's snow-white marble eyes
✓ “Jamie runs as fast as the wind.”

4. Symbol/ Symbolism

A symbol may be a thing, setting, action, person or situation-something concrete and particular that has function in the plot of a work but at the same time points to or suggests something abstract or general. In a literary work it has its own objective reality if it did not have such validity, it would be artificial and therefore weak but it used to carry greater meaning than its simple presence might indicate. A symbol then, is an image so loaded with significance that is not simply literal, and it does not simply stand for something else; it is both itself and something else that is richly suggests, a kind of manifestation of something too complex or too elusive to be otherwise revealed. Symbols, like metaphors, can extend the range of a poem’s associations. But a symbol is not simply another kind of figurative language: a symbol is an object or an action which both represents itself and at the same times has a larger meaning than it ordinarily has a meaning which can often be multiple or
ambiguous. Or sometimes a symbol addresses a sense other than sight. And may some readers of poetry prefer to say that a symbol is always a concrete object, never an act. Symbolism occurs when a noun which has meaning in itself is used to represent something entirely different. One example of symbolism would be to use an image of the American flag to represent patriotism and a love for one’s country.

e. Explication

A line-by-line or episode-by-episode commentary on what is going on in text is an explication (literally, unfolding or spreading out). It takes some skill to work one’s way along without saying, “in line one… in the second line… in the third line…” an explication does not deal with the writer’s life or times, and it is not a paraphrase, a rewording—though it may include paraphrase but, commentary revealing your sense of meaning of work. Based on another source, explication is one form of analysis. The word “explicate” comes from the Latin explicare, which mean to unfold. For instance, we should look at the language of the poem and the, choose one poem and explaining how the central idea of the poem unfolds as we need from one stanza to the next.

f. Theme

Every written work has a theme, whether the writer deliberately infuses a literary work with one or not. Whereas content includes everything that the poem
contains, theme refers specifically to the main point, topic, or subject of the poem it means. Theme is the central idea or main topic of a work. According to the NTSC’s Dictionary of literary terms, theme in literature is the central or dominating idea, the “message,” implicit in a work. The theme of a work is seldom stated directly. It is an abstract concept indirectly expressed through recurrent images, action, character, and symbols, and must be inferred by the reader or spectator. Theme differs from subject in that theme is a comment, observation, or insight about the subject. According to other source, the theme defined as an idea or intellectuality apprehensible meaning inherent and implicit in a work. In determining a poem’s theme, we should be careful neither to oversimplify the poem nor to distort its meaning. Knowing the theme means we can control the idea in every literary works; like the insight or the concept to be revealed by it.

D. Poems Analysis of “my friend’s divorce”

In the Poem of “My Friend’s Divorce,” Naomi Shihab Nye shows how one must persevere during all occasions and hardships by paralleling her friend’s life to her garden. In the first line the poet using subject I as speaker as can as she want to hear by her friend. In the next line the poet uses the word choice of the pansies, the pentae, and the roses, renuncules, thyme, and lilies means like collection of flower in the garden that symbolize of a beauty, a piece for woman. Flower also indicates the loves, affections, or other thing nicely. In this poem does not only explain what the
matter happened, about the things, setting time and also have to know to make it easier to be understood. This poem tells about the speaker’s friend, a woman who has a problem with her marriage by divorce. And after explicate the poem the writer analyze the tone of ‘my friend’s divorce’ that explains about a divorce story of a woman who tries to solve its case. The speaker analogizes the woman with her flowers as a symbol of her beauty and characterization should move to another place. Place means a new home or a new situation which bring to the pleasant. And there are several tones that the writer concludes after explicating the poem and some of them are: **Believe, Optimism.**

From the explanation of the poem, the writer concludes that the speaker believes that every disease has a medicine. If someone is getting hurt she has to take a treatment and there are some way to treat such as her body, her soul and her heart, in order to have a better than before. And here the speaker looks optimistic in thinking and she becomes an optimist that someday her life would change and let everybody know that there is a new breathes. Those explanations convey to the theme as a result of the main idea of the speaker. And from that discussion, the writer concludes that the theme of my friend’s divorce is “*a divorce makes renewable breath and recharging-mind.*”

**E. Poem Analysis of “the rider”**

In this poem, the poet, Naomi Shihab Nye uses the technique of personification to describe how wonderful it would be to escape loneliness in “*The
“Rider.” It means symbol of escaping from something or would be free from anything worse.

In the first line of the poem, the poet uses the word of boy as a subject in this poem. The poet entices the reader with vivid descriptions of a boy attempting to out-race his loneliness on roller skates. He wants to get a victory! By saying “if he roller-skated fast enough” here, she describes as if the boy should have to change his life; he wants to make a change in his life, wants to get a free. But, he doesn’t know what mean of victory. The poet uses victory as a word of choice seems the poet expresses the badness in a condition, we don’t know about the condition. May the writer argue about the situation which is in a complicated place. In other line “to leave behind your loneliness, panting behind you on some street corner.” This excerpt aptly expresses the elation felt when being free of solitude. The persona brings the image to life, translates the ideas into a manner in which we can all relate. May be the author suggests that we all have experiences where we feel neglected and isolated, and comforted us by presenting us with visions of hope. This poem explains about somebody that would be escape from his lonely. From the explanation above the writer found the tone of this poem Ambitious, it means the speaker wants to make a change of perception faster and use analogically like somebody riding the roller-skater quickly. To chase his loneliness the speaker uses the description of bicycle that running in the Hard Down King Williams Street. The speaker gives a motivation as a basic of ambition to get what she wants before. The second tone that the writer found;
Believe, mean that the speaker is very confident in believing of hope even many obstacles in way.

Those statements prove that she has to face up the loneliness even she has bad possibility come around in way. The purpose of the speaker’s ambition is to show that the loneliness should stay away because it will probably become an obstacle for her. The tone influence the theme because what mean about the attitude of the speaker is a background of the speaker’s ideas, the main idea as the controlling mind in each literary work and especially for the poetry. And in this poem the writer found the closed correlation between tone and theme in the second analysis of the poem which is conclude: “every people translate the matter into the idea towards real hopes”

F. Poem Analysis of “hidden”

This poem describes about the voice about the speaker feels melancholy; a feel from the deepest heart but spoken with the soul. The main point is that the speaker tries to tell the reader that everything could be happened although it has some consequences. This poem has three stanzas in a free form of the different lines. The title, “Hidden”, conveys a message of wonder, to what is hidden. Is it a treasure? Is it a secret? This is hiding whatever it is, and why. Or maybe this work is about something that is hidden and found or perhaps something that is never found? In this case, with the title of “hidden, the text gives an idea that in the life there is a death and a loss. The natural or unnatural loss, whether it is a life, relationship, or
something which is related to a person, such as encourage personal growth, ambition, accomplishment, or even achievement.

In the first stanza, there is the word ‘fern’ that symbolizes the empty feel of life or the aura of a pure symbol of nature or life. This word explains a way to convey life through a plant found within nature. Another word which is uses is “stone” (line 2, and 5), which explains death and also it is used twice in repetition. This word is used to make the description of a something problem, by putting “under a stone,” the word stone symbolizes the death not only about the human’s die but also other death like the death of desire of life. In the next sentences “the next day it will be nearly invisible,” this sentence gives an understanding about invisible of speaker’s life because this poem indicates the speaker herself who has unclear life perceptions, or something which relates to willingness, ambitions, or other private problem which is hidden, or becomes a private secret. For the tone of this poem are; Sadness, Death and Loss, Pessimistic. The hidden poem describes the thought of the speaker by using the ambiguous language and the different ways of looking at death whether it as a beginning or continuing life. One can hold on the inevitable pain or death, or he can use it as a “fuel” to show how short life is. Anything in life can be a hidden-sign that can be translated into another meaning. The hidden-sign has seen described below:

“the little sucked-in breath of air

hiding everywhere

beneath your words”
Therefore, from this discussion it can be concluded that the theme of the hidden’s poem is “some hidden pains can be transformed into an uncovered storage of energy, encouragement, and ability to go-ahead which absolutely can be found.”

G. Conclusion

The writer concludes that the three poems of Naomi Shihab Nye have been treated as a self-contained piece of literature where structure and the meaning of text should not be examined separately. Close attention to the use of literary devices and ambiguity is a key factor, because a text can and will display in different meanings at the same time. Naomi Shihab Nye’s poems succeed in build the emotion of the readers as the speaker describes the subjective image, simplify, resulting the interpreted perspective variously. In the three poems of Naomi Shihab Nye describe the attitude of the speaker; so serious, ambitious and has belief that every people has a problem even it’s hard to be solved. And Nye’s poem informs the people in order to make a change. Here, Naomi Shihab Nye illustrates the family’s problem as an object in her works and here she actually gives a suggestion in her poem to make the people think what they should do then. The speaker describes the problem clearly; using a certain words, a simple analogy and simple symbolization in order to make understanding of the reader. In the last analysis the writer proposes the theme of the selected poems such as: a divorce makes renewable breath and recharging-mind; every people translate the matter into the idea towards real hope; and some hidden
pains can be transformed into uncovered storage of energy, encouragement an ability to go ahead which absolutely can be found. The three of Naomi Shihab Nye’s poem; my friend's divorce, the Rider, and hidden gives a something new as a message, information, and stand like a command to make more values in life. In spite of unpretentious words used, the Naomi’s poems have inspired the readers.
H. References


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THE WRITER CURRICULUM VITAE

Personal Detail

- Place/Date of Birth: Garut, 20 January 1988
- Height/weight: 178 cm/66 kg
- Sex: Male
- Religion: Moslem

Educational Background

- 2005-2010 English Language and Literature Department Of State Islamic University (UIN) Jakarta
- 2002-2005 Senior High School of SMUN I Parung-Bogor
- 1999-2002 Junior High School of SLTPN I Leuwigoong-Garut
- 1994-1999 Elementary School of SDN V Leuwigoong-Garut

Organization Experiences

- 2002 Sport Section of ISRA (Ikatan Santri Pondok Pesantren Riyadlul Jannah) Bogor
- 2003 Financial Planner Section of ISRA (Ikatan Santri Pondok Pesantren Riyadlul Jannah) Bogor
- 2003 Paskibraka Kabupaten Bogor
- 2004 Latsarpin (Latihan dasar Kepemimpinan) PPI Kab. Bogor
APPROVEMENT

THE TONE ANALYSIS OF NAOMI SHIHAB NYE’S POEMS

A thesis
Submitted to Letters and Humanities Faculty
In partial fulfillment of requirements for
The degree of Strata One

Chaezar Iqbal Albert Ali Pasya
No. 105026000929

Approved:

Drs. H. Abdul Hamid M.Ed
Advisor

ENGLISH LETTERS DEPARTMENT
ADAB AND HUMANITIES FACULTY
STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY
SYARIEF HIDAYATULLAH
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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this submission is my own work and that, to the best of my knowledge and believe, it contains no material previously published or written by another person nor material which to a substantial extent has been accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma of the university or other institute of higher learning, except where due acknowledgment has been made in text.

Jakarta, May 14 2010

Chaezar Iqbal Albert Ali Pasya
LEGALIZATION

The thesis entitled “the Tone Analysis of Naomi Shihab Nye’s Poems“ has been defended before the Adab and Humanities Faculty’s examination committee on May 14 2010. The thesis has already been accepted as a partial fulfillment of requirements for the degree of Strata 1.

Jakarta, May 14 2010

Examination committee

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<td>Drs. Asep Saefuddin, M.Pd</td>
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<td>Drs. H. Abdul Hamid, M.Ed</td>
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<td>NIP. 150 181 922</td>
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<td>Dra. Danti Pudjianti, M.M, M.Hum</td>
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<td>Elve Oktafiyani, M.Hum</td>
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Finally, the writer hopes that this paper will be useful for the writer himself and for those who are interested in literary research.

Jakarta, May 14 2010

The Writer

Chaezar Iqbal Albert Ali Pasya
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

While short stories and plays encourage us to hear voices of narrators and of character, the pleasure of reading poetry comes even more fully the sense of sound originally, poetry was entirely an oral form passed from a speaker to a listener (*who often then became a speaker for new listeners*). As we read poems, the rhythms and sound devices should create a song in our minds, sometimes harmonious, and sometime discordant. These “mental songs” help to create and emphasize the poem’s themes and ideas. In addition to the important sound is to evoke the readers to feels the poem sensationally, because poetry itself affords the clearer example of this subordination of reference to attitude. It is supreme form of emotive language because the emotions and attitudes resulting from a statement used emotively need not be directed towards anything to which the statement refers.¹

Poetry is also distinct from other genres because of its compact form. Of course the writers of plays and short stories use figurative language, image, simile, metaphors, and symbols. But the poets make use of these devices much more often because they seek to convey feeling, experiences, pleasures, and sorrows in far fewer words. Same like Kennedy says in his works book (*an introduction to poetry, second

he says that “a poem differs from most prose in several ways. For one, both writer and reader tend to regard it differently. The poet’s attitude is as if, sticking his neck out”, and as a poem –that is, more perceptively, thoughtfully, and considerably, with more attention to sounds and connotations.²

In some ways reading poetry is much like reading fiction: we observe details of action and language, make connection and inferences and draw conclusion. The language in poem is not just an instrument but rather a framework through which we look at and make sense of the world. The language of poem has characteristics that are density of meaning and tend to use unadorned words. It may exist to bring us a sense and a perception of life, to widen and sharpen our contacts with existence and concern with experience. Poets, from their own store feeling, observed, or imagined experienced, select, combine and recognize. They create significant new experiences for their readers-significant because focused and formed in which readers can participate and from which they may gain a greater awareness and understanding of their world. More than reading a fiction, poetry is an art of condensation and implication; poems concentrate meaning and distill feelings.³ Reading poetry well and to savor its pleasures involves learning to ask questions about how we experience poems, how we interpret them, and how we evaluate them. In finally, the question include the following what feeling does the poem evoke what the sensation, what the

ideas the poem expresses, either directly or indirectly. And also what view of the world means the reader to the poet present. By understanding the several meaning of poetry, we can catch the mean of the poet; we can conclude the message in each theme of poems. We will reflect on how the poem may be related to our lives concerned with subjective response and personal reactions.

While according to Laurence; poetry as universal as language and almost as ancient, the most primitive people have used it, and initially, poetry might be defined as a kind of language that says more and says it more intensely than does ordinary language. According to others resource such William Wordsworth “the imaginative expression of strong feeling, usually rhythmical... the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings recollected in tranquility”. Intensely based on the strong feeling, basic experiences of each speaker. Expressing his internal feeling to the external world in response to the problem around him.

In this research, the writer analyzes the poems of Naomi Shihab Nye. An American-Palestinian woman, she has rich power knowledge and female with independent-minded articulate mother “standing up for women’s choices” despite the fact that her father came from what many people might identify as a patriarchal Middle Eastern culture (Palestinian). Descending from a half-Palestinian and half-American family tree, Naomi Shihab Nye is an appealing figure paving the way for

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ethnic poets and young poets alike. Although she was born in Missouri, she is well traveled. She has lived in Jerusalem but currently resides in Texas with her son, Madison, and husband, Michael, who is a photographer. The fact that Nye originated from such a transient and ethnic family acts as a springboard for her future career as an author. She is known for her essays and anthologies of the Middle East, which includes, perhaps her most famous Middle Eastern based anthology, *Different Ways to Pray*, published in 1980. Naomi emphasizes the common human life issues; family, and social issues that happen in several countries like western and Middle East. However, “despite her range wide of exposures to other cultures, Naomi Shihab Nye often chooses to write about the little details of life that we often take for granted.

The poems that the writer chooses are: *my friend’s divorce, the rider*, and *hidden*. All these titles have the same common theme in effect of family and social life issues that collected in different works book published. From the poem the writer will analyze Tone because generally her poems are elegiac and have compassionate tone. According to X.J Kennedy, “*tone in literature often conveys an attitude toward the person addressed*”. The tone of the poem may tell us how the speaker feels about himself or herself. To understand tone is not easy thing, we must know and learn about the intrinsic elements of poetry such symbol, figure of speech and etc.

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In our daily communication, tone can be recognized by looking into the eyes or hearing speaker’s voices, but the same thing can not be done in reading poetry. According to Siswantoro “nada kemarahan dapat dikenali langsung lewat sorot mata penutur yang melotot, gigi yang bergemeretak, tangan mengepal dan dengus nafas yang tertahan serta kerasnya suara. Sebaliknya kesedihan bias dirasakan lewat sorot mata yang memelas, ketidakdinamisan gerak tubuh serta cara penyampaian yang kurang bersemangat dan lain-lain” (Tone of anger can be identified directly through the speaker’s eyes building, teeth chattering, hands clenched and muffled snort of breath and loudness. Instead of sadness is felt by the pleading eyes, static gestures and ways of delivery less energetic and others). As the readers of the poem, we could not see the expression on speaker’s faced and hear the intonation of speaker. Readers of poem have only facing the text as a silence object. If we did not try to understand the tone of the poem, we can not feel how the poet’s feeling whether he feels sad, happy, sarcastic, angry etc. to understand poem, we can recognize it through intrinsic elements of poetry on the poem. And in this analysis, especially in Nye’s poem, the intrinsic elements, the writer explores are figure of speech like personification, symbol, and other.

After found the tone of the three poem of Naomi Shihab Nye the writer analysis the theme of the poem, it has an important thing because the theme influence by the tone, diction of words and other meaning and statements that supported to the

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theme. to state a poet’s theme is useful mainly as a way to help oneself understand a poem, by explicate the poem, finding the diction is the strategy will work more successfully on that assert some proposition because some poems declare their themes in content, and several line of the poem such in their opening lines. In some poems the poet’s attitude toward theme and subject, reader and himself may be plain enough to sum up in word. In finally, the writer conclude that the tone as the chapter of this research give contribution to know the central idea or the themes on each poem of Naomi Shihab Nye as the subject matter in her works.

B. Focus of the Study

The research focused on tone element that construct Naomi Shihab Nye’s poems, and it also wants to know whether the tones influence the theme of each poem.

C. Research Question

From the explanation above, the writer wants to propose the questions bellow:

1. How is the Tone conveyed in each poem?

2. What is the Theme of each poem?

D. Significance of the Research

The write hopes the research could increase the knowledge for the readers, especially the poetry lover, how to understand the Tone and the meaning correlated with the message as a theme in Naomi Shihab Nye’s poem. Besides, the writer also hopes the research will motivate the readers to be more interested in understanding the literary works.
E. Research Methodology

1. The Objective of the Research:

   Related to the research question above, this research intends:

   a. To know the tones in Naomi Shihab Nye’s poem.
   b. To know the theme in each poem.

2. The Method of the Research

   This study uses qualitative method with descriptive analysis by explicating of the poems and analyzing the tone. Then, the writer explores the message and connects to the theme in each of her poem.

3. Technique of Data Analysis

   The writer uses a descriptive analysis technique, which is based on the collected-data. To describe the data, this research uses the steps below:

   a. Reading all the contents of the text of poetry.
   b. Explicating the poetry in detail.
   c. Signing up the words have within them Tone element.
   d. Collecting the dictions and the tones, then they are connected to the theme.
   e. Analyzing the data by referring the research questions, and analysis.
   f. Writing a report of the study.
4. **Instrument of the Research**

The instrument of the research is the writer himself through reading and marking the occurrence of the tone, the diction and the theme in Naomi Shihab Nye’s poem.

5. **Unit of Analysis**

The analysis unit of the research is the three poems taken from Naomi Shihab Nye’, they are: *my friend’s divorce, the rider* and *hidden*.

6. **Time and place**

The researches conducted in the eight semesters of 2010 and took place in Jakarta.
CHAPTER II
THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

A. The Nature of Poetry

For some people today, poetry may seem an artificial refinement of natural speech, but in the literature of every country, poetry comes before prose does it closer than prose to the origins of languages, we can even say it more natural; more primitive, more basic, and more total expression of the muscular sensuous, emotional, rhythmical nature of the human animal.8 Here are the meanings of poetry according to several perceptions;

According to Perrine, poetry might be defined as a kind of a language that says more and says it more intensely than ordinary language does. It means that poetry uses certain language: it is not ordinary language that we use everyday.9 Because the ordinary language has function to communication but, poetry is not primarily to communicate only. This exist to bring us sense and perception of life with the experience before, to know the experience of other, and to understand our own experience better.

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While Carl Sanburg wrote that poetry is the capture of the picture, a song, or flair, in a deliberate prism of words.\textsuperscript{10} In a poem, a human being expresses his unique and personal experience of his world and his life. The poet imaginatively explores and orders such experience. And in other source like Wallace Steven says that poetry is a revelation in words by mean of the word. Other meaning of poetry according to Samuel Taylor Coleridge that \textit{poetry is the best words in the best order}.

Poetry like a prose is a form of discourse whose instrument is language. Its function is to communicate, and its must never allow its emotional content to obliterate its message. The poet means the thinker, and although not all the thinkers are great poets, few great poets are shoddy thinkers.\textsuperscript{11} Poetry is frequently concerned with the very feeling, and reactions, and attitudes which the prose writer may avoid because they interface with the directness and clarity of the statement. But with metaphor and symbol the poet expresses concept that are so far-ranging and complex that they could be encompassed prose only with the greatest difficulty.\textsuperscript{12}

B. Diction

The poet’s poem uses words as the composer uses sounds in his work. Language is the poet’s medium of expression and may be structure and shaped to communicate a particular meaning and effect. A poet organizes language in each works into forms and image. He may experiment with language such choosing others

\textsuperscript{10} Macmillan Literary Heritage, \textit{the American experience: poetry}. New York, 1968, P.3
\textsuperscript{11} Irving Ribner, Harry Morris, Poetry; \textit{A Critical and Historical Introduction}, Scott Foresman & company. 1962. p.1
\textsuperscript{12} Idem., p.2
word, create new words, borrow from foreign languages, or use well-known words in new. Each poet has varieties of style in using the language in works and most become an important to understand the diction means for the reader. Often for both poets and readers the “best words” are those that do the most work; they convey feelings and indirectly imply ideas rather than state them outright. Poets choose a particular word because it suggests what they want to suggest. Its appropriateness is a function of both its denotation and its connotation.¹³ Both denotative (literal meanings) and connotative (associate, suggested meanings) in a literary work Author’s use very specific word choices (diction) to create tone and theme. Writers may choose to use abstract or concrete words depending on the response they want to evoke from the reader. Although the more abstract words tend to be used impersonally to convey universal truths and emotions, writers in general tend to use specific, concrete words to describe people, places, and objects and Good writers also use active verbs to describe action.

In literary criticism, diction means the uses or choice of words. From the whole of language, one consciously or unconsciously selects certain words and grammatical constructions; this selection constitutes one’s diction. Diction or word choice helps to establish a writer’s style and tone. Some writer for example, chooses to use many descriptive words, whereas some use almost none. Poetic diction treats of the manner in which language is used, and refers not only to the sound but also to

the underlying meaning and its interaction with sound and form. Many languages and poetic forms have very specific poetic dictions, to the point where distinct grammars and dialects are used specifically for poetry.

C. Tone

Tone, in literature, may be defined as the writer’s or speaker’s attitude towards his subject, his audience, or himself. It’s the emotional coloring, or the emotional meaning, of the work and is an extremely important part of the full meaning.

"The tone of a poem is roughly equivalent to the mood it creates in the reader. Think of an actor reading a line such as "I could kill you." He can read it in a few different ways: If he thinks the proper tone is murderous anger, he might scream the line and cause the veins to bulge in his neck. He might assume the tone of cool power and murmur the line in a low, even voice. Perhaps he does not mean the words at all and laughs as he says them. Much depends on interpretation, of course, but the play will give the actor clues about the tone just as a poem gives its readers clues about how to feel about it. The tone may be based on a number of other conventions that the poem uses, such as meter or repetition. If we find a poem exhilarating, maybe it's because the meter mimics galloping. If we find a poem depressing, that may be because it contains shadowy imagery. Tone is not in any way divorced from the other elements of poetry; it is directly dependent on them. Tone shown in several sound of voice, it may be several feelings based on the speaker’s attitude."
The tone is conveyed by diction, sometimes rhythm, and other devices.\(^{14}\) And in other means tone is a speaker relies on the modulation and inflections of his voice on his facial expression to communicate his attitude\(^{15}\). But since poem are more often read and heard, tone must be conveyed by the poet through the selection and organization of words and images. The tone of poem may be ironic, bitter, joyful, satiric, sorrowful, humorous, urgent, personal, or objective. It means the tone represents the poet’s attitude toward his theme and subject. And the mood of a poem is different from its tone: mood implies the atmosphere created in the poem itself, rather than the poet’s attitude. As describe in Robert frost’s poem

**Stopping by woods on a snowy evening**

*Whose woods these are I think I know  
His house is in the village though;  
He will not see me stopping here  
To watch his woods fill up with snow.*

*My little horse must think it queer  
To stop without a farmhouse near  
Between the woods and frozen lake  
The darkest evening of the year.  
He gives his harness bells a shake  
To ask if there is someone mistake.  
The only other sound’s the sweep  
Of easy wind and downy flake.*

*The woods are lovely, dark and deep,  
But I have promises to keep,  
And miles to go before I sleep,  
And miles to go before I sleep.*  

*Robert Frost*

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Thus the prevailing mood in “stopping by woods on a snowy evening” is *reflective, quite, and calm*. But the tone of this poem is It can be several feelings such as loneliness, confidentialy and most of them the speaker’s voices are more difficult to describe and to explain. But, as a conclusion of this final tone of this poem is one of new determination and resolution, reinforced by a repeated reminder of unkept promises. That all only as a differentiations between mood and tone.\(^\text{16}\)

A speaker (or voice, to use the previous terminology) has attitudes toward himself, his subject, and his audience and (consciously or unconsciously) he chooses his words, pitch and modulation accordingly; all these add up to his tone. And then in written literature, tone must be detected without the aid of the ear, though it’s a good idea to read poetry aloud, trying to find the appropriate tone of voice. That is the reader must understand by the selection and sequence of the words the way (whether playfully, angrily, confidentially, ironically, or whatever) in which they are meant to be heard.\(^\text{17}\)

The explanations of the poem above are Frost’s poem opens with a speaker who seems concerned momentarily about who own the woods. The speaker seems reassured that the owners can’t see him; we might wonder why the speaker should be concerned and why he bothers to mention it. Does he feel that he is doing something

\(^\text{16}\) Idem, p. 10

wrong? The poem doesn’t say; instead it paints a picture of man, of woods and snow. And it raises question:

Why does he stop? So, what attract him? And again, the poem doesn’t provide explicit answer.

“my little horse must think is queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
between the woods and frozen lake
the darkest evening of the year.”

The though the horse is said to “think” we realize that the horse’s thought are really the speaker’s that the speaker projects his thoughts onto the horse because a part of him sees the impracticality of his action.

“he gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake
The only other sound’s the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.”

It’s all clear from the first three stanzas that the poet regards this brief pause as usual. The owner neither lives in these woods nor visits there often. Even the little horse recognizes the extraordinary nature of the event. The speaker, with “promise to keep” and “miles to go” is equally conscious of his own strange behavior. He is powerfully and intimately fascinated by the darkness, the stillness broken only by the sound of harness bell and wind. The woods moreover attract him with intimations of what they conceal. They are” lovely, dark, and deep.” Or the adjective subjective.

"The word tone in literary discussion is borrowed from the expression tone of voice. Tone is the manner in which a poet makes his statement; it reflects his attitude
toward his subject. Since printed poems lack the intonations of spoken words, the reader must learn to "hear" their tones with his mind's ear.

"Tone expresses the poet's attitude toward his audience. We all experience tone in everyday life. A speaker's placing of emphasis, his tone of voice, his facial expression, even his gestures all help the hearer to determine the speaker's meaning and attitude." (The Order of Poetry, an Introduction Bloom, Philbrick and Blistein)

None of the text book definitions of tone given above seem to resolve the exact meaning of the term. It continues to present a difficulty for the writer to understand the term exactly and to relate it to Frost's poetry as we have done with meter, metaphor and rhyme. When Frost spoke and wrote about his poems, he always mentioned tone. As with many of his theories, he had his own twist. Tone is the central idea of Frost's "sound of sense." To him, it meant voice tones.

When Frost explained his theory of the sound of sense, he said tone is what comes through a closed door when people are speaking out of earshot. We cannot understand the exact words, but the tones of voice tell us what is feels going on. You can tell if the voice is pleading, demanding or doubtful. These living voice tones can be heard in Frost's poems. Frost explained, "Its tone I'm in love with; that's what poetry is, tone." "That tone is everything, the way you say that 'no.' (Job in the Masque of Reason) I noticed that - that's what made me write that."

He said he wrote the last lines of The Runaway just for the "aggrieved tone of voice." In Spring Pools, you can see the finger wag a bit as the speaker says, "Let them think twice." And "Everything written is as good as it is dramatic Sentences are
not different enough to hold the attention unless they are dramatic. All that can save them is the speaking tone of voice somehow entangled in the words and fastened to the page for the ear of the imagination." (Frost in Preface to *A Way Out*)

Frost believes that tone gives varieties. He said, "You’ve got to get dramatic." It is therefore hard sometimes to identify an overall tone in a Frost poem because he is consciously changing them. Frost wrote poetry in a speaking voice and the tone(s) are essential to the drama. This applies just as well to *The Death of the Hired Man* as to *nothing Gold Can Stay*.

These examples were given by Frost himself to explain his use of tone:

*A Patch of Old Snow*

There's a patch of old snow in a corner,
That I should have guessed
Was a blow-away paper the rain
Had brought to rest.

It is specked with grime as if
Small print overspread it.
The news of a day I've forgotten --
If I ever read it.

Frost explained the first stanza is "merely ordinary and bookish." He relied on the reader's recognition of the snow and blow-away newspapers and the transient nature of news. The first 6 lines set up the situation for the last two where he makes you drop your voice to expose the irony of the last line ... "If I ever read it." That is classic Frostian tone and sound of sense. Frost imparts the tone through the sense or
meaning of the ongoing situation. If you get several people to read it, you will hear
that they all read the last line alike. Frost has a way of making the reader say the lines
in a certain way. Frost believed it was the tone and the sound of sense which
conveyed art in poetry. Poetry should be about things we recognize, things common
in experience, but delightful in the uncommon way a thing is said: "All the fun's in
how you say a thing." He wanted the living sound of speech to come off the printed
page and into the reader's ear or audible imagination. Here is another example Frost
gave of changing tones:

The Pasture
I'm going out to clean the pasture spring;           (light, informing tone)
I'll only stop to rake the leaves away                  ("only" tone - reservation)
(And wait to watch the water clear, I may):        (supplementary, possibility)
I sha'n't be gone long. -- You come too.            (free tone, assuring)
well for me" -- (after thought, inviting) "Rather
well for me" --

I'm going out to fetch the little calf
That's standing by the mother. It's so young.
It totters when she licks it with her tongue.
I sha'n't be gone long. -- You come too.            (Similar, free, persuasive, assuring
and inviting tones in second stanza)

And more from Frost, "The visual images thrown up by a poem are important,
but it is more important still to choose and arrange words in a sequence so as to
virtually control the intonations and pauses of the reader's voice. By the arrangement
and choice of words on the part of the poet, the effects of humor, pathos, hysteria,
anger, and in fact, all effects, can be indicated or obtained."

Now if we think again about the definitions of tone, we can say: tone, as Frost
used it, does indicate the emotional intent of the poet, the speaker and the overall
attitude of both. It can be several meaning of voices or feeling, the textbook
definitions speaks to the ultimate result of the use of tone, while Frost actually addresses *how* this is accomplished with the use of *voice tones*. Frost was not interested in idioms and intonation to be quaint. He consciously wrote the sound of talk including vernacular tones in order to expand his poetry and to convey meaning to the reader. The meaning above same like Perrine says that the tone is the writer or speaker’s attitude toward his subject, his audience and himself; the emotional coloring or emotional meaning of a literary work and is an extremely important part of the full meaning.\(^{18}\) The tone as a form of expression or attitude of someone to show the subject such as; loving, sadness, etc.

**D. Figurative Language**

Figurative language is language that uses words or expressions with a meaning that is different from the literal interpretation. When a writer uses literal language, he or she is simply stating the facts as they are. Figurative language, in comparison, uses exaggerations or alterations to make a particular linguistic point. Figurative language is very common in poetry, but is also used in prose and nonfiction writing as well. And here are the following parts of figure of speech as written as the writer uses in this research.

1. **Personification**

Personification is a figure of speech in which non-human things, e.g., animal, abstract ideas, inanimate objects, or imaginary beings, are given human

characteristics or capabilities. Attribution of human qualities to animal, ideas, or inanimate things or objects.

The fixed bells rang, their voices
Came like boats over the oil-slicks.
Olson

Olson attributes voices to bells. Of all figures, personification most surely gives to airy nothings a local habitation and name. Or Personification is an ontological metaphor in which a thing or abstraction is represented as a person; the term "personification" may apply to:

a. A description of an inanimate object as being a living person or animal as in:

"The sun shone brightly down on me as if she were shining for me alone". In this example the sun is depicted as if capable of intent, and is referenced with the pronoun "she" rather than "it".

b. An outstanding example of a quality or idea: "He's invisible, a walking personification of the Negative" (Ralph Ellison).

c. An artistic representation of an abstract quality or idea as a person, for example the four cardinal virtues or nine muses.19

In personification, something abstract is given human attributed, as in this example from Keats’ “To Autumn,” where the season is personified as a woman:

Who hat not seen thee oft amid thy store?
Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find
Thee sitting careless on granary floor
Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind;

19 www.wikipedia.com
2. Metaphor

A metaphor is a figure of speech concisely expressed by an implied analogy between two objects or ideas, conveyed by the use of a word instead of another. And according to Mc. Laughin metaphor perhaps is the most important figure of speech. Sometimes it is also the most difficult part to detect. 20 according to Perrine, in his book sound and sense: an introduction to poetry, in metaphor the comparison is implied that is the figurative term is substituted for or identified with the literal term. Metaphors may take one of four forms, depending on whether the literal and figurative terms are respectively named or implied. In the first form of metaphor, as in simile, both the literal and figurative terms are named. In the second form, the literal term is named and the figurative term is implied. In the third form of metaphor, the literal term is implied and the figurative term is named. In the fourth form, both literal and figurative terms are implied. And because it does without like or as, suggests that the thing compared and the thing it’s compared with are not merely similar but, for the purposes of the poem, somehow identical. This is called metaphor. 21 It can be seen like the sample below:

. . . a flower stand
   Above which hovers an exploding rose
   Fired from a long-necked crystal vase . . .

   (Wilbur, “playboy”)

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A metaphor asserts the identity, without a connective such as “like” or a verb such as “appears,” of term that are literally incompatible.

3. Simile

Simile A figure of speech in which a comparison is expressed by the specific use of a word or phrase such as: like, as, than, seems or “as if,” example:

✓ Mending Wall: like an old-stone savage armed
✓ Stars: like some snow-white/ Minerva's snow-white marble eyes
✓ “Jamie runs as fast as the wind.”

4. Symbol/ Symbolism

A symbol may be a thing, setting, action, person or situation-something concrete and particular that has function in the plot of a work but at the same time points to or suggests something abstract or general. In a literary work it has its own objective reality if it did not have such validity, it would be artificial and therefore weak but it used to carry greater meaning than its simple presence might indicate. A symbol then, is an image so loaded with significance that is not simply literal, and it does not simply stand for something else; it is both itself and something else that is richly suggests, a kind of manifestation of something too complex or too elusive to be otherwise revealed. Symbols, like metaphors, can extend the range of a poem’s associations. But a symbol is not simply another kind of figurative language: a symbol is an object or an action which both represents itself and at the same times has

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a larger meaning than it ordinarily has a meaning which can often be multiple or ambiguous. Or sometimes a symbol addresses a sense other than sight. And may some readers of poetry prefer to say that a symbol is always a concrete object, never an act. Symbolism occurs when a noun which has meaning in itself is used to represent something entirely different. One example of symbolism would be to use an image of the American flag to represent patriotism and a love for one’s country.

E. Explication

A line-by-line or episode-by-episode commentary on what is going on in text is an explication (literally, unfolding or spreading out). It takes some skill to works one’s way along without saying, “in line one…, in the second line… in the third line…” an explication does not deal with the writer’s life or times, and it is not a paraphrase, a rewording—though it may include paraphrase but, commentary revealing your sense of meaning of work. Based on another source, explication is one form of analysis. The word “explicate” comes from the Latin explicare, which mean to unfold. For instance we should look at the language of the poem and the, choose one poem and explaining how the central idea of the poem unfolds as we need from one stanza to the next.

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F. Theme

Every written work has a theme, whether the writer deliberately infuses a literary work with one or not. Whereas content includes everything that the poem contains, theme refers specifically to the main point, topic, or subject of the poem it mean Theme is the central idea or main topic of a work. According to the NTSC’s Dictionary of literary terms, theme in literature is the central or dominating idea, the “message,” implicit in a work. The theme of a work is seldom stated directly. It is an abstract concept indirectly expressed through recurrent images, action, character, and symbols, and must be inferred by the reader or spectator. Theme differs from subject in that theme is a comment, observation, or insight about the subject.26 According to other source, the theme defined as an idea or intellectual apprehensible meaning inherent and implicit in a work. In determining a poem’s theme, we should be careful neither to oversimplify the poem nor to distort its meaning.27

CHAPTER III
RESEARCH FINDINGS

In the analysis of the research findings, the writer will explicate each selected poem, then relate each poem to its tone and finally propose a suitable theme of the selected poem. So the analysis can be described as follow:

A. EXPLICATION OF THE POEM

In this chapter, the writer discusses about the poem in details that is called explication. An explication is to explicate of the entire poem in detail, unraveling any complexities to be found in it.28 During the explication the three poem, has the correlation subject matter it story about the family issues; the effect of divorce, character problem of feel, all has the same issue but only different character and why in family because many statement indicate to the family condition both somebody, everybody or even people would be make the change in family for their family. To understand the theme and meaning of the poem, we have to explicate it. In the explication of the poem, the writer explains the entire poem by analyzing a substance of the poem word-per-words and line-per-lines. And then the writer also explains the other theories have correlation with the poem like uses of diction and figure of speech in each poem. In explicating the poems, the writer tries to examine and unfold all detail to deliver the theme clearer.

1. Explication of “my friend’s divorce”

My Friend's Divorce

I want her
to dig up
every plant
in her garden
The pansies,
the pentae,
roses,
renunculas,
thyme, and lilies,
the thing nobody knows
the name of
Unwind the morning glories
from the wire windows
of the fence
Take the blooming
and the almost-blooming
and the dormant,
especially the dormant
And then,
and then,
plant them in her new yard
on the other side
of town
and see how
they breathe.
In the Poem of “My Friend’s Divorce,” Naomi Shihab Nye shows how one must persevere during all occasions and hardships by paralleling her friend’s life to her garden. In the first line the poet using subject I as speaker as can as she want to be heard by her friend. In the next line the poet uses the word choice of the pansies, the pentae, and the roses, renuncules, thyme, and lilies means like collection of flower in the garden that symbolize of a beauty, a piece for woman. Flower also indicates the loves, affections, or other thing nicely. In this poem does not only explain what the matter happened, about the things, setting time and also have to know to make it easier to be understood.

This poem tells about the speaker’s friend, a woman who has a problem with her marriage by divorce.

_I want her_
_To dig up_

The word choices are interesting to be analyzed which convey the various meanings like in the begin of sentence the poet use the word or phrase _dig-up_. It means a meaning _to leave_. Why the poet does not use the word such _plant_ or _to farm_ in her garden.

_Every plant_
_In her garden_
_The pansies,_
_The pentae,_
_Roses,_
_Renunculas,_
_Thyme and lilies_
Those are something meaningful because every plant is connotated with the flowers that symbolize the beauty; the woman’s peacefully, the woman’s characterization. All the flowers symbolize something new; bring to be piece and forget the troubles that woman should have to posses.

The next poem says:

*The thing no body knows*

*The name of*

*Unwind the morning glories*

*From the wire windows*

*Of the fence.*

Those explain the pressure of the poet on what the speaker wants everybody to know why someone does not know the glories of the morning event when she has a problem. And the speaker talks as if she told to detach from the past. Now, life becomes free.

*The wire window*

*Of the fence*

The word “wire” symbolizes something blocked to normalize a life before. And the word *fence* seems like to support the blocked itself. And the next, the poem describes the looking problem:

*Take the blooming*

*And the dormant,*

*Especially the dormant*

Those explain as if the speaker gave the instruction to loose the problem, the bad consequences that may influence her divorce. Here the speaker uses the
repetitions words the dormant and the dormant, express the development of losing the problem. And the next sentences of the stanza are the speaker uses the repetition of words such a pressure of command.

\[ \text{And then,} \]
\[ \text{And then.} \]
The sentence above as if the speaker told her to get out from her old place to move in another one and renew her life. In the next sentence of the poem mentioned;

\[ \text{Plant them her new yard} \]
\[ \text{On the other side} \]
\[ \text{Of town} \]
\[ \text{And see how} \]
\[ \text{They breathe} \]
From the description the poem above, we can conclude that the speaker tells her friend as if made a command to move into the new life. And in the last sentence above the speaker explains the answer why she has to go; the words: “plant them into her new yard” means the woman should go from the old place and move the new place and the “flowers” that symbolize the beauty, power, and character of her are moved into new life to open the new story, and may let see later something will be changed like the last words explained “and let see how they breathe”.

2. **Explication of “The Rider”**

The Rider

A boy told me
If he roller-skated fast enough
His loneliness couldn’t catch up to him,
The best reason I ever heard
For trying to be a champion.
What I wonder tonight
Pedaling hard down King William Street
It if it translates to bicycles.
A victory! To leave behind your loneliness
panting behind you on some street corner
while you float free into a cloud of sudden azaleas,
No matter how slowly they fell

In this poem, the poet, Naomi Shihab Nye uses the technique of
personification to describe how wonderful it would be to escape loneliness in “The Rider.” It means symbol of escaping from something or would be free from anything worse.

In the first line of the poem, the poet uses the word of boy as a subject in this poem. The poet entices the reader with vivid descriptions of a boy attempting to out-race his loneliness on roller skates. He wants to get a victory! By saying “if he roller-skated fast enough” here, she describes as if the boy should have to change his life; he wants to make a change in his life, wants to get a free. But, he doesn’t know what mean of victory. The poet uses victory as a word of choice seems the poet expresses the badness in a condition, we don’t know about the condition. May the writer argue about the situation which is in a complicated place.

In other line “to leave behind your loneliness, panting behind you on some street corner.” This excerpt aptly expresses the elation felt when being free of solitude. The persona brings the image to life, translates the ideas into a manner in
which we can all relate. May be the author suggests that we all have experiences where we feel neglected and isolated, and comforted us by presenting us with visions of hope. This poem explains about somebody that would be escape from his lonely.

In the first, second and third line of the stanzas written:

A boy told me
If he roller-skated fast enough
His loneliness couldn’t catch up to him.

The word roller-skater is a metaphor of something values and symbolize about the good condition which anybody wants to, where the roller-skater itself as a media which describes the better condition.

His loneliness couldn’t catch up him

In the sentence above, the speaker explains the lonely never attacks to the boy if the roller-skater ran faster. But the speaker doesn’t give the reason why a boy would be move faster.

In the next sentence of the poem the speaker wrote:

The best reason I ever heard

For things to be a champion

Those excerpts give information that the boy would be a winner or a champion. And the next lines show:

What I wonder tonight
Pedaling hard down King William Street
It if it translates to bicycles what I wonder tonight
Pedaling hard down King William Street
It if it translates to bicycles

The speaker uses another symbolization to make the boy understand what he wants to compete and how he would be a champion. By pedaling hard, the speaker wants to know the boy as if he were riding bicycle in order to ride faster. The writer suggests that the bicycle is symbolization of something new which changes faster then. Because the speaker describes bicycle move quickly in the Down King Williams Street. From the description above, it can be concluded that the rider as connotation of a boy with his way to change for his loneliness and he would have a victory.

But what is meant by the victory and what is the relation with the boy. The poet further describes:

A victory! To leave behind your loneliness
panting behind you on some street corner
while you float free into a cloud of sudden azaleas,
No matter how slowly they fell

From the sentences above, the word ‘victory’ means a situation that full of hope and the word victory presents about vision of hope and it relates to the boy and an idea of his life to make a choice to change his life faster. And the writer suggests in this excerpt to tell the boy’s feeling when he was being free of solitude that was a manner of the poem. And maybe the speaker informs to the reader that everybody has an experience which neglected and isolated. And of course that the time is actually to
make the change. Then, the main point of this poem is about hopes which bring the image into the better life and the poet gives a real correlation of the victory and the boy.

“while you float free into a cloud of sudden azaleas

No matter how slowly they feel.”

No matter anything that disturbs or a hard obstacle he meets and even he is running slowly. By showing the sentences above the speaker tries to give a belief.

3. Explication of “Hidden”

Hidden

If you place a fern under a stone the next day it will be nearly invisible as if the stone has swallowed it.

If you tuck the name of a loved one under your tongue too long without speaking it it becomes blood sigh the little sucked-in breath of air hiding everywhere beneath your words.

No one sees the fuel that feeds you.

This poem describes about the voice about the speaker feels melancholy; a feel from the deepest heart but spoken with the soul. Generally, the story of this poem
same like the two poem before; explaining about the family problem but only the it uses a small character problem in a family, and here talking about poet’s imagination as if she is as someone in a family using her skill imagination she deliver the real situation cases in human daily life. The main point is that the speaker tries to tell the reader that everything could be happened although it has some consequences. This poem has three stanzas in a free form of the different lines. The title, “Hidden”, conveys a message of wonder, to what is hidden. Is it a treasure? Is it a secret? This is hiding whatever it is, and why. Or maybe this work is about something that is hidden and found or perhaps something that is never found? In this case, with the title of “hidden, the text gives an idea that in the life there is a death and a loss. The natural or unnatural loss, whether it is a life, relationship, or something which is related to a person, such as encourage personal growth, ambition, accomplishment, or even achievement.

In the first stanza, there is the word ‘fern’ that symbolizes the empty feel of life or the aura of a pure symbol of nature or life, the word fern also imagine such the kind of plant which has a silent place, empty field, and the poet here illustrate that in this place does not anyone to share, make the solution or other which is the opposite mean of the fern meaning. This word explains a way to convey life through a plant found within nature. Another word which is uses is “stone” (line 2, and 5), which explains death and also it is used twice in repetition. This word is used to make the description of a something problem, by putting “under a stone,” the word stone symbolizes the death not only about the human’s die but also other death like the
death of desire of life. In the next sentences “the next day it will be nearly invisible,” this sentence gives an understanding about invisible of speaker’s life because this poem indicates the speaker herself who has unclear life perceptions, or something which relates to willingness, ambitions, or other private problem which is hidden, or becomes a private secret.

In the next line “as if the stone has swallowed it,” it explains the statement before, that every problem felt by the speaker describes like the stone or the death of desire shadowing the whole life. Here, the poet uses figurative language, simile which expresses to compare as if the stone has swallowed the poet, as if anything in life invisible.

In the second stanza, the speaker gives the example of something that causes the death of desire.

“If you tuck the named of a love one
Under your tongue too long
Without speak it
It becomes blood”

Those sentences clearly, show us the problems that are felt by the speaker such as belonging something without trying to do or to speak. It will become a serious problem which tells the bad thing and conveys the death. In the next line the speaker gives another explanation as different style of thinking.

“The little suck in breathe of our hiding everywhere, beneath your words.”

The sentence above describes another perception of the speaker about another thing is a hope; a change everywhere, although, the death is surrounding us, there is a probability or an opportunity as a life choice and certainly it has the effects. There is
repetition in the first lines of the first two stanzas using, “If you…” (Line 1, 7), which here is used more as a rhetorical statement than a question. This phrase is important because it means, supposing that, in case of, or on condition that (you) do something. Here the word “if” is used by the narrator to establish a condition, requirement, or stipulation in what is “hidden” in “you”. The word “you” could mean anyone, but in this case the work seems to be conferring the objective “you” that carries with it the purpose of something that one’s efforts or actions are intended to attain or accomplish. There is the underlying sense of a purpose, goal, target, or objective, as in if you do this, this will happen.

And in the last stanzas, the speaker just gives a description related to the chapter of this poem “hidden” that everybody doesn’t know what our problem is.

The word “hidden”, also can sometimes mean different things as well as convey different ideas than the everyday norm. This is where denotative and connotative meanings come in. Denotative is the actual meaning of the word, like a definition from a dictionary even. Connotative is like an associated meaning. For example, sometimes the connotation of a work will be immediately obvious or sometimes you have to study the whole poem or part of it to see what it means or will mean within the text. The function of the word “hidden” is usually an adjective that means being out of sight or not readily apparent. It can also mean that something is concealed, obscure, unexplained, or undisclosed. It can also be seen as a noun, as in hiddenness or hidden agenda, which means that it could be an ulterior motive to
something else. “Hide” as a verb, usually means to hide something, to put out of sight, or to be kept a secret.

Poetry is full of alliteration and assonance, which are the sound of words are used to structure writing. In alliteration, there is the repeating or repetition of same sounding letters. In this poem there are two distinct lines that hold alliteration. The first is in the second stanza, 2nd line, and 3rd and 4th words: “tongue” and “too”, which concentrate on the /t/ sound. The second example is in the last line of the last stanza. The words “fuel” and “feed”, which concentrates on a /f/ sound and actually hold first letter alliterations. These are appealing to the eye and add to the sound of the poem. Because Assonance is the repetition of vowel sounds in a line or phrase and is sometimes harder to recognize because it is based on actual sounds and not just letters or vowels in particular.

B. TONE OF THE POEM

According to Baldick in concise dictionary of literary terms, tone is very vague term usually designs the mood or atmosphere of a work, although in some more restricted uses it refers to the author attitude to the readers (e.g. formal, intimate, pompous) or to the subject matter (e.g. Ironic, light, solemn, satiric, sentimental). But in other side the mood and tone differ each other, but here the writer would explain the tone because the mood is only about the atmospheres of the poem while we read it. Not just looking up to compare or contrast the meaning. But also to define the poem as the artist’s or the poet’s experience is a better solution then.
1. Tone of “my friend’s divorce”

The tone of poetry is the aspect of poetry which reflects the attitude and feeling of the poet or the speaker. A speaker’s tone is conveyed by sound, pitch, and pace supplemented by expression that showed in the dictions or the choice of words, and almost everything in a poem contributes to its tone. The tone of ‘my friend’s divorce’ explains about a divorce story of a woman and tries to solve its case. The speaker analogizes the woman with her flowers as a symbol of her beauty and characterization should move to another place. Place means a new home or a new situation which bring to the pleasant. And there are several tones that the writer concludes after explicating the poem and some of them are:

a. Believe

I want her
To dig up

The word dig up give the writer a believable from the speaker that every problem will solves.

The things no body knows
The name of
Unwind the morning glories
From the wire windows
Of the fence

Those also give some contributions of believable-evidences. The speaker informs to every people that only she herself knows about her problem and she knows about the way to resolve in every question and she should believe that she can. The poet uses the word believes here mean verb as an action form both them to think that
something is true, to make it correct or real. In this case the speaker believe and want everybody know that everything problem of life event divorce has the resolution.

b. Optimism

And then, 
and then, 
plant them in her new yard 
on the other side 
of town 
and see how 
they breathe

The second tones of word optimism mean Noun which has meaning a disposition or tendency to look on the more favorable side of events or conditions and to expect the most favorable outcome. And the writer assumed the speaker being hopeful and emphasizing the good part of a situation rather than the bad part; the belief that good things will happen in the future.

For this poem, the speaker believes that every disease has a medicine. If someone is getting hurt she has to take a treatment and there are some way to treat such as her body, her soul and her heart, in order to have a better than before. And here the speaker looks optimistic in thinking and she becomes an optimist that someday her life would change and let everybody know that there is a new breathes.

2. Tone of "the rider"

Some tones of the rider-poem are:

a. Ambitious

The word ambitious denotes the adjective mean having a strong wish to be successful, powerful or rich. The speaker wants to make a change of perception faster
and use analogically like somebody riding the roller-skater quickly. To chase his loneliness the speaker uses the description of bicycle that running in the Hard Down King Williams Street. The speaker gives a motivation as a basic of ambition to get what she wants before. Its like supported by the evidence below:

If he roller-skated fast enough
His loneliness couldn’t catch up to him,
The best reason I ever heard
For trying to be a champion

b. Believe

The words believe mean verb which is refer to the believe of the speaker heart indicate that she is very confident in believing of hope even many obstacles in way.

A victory! To leave behind your loneliness
panting behind you on some street corner
while you float free into a cloud of sudden azaleas,
No matter how slowly they fell

Those statements prove that she has to face up the loneliness even she has bad possibility come around in way. The purpose of the speaker’s ambition is to show that the loneliness should stay away because it will probably become an obstacle for her. Like the statement before, the word believe mean verb uses to indicate the speaker’s belief as an action from the deeply heart and mind both them to think that something is true, to make it correct or real.
3. Tone of “Hidden”

Some tones of the hidden-poem can be described below:

a. Sadness

The word sadness means unhappy or sorry uses as an adjective to indicate the situation or condition of the speaker.

Let us observe the following lines:

“Under a stone  
The next day it will be  
Nearly invisible  
As if the stone has  
Swallowed it”

Those sentences explain that the speaker feels hopeless and sees herself like an underestimated person and it is proved by the *invisible* word.

b. Death and Loss

“If you tuck the named of a love one  
Under your tongue too long  
Without speak it  
It becomes blood”

The words death and loss uses as noun mean the condition when no longer have something or have less of something The speaker uses the word *too long* as if she shaved the loss of hope and analogically like the end of life and then becomes a blood that symbolizes the death; the die of human or the death of desire. Finally, the word *too long* refers to blood.
c. Pessimistic

The word pessimistic is an adjective mean thinking that bad things are more likely to happen or emphasizing the bad part of a situation. The speaker seems pessimistic in solving the problem as shown in the lines below:

“No one sees
The fuel that feeds you”

The words “fuel” and “feeds” are very important symbols as well, as the speaker stated earlier. Fuel is a symbol of in food for sustenance and energy, in cars for transportation, and it can be the fire that keeps us going on in everyday life. Just like the speaker in the poem is trying to convey that the hidden fuel that feeds our ambition in life, can possibly stem from death. But no one can see.

C. THEME OF THE POEM

After the writer analyzes the tone of the poems, he would like to analyze the themes of the poems; the theme can be understood through knowing the speaker’s attitudes, the poet’s purpose in her poem in order to know what the messages of the poems are. The theme can also be constructed by the tone; the main idea of the speaker’s attitude while she is writing these poems. The word theme must have the central idea as its core. Everything in the theme should be directly related to this idea or should contribute to the reader’s understanding of the idea.29

1. Theme of “my friend’s divorce”

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My friend’s divorce poem describes about the advice for the woman whom got the divorce in her marriage.

The speaker uses a symbol of change from the old life to the new life; the speaker uses the good of word-choices in every sentence and uses the repetition words to strengthen her idea, such as written bellow:

\[
\text{And then,} \\
\text{and then,} \\
\text{plant them in her new yard} \\
\text{on the other side} \\
\text{of town} \\
\text{and see how} \\
\text{they breathe}
\]

The keyword is on the repetition words “and then, and then,” that direct to the meaning of her poem’s to make a renewed in life. And from that discussion, the writer concludes that the theme of my friend’s divorce is “a divorce makes renewable breath and recharging-mind.”

2. Theme of “the rider”

The rider poem describes about the speaker’s condition, where she wants to make a change from the loneliness faster. Its means that the poet personifies anybody that should go to the better life and trying to win.

\[
\text{A boy told me} \\
\text{If he roller-skater fast enough} \\
\text{His loneliness couldn’t catch up to him}
\]
The speaker conveys with gently that everybody should have a more hope, the speaker translates this poem into an idea and the manner inspiring on looking up the life. Therefore, from the discussion above, it can be conclude that the theme of the rider’s poem is “every people translate the matter into the idea towards real hopes”

3. Theme of “Hidden”

The hidden poem describes the thought of the speaker by using the ambiguous language and the different ways of looking at death whether it as a beginning or continuing life. One can hold on the inevitable pain or death, or he can use it as a “fuel” to show how short life is. Anything in life can be a hidden-sign that can be translated into another meaning. The hidden-sign has seen described below:

“the little sucked-in breath of air
hiding everywhere
beneath your words”

Therefore, from this discussion it can be concluded that the theme of the hidden’s poem is “some hidden pains can be transformed into an uncovered storage of energy, encouragement, and ability to go-ahead which absolutely can be found.”
CHAPTER IV
CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

The readers are often ignored the existence of tone in poetry. The readers of poem are only facing the text as a silence object. It is not an easy thing for them to know what poet’s feeling whether he feels happy, sad, sarcastic, angry, etc. The result will be different if we listen to someone to read a poem directly. A poem should be felt, and understood its meaning in each word. We can feel what poets feel from his voice, eyes or body language.

The poems of Naomi Shihab Nye have been treated as a self-contained piece of literature where structure and the meaning of text should not be examined separately. Close attention to the use of literary devices and ambiguity is a key factor, because a text can and will display in different meanings at the same time. Naomi Shihab Nye’s poems succeed in build the emotion of the readers as the speaker describes the subjective image, simplify, resulting the interpreted perspective variously. In the three poems of Naomi Shihab Nye describe the attitude of the speaker; so serious, ambitious and has belief that every people has a problem even it’s hard to be solved. And Nye’s poem informs the people in order to make a change. Here, Naomi Shihab Nye illustrates the family’s problem as an object in her works and here she actually gives a suggestion in her poem to make the people think what
they should do then. The speaker describes the problem clearly; using a certain words, a simple analogy and simple symbolization in order to make understanding of the reader. In the last analysis the writer proposes the theme of the selected poems such as: *a divorce makes renewable breath and recharging-mind; every people translate the matter into the idea towards real hope; and some hidden pains can be transformed into uncovered storage of energy, encouragement an ability to go ahead which absolutely can be found.* The three of Naomi Shihab Nye’s poem; *my friend’s divorce, the Rider, and hidden* gives a something new as a message, information, and stand like a command to make more values in life. In spite of unpretentious words used, the Naomi’s poems have inspired the readers.

B. Suggestion

Through this study, the writer would like to give the following suggestions:

1. For the students who are interested in studying poems and their tones, they can use other related references to enrich their understanding about the tone of the poem.

2. For those who want to do a similar research, they can use the result of this study as an alternative-reference.

3. Finally, the writer hopes that this research can motivate the other students to be more interested in understanding the poetry.
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