

# Analysis of Figurative Language In Poem's Provide, Provide By Robert Frost

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## Analysis of Figurative Language In Poem's Provide, Provide By Robert Frost

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**Abstract** This article analyzes figurative language in the poem Provide Proven by Robert Frost. Robert Frost is one of the writers who uses various types of figurative language in his work. The purpose of using figurative language in poetry is to emphasize the meaning of the author that he wants to express. Apart from that, it is also used to beautify the sound of poetry. Data was collected from text and analyzed using descriptive-qualitative research. The results of this research show that there are five types Figurative language: metaphor, irony, personification, alliteration.

**Keywords:** Figurative language, metaphor, irony, personification, alliteration, Poem Provide, Provide.

## INTRODUCTION

Some people are interested in reading literary books because reading literary books is just entertainment for them. They need time to relax after imagining monotonous activities such as working or studying. Reading literary books makes them enjoy themselves. Another reason is that reading literary books makes you feel like you understand life, humans and nature. Literary books such as drama, poetry and fiction are the author's imagination about the world, life and experiences expressed in words. One of the literary books. Poetry or poetry. Poetic diction is different from everyday expressions in that they have a clear and clear literal meaning and purpose. (Muji Endah Palupi. 2021)

Figurative language, according to Alfiah and Santosa, is the linguistic style that a poet uses to depict, express, and convey feelings and ideas when writing poetry. Understanding the poetic significance of poetry is crucial. Figures of speech exist. Poetry is made more intriguing by language because its imagery-based language forces the reader to decipher the poem's meaning. In addition, it creates vivid and poetic language in poetry by giving inanimate objects lifelike appearances and vice versa (for instance, a pencil dancing on paper, you are as beautiful as the rising sun). (Theresia Budi Sucihati, Rida Fahas, and Ery Dwi Lestari. 2023)

Robert Lee Frost, a prominent American poet, was born on March 26, 1874 in San Francisco, California and died on January 29, 1963 in Boston. His poems are renowned for

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their connection to nature and natural beauty. The setting of his poetry involving rural environments is used to understand different philosophical and societal themes. (Lok Raj Sharma. 2022)

11 Robert Frost is one of the most popular poets in American Literature. poetry in short and his long poems are highly appreciated and attracted by many readers because of their diversity and originality of presentation. (Muhammad Hassan Shaikh, Rubina Arain, Sadia Naz and Ajab Ali Lashari. 2023)

### LITERATURE BACKGROUND

Poetry is an outpouring of feelings, thoughts and events that are turned into writing. Poetry is imaginative, because the meaning of poetry is not easily understood. The words in poetry seem simple but difficult to interpret, their meaning is even very broad. according to Rostina, Rochmat Tri Sudrajat and Aditya Permana (2021) Poetry is a series of words that are formed from a sequence of events or occurrences experienced by the author, but when writing it the author does not necessarily write with direct expression.

According to Rudy Try Pambudi (2016) Figurative language refers to the use of expressions that carry multiple meanings. When a writer uses literal language, they are just presenting information as it is. Figurative language is when words, phrases, or sentences are used non-literally, often to create a vivid image or convey a deeper meaning. rewritten in a way that deviates from the usual pattern or structure. rewritten in a way that deviates from the usual pattern or structure. Using traditional structures and meanings to convey certain messages. special significance leading to a specific impact on. This includes making comparisons, either implicitly or clearly stated. between two things. Comparing through language. Purposeful use of personification, hyperbole, paradox, metaphor and other devices. as the basis of language metaphor. The language is not literal computationally similar. This poem has figurative language. Figures of speech used to change literal language into figurative language include the following:

#### 1. Metaphor

Metaphor is a Greek word meaning "to carry over." A metaphor occurs when a term or phrase that, when used literally, refers to one type of item is applied to something quite different without making a comparison. Abrams, ( In Dewi Syafitri, Melisa Marlinton, 2018). Provides evidence in favor of this claim. Metaphor is the act of

comparing two dissimilar objects as though they were one. This occurred as a result of metaphors lacking connecting terms like as than, comparable to, and seems, which would have identified them as figurative. Perrine, (In Dewi Syafitri, Melisa Marlinton, 2018)

## 2. Alliteration

Alliteration, according to Arp & Johnson (In Della Amelya Indah Lestari, M. Bahri Arifin & Famala Eka Sanhadi Rahayu, 2021), is the recurrence of multiple consonant sounds. The term "alliteration" refers to the repeating of starting consonants. Alliteration, according to Perrine (In Della Amelya Indah Lestari, M. Bahri Arifin, Famala Eka Sanhadi Rahayu, 2021), is the close repetition of an accented syllable's or important word's opening consonant sounds.

## 3. Simile

A figure of speech that compares two dissimilar objects that still share at least one characteristic. Siswanto (In Theresia Budi Sucihati & Rida Fahas's Ery Dwi Lestary, 2023). It makes use of expressions like "like," "as," "than," "seems," and "as if."

## 4. Imagery

According to Siswanto (In Minhatul Maula, 2013) informed that there are five various kinds of imageries, as follows: Visual imagery, auditory imagery, internal situation, and old factory imagery.

## 5. Personification

According to (Trisna Dinillah Harya, 2016) explained that personification is an action of referring to abstract concepts or inanimate objects as real, alive persons. Personification is the process of giving thoughts, animals, or inanimate objects human attributes. The reader's imagination may be significantly impacted by this. Poetry, fiction, and children's books all make use of this.

#### 6. Irony

According to Perrine (In Jaya Kurnia Sandy, M. Natsir & Chris Asanti, 2021) Irony is the difference between what is spoken and what is truly meant Furthermore, Abrams defined irony as a statement in which the speaker's expressed meaning differs significantly from the speaker's implied meaning. It typically entails a clear assertion of attitude or evaluation, but with signal in the speech setting that the speaker means the opposing attitude or opinion.

#### 7. Paradox

Knickerbocker and Reninger (In Ni Wayan Jero Padni, 2012) define a paradox as a claim that, on the surface or in plain sight, appears illogical or even ridiculous but, upon deeper inspection, makes perfect sense.

### METHODOLOGY

In this article uses qualitative research. primary component of the approach for qualitative analysis is the data collection technique, which results in bias. Finally, analysis is done on non-numerical data, primarily with non-statistical techniques (Dornyei in Sukron and Rofiq Noorman Haryadi 2022). Data collected and in analysis from Robert Frost's featured poems.

Researcher collected data from early poetry by Robert Frost as the main data source. Researchers also read theses, articles and journals related to poetry and figurative language. Data collected in this study are explained in detail in-depth and thorough by applying descriptive methods to identify all figurative language in this poem.

### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This poem tells concerning the waning of renown and attractiveness. A description of an elderly, withered woman who was once very beautiful is given in the beginning, drawing comparisons between her and the aging Hollywood actress Abisag. Alternatively, the narrator cautions, it would be preferable to pass away with money and dignity rather than before her beauty disappears.

## A. FINDINGS

4  
*The witch that came (the withered hag)*

*To wash the steps with pail and rag,*

*Was once the beauty Abishag*.....3

The first stanza in the poem rhymes AAA. in this stanza opens with a striking contrast, depicting a formerly beautiful witch named Abishag. This shows that facial changes that were originally beautiful have decreased due to increasing age.

7  
*The picture pride of Hollywood.*

*Too many fall from great and good*

*For you to doubt the likelihood*.....6

In the second stanza the rhyme is BBB. in this stanza Abisag was once a Hollywood icon, but one by one they experienced decline as they were no longer liked, and this will all be experienced by anyone.

1  
*Die early and avoid the fate.*

*Or if predestined to die late,*

*Make up your mind to die in state*.....9

The third stanza with CCC rhyme. in this stanza the poem suggests that an early death may be preferable to prolonged contemplation. If one were to live longer, they had to ensure that they lived with dignity and status.

1  
*Make the whole stock exchange your own!*

*If need be occupy a throne,*

*Where nobody can call you crone*..... 12

In the four stanza with DDD rhyme, the poem above states to gain wealth and power to maintain status and avoid being considered old and irrelevant.

4  
*Some have relied on what they knew;*

*Others on simply being true.*

*What worked for them might work for you.....15*

Fifth stanza. Many people rely on knowledge or integrity to support themselves, and these methods may be effective for others as well.

*No memory of having starved*

*Atones for later disregard,*

*Or keeps the end from being hard.....18*

Sixth stanza. Fame and glory from the past do not shield one from forgetting one's past or meeting a terrible end. Future adversities are not made easier

by past triumphs.

*Better to go down dignified*

*With boughten friendship at your side*

*Than none at all. Provide, provide!.....21*

Last stanza concludes with a pragmatic, if somewhat bleak, suggestion that it's better to face the end with dignity and even superficial friendships than to be entirely alone. The repetition of "Provide, provide!" emphasizes the necessity of preparing for one's decline and ensuring some form of security and companionship.

## B. DISCUSSION

After reading the poem, the researcher found 4 types of figurative language in the poem.

### 1. Metaphor

The metaphor of this poem is found in line 1, line 13

"The witch that came (the withered hag)" (line 1): Here, the witch is a metaphor for aging and decay, representing how beauty and youth are fleeting.

"Some have relied on what they knew;" (line 13): This line refers to knowledge and honesty as different approaches to life, and metaphorically suggests different life strategies.

### 2. Irony:

The poem's title and repeated line, "*Provide, provide!*", is ironic because it suggests a pragmatic, almost cynical approach to life, where one must constantly prepare for the inevitable decline. This irony underscores the poem's Skeptical view of human nature and society's values.

### 3. Personification:

The Personification of this poem is found in line 4

"*The picture pride of Hollywood*" (line 4): Hollywood is personified as having pride, emphasizing its role in glorifying superficial beauty and success.

### 4. Alliteration:

The Alliteration of this poem is found in line 19

"*Better to go down dignified*" (line 19): The repetition of the 'd' sound emphasizes the idea of maintaining dignity in the face of decline.

## CONCLUSION

This poem has the theme of death, the most important thing is preparing for the future. This poem shows that life is not eternal and therefore we need to make preparations in terms of material things and personal success in the future. The poem uses a consistent rhyme scheme and various figures of speech. The research found two Metaphors, one Irony, one Personification and one Alliteration. In conclusion, figurative language in poetry can be used to emphasize meaning in Robert Frost's work. The poetry sounded more beautiful because to the use of figurative language, and the reader was drawn in by the inclusion of these figures. The poet is conscious of and purposefully uses metaphorical language in this poem's composition to enhance its meaning.

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