

**AN INFLUENCE ON A SONG LISTENER THROUGH REZSO SERESS'S
SONG GLOOMY SUNDAY**

THESIS

Submitted as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Sarjana Degree of
English Department Faculty of Letters and Humanities UIN Sunan Ampel

Surabaya



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	TANGGAL :

By:

Rizal Kurniawan

NIM A03210120

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

FACULTY OF LETTERS AND HUMANITIES

STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SUNAN AMPEL SURABAYA

2015

DECLARATION

Name : Rizal Kurniawan

NIM : A03210120

Hereby, I certify that this thesis I wrote to fulfill the requirement of Sarjana degree of English Department Faculty of Letters and Humanities UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya entitled 'An Influence On A Song Listener Through Rezso Seress's Song Gloomy Sunday' is truly my original work. It does not incorporate any materials previously written or published by another person, except where due reference is made in the text of the thesis.

Surabaya, June 10th, 2015

Writer,

The image shows an official stamp from UIN Sunan Ampel. The stamp is rectangular and contains the text "KETERANGAN" at the top, followed by "UIN SUNAN AMPEL" and "SURABAYA". Below this, there is a date "10 JUN 2015" and a unique identification number "50BADF332524272". At the bottom of the stamp, it says "Rp 10.000" and "SATU PULUH RIBU RUPIAH". To the right of the stamp, there is a handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read "Rizal Kurniawan".

Rizal Kurniawan

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Rizal Kurniawan

NIM A03210120

Approved to be examined

Surabaya, 10th June 2015

Thesis Advisor

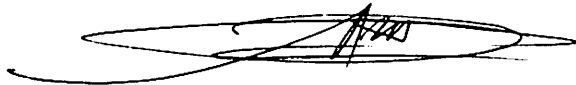


Abu Fanani, M. Pd.

NIP. 196915062007011051

Acknowledged by

Head of Department



Dr. Mohammad Kurjum, M. Ag.

NIP. 196909251994031002

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

FACULTY OF LETTERS AND HUMANITIES

STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SUNAN AMPEL SURABAYA

2015

EXAMINER SHEET

This thesis has been approved and accepted by the board of examiners of English
Department Faculty of Letters and Humanities UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya

Surabaya, July 2, 2015

The Head of Examiners

Head of Examination



Abu Fanani, M. Pd.
NIP. 196915062007011051

Secretary



M. Thoriqussu'ud, M. Pd
NIP. 198011182009121002

Examiner I



Wahju Kusumajanti, M. Hum.
NIP. 197002051999032002

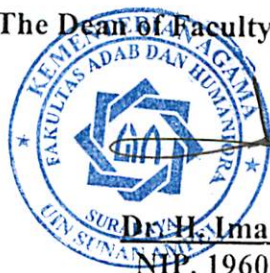
Examiner II



Itsna Syahdatuddinurriyah, M. A.
NIP. 197604122011012003

Acknowledged by:

The Dean of Faculty of Letters and Humanities



Dr. H. Imam Ghazali, M. Pd.
NIP. 196002121990031002

ABSTRACT

Kurniawan, Rizal. 2015. An Influence On A Song Listeners Through Rezso Seress's Song Gloomy Sunday. English Department. Faculty of Humanities. State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya.

Advisor: Abu Fanani, M. Pd.

This thesis talks about influence of a song named Gloomy Sunday by Rezso Seress. in this research, the researcher will explain about psychology influence, committing suicide, that happened to the listeners after listening to Gloomy Sunday. The researcher will also connect to the personal life-background of the listeners then explain how Gloomy Sunday becomes a trigger to push them all to commit suicide. The researcher have collected the data from the journals, theses, books, and trusted-website sources that have relations to the topic with using descriptive analysis. The finding in this research is the researcher finally finds that Gloomy Sunday has influenced to the listeners to commit suicide because the listeners have many complicated problems in their own lives and the song, Gloomy Sunday, became a trigger to push them all to do something over, commit suicide.

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Keywords: Gloomy Sunday, Commit Suicide, Trigger

INTISARI

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Doesen Pembimbing: Abu Fanani, M. Pd.

Skripsi ini berbicara tentang pengaruh sebuah lagu bernama Gloomy Sunday yang ditulis oleh Rezso Seress. Di dalam skripsi ini, penulis akan menjelaskan tentang pengaruh psikolog, yakni bunuh diri, yang terjadi terhadap pendengar setelah mendengarkan lagu Gloomy Sunday. Penulis juga akan menyambungkan hal ini dengan latar belakang kehidupan pribadi pendengar kemudian menjelaskan bagaimana Gloomy Sunday menjadi sebuah pemicu untuk mendorong para pendengar tersebut melakukan bunuh diri. Penulis telah mengumpulkan data dari beberapa jurnal, skripsi, buku, dan alamat website terpercaya yang berhubungan dengan topik ini dengan menggunakan analisa secara deskriptif. Hasil di dalam penelitian ini, penulis menemukan bahwa Gloomy Sunday telah mempengaruhi para pendengarnya untuk bunuh diri karena para pendengar tersebut telah mempunyai masalah-masalah pelik di dalam kehidupannya dan lagu Gloomy Sunday tersebut menjadi pemicu atau faktor pendorong lain untuk mendorong mereka melakukan sesuatu yang lebih, yakni bunuh diri.

Katakunci: Gloomy Sunday, Bunuh Diri, Pemicu

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of Study

Literature is a reflection of human's emotions, expressions, and imaginations to the real life. Robert and Jacobs state that literature refers to composition that tell the stories, dramatize situations, express emotions, and analyze and advocate ideas (1). They also state that literature develops people imaginations; increases people understanding, and enlarge people power of sympathy (5).

Taylor in Widiанти states that literature like other arts that essentially an imaginative act that is an act of writer's imagination in selecting, ordering, and interpreting life experience (Noviana, 2014). According to Encyclopedia Britannica Eleventh Edition, literature classifies as the best expression of the best thought reduced to writing (538).

One of the literary works that express the emotions, imaginations, and expressions of human being is lyric of song. Pradopo states that lyric of song includes as poetry because it is able to make a sense, amaze the attention, build the suggestion and mellow-feelings (13). Moelionalso states that lyric of song has two meanings, the first is a literature (poetry) that contains the heart-expression and another is an arrangement of a song-part (678). One of the lyrics that the researcher wants to analyze is Rezso

Seress's lyrics entitled Gloomy Sunday. This song is written and firstly published in 1933.

This lyric has influenced to the listeners; many people commit to suicide after listening to this song. Stack, Krysinska, Lester state that Times Magazine posted on Time Archives in 1933 tells about a shoemaker named Joseph Keller left a suicide note quoting the lyrics. In 1937, Times Magazine also reported that Jerry Flanders in Indianapolis hired a soloist to sing Gloomy Sunday but was arrested in saloon just as Flanders was about to drink a glass of poisoned beer. Flanders was died in 24 years old (352).

After Keller and Flanders, many people who influenced after listening to Gloomy Sunday, such as head-sick and feels complicated. Instead a listener feels something not good after listening to Gloomy Sunday, he feels so afraid, head-sick, and complicated. Another one tells that he did bad-dreaming and felt so destroyed because he listened to the song while sleeping (<http://kaskus.us/showthread.php?t=12357500>)

From the prooves that the lyric has influenced to the listeners's psychology, the reseacher raises into a thesis with the title An Influence On A Song Listeners Through Rezso Seress's Song Gloomy Sunday

Stack, Krysinska, and Lester state that Gloomy Sunday is more well-known after the release of the version of Billie Holiday in 1941 for English version. They continue that the version of Billie Holiday was reportedly

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banned from the airwaves in America, and by BBC in United Kingdom until 2002 (350).

This song is very popular song. It receives many notable achievement such as being listed as one of the most recorded songs all of time. Stack, Krysinska, and Lester state that this song is a noted example of suicidogenic song, which could conceivably contribute to suicide among persons already at risk. This song has already recorded 79 times, unlike most songs in popular music (355). This song also inspires The Kovak Box movie in 2006 that tells about people who commit suicide after listening to Gloomy Sunday (<http://variety.com/2007/film/reviews/the-kovak-box-1200510535/>). This song is listed as being one of the saddest songs of all time on Spinner (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/gloomy_sunday). This song has ever been banned by BBC since 1940s on Billie Holiday's version until 2002.

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(<http://historicmysteries.com/gloomy-sunday-suicide-song/>)

The composer of Gloomy Sunday is Reszo Seress. He was born on November 3, 1899 in Budapest, Austria-Hungary. He is a composer and pianist. He has composed many songs, such as Waiter, Bring Me The Bill and I Love Being Drunk. However, his most famous composition is Gloomy Sunday itself. He died in 1968 after jumping out from the small window of his small apartment (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reszo_Seress).

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1.2. Statement of Problem

Based on background of the study above, the writer would like to specify the main problems into the question below:

1.2.1 What are the meanings of Gloomy Sunday's lyrics?

1.2.2 How can Gloomy Sunday's lyrics influence to the listeners?

1.3. Objective of Study

Absolutely the writer hopes that this research can help people to understand more about reader response approach in a very simple example such as lyrics of song. Then, the writer can give the accurate and precise information about:

1.3.1 To describe the interpretations of Gloomy Sunday according to the digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id researcher

1.3.2 To describe how Gloomy Sunday's lyrics influence the listeners

1.4. Scope and Limitation

In this research, the researcher uses the lyrics of Rezso Seress's song. The title of the song is Gloomy Sunday. The writer focuses to the Billie Holiday's song version that was translated to English by Sam M. Lewis and Desmon Carter and being air waved for the first time in 1941. The length of this song is about 3:13 (three minutes and thirteen seconds) for the mp3 version. The idea of psychoanalysis itself will use Reader Response Theory

1.5. Significance of Study

This study is supposed to enrich the theoretical bases of literary studies, particularly in analyzing unconsciousness concept using reader response approach and practically gives contribution for the next researcher to understand and improve the knowledge about reader response approach. In addition, the researcher hopes that this study can give a new input to the readers, especially the students of English Literature Department in Islamic State University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya who are interested in reader response theory. Furthermore, it is hoped for further researcher to conduct the study, which not only focuses on reflection of unconsciousness but also on the other aspect of psychoanalysis

1.6. Method of Study

In this part, the researcher discusses how the research is conducted. It involves four main sub chapters, such as research design, source of data, procedure of data collection, and procedure of data analysis.

In the research design, the researcher will focus to reader response approach to deal with the data. The researcher uses reader response approach because in this research will analyze about human's responses after listening to Gloomy Sunday and how the song influence to the listeners. After that, the second is about source of data. In this sub chapter,

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the researcher uses Gloomy Sunday from Rezso Seress as the main document in this research. The data are taken by the lyrics of song.

In third sub chapter, the researcher will discuss about procedure of data collection. In this step, the researcher finds and listens to Gloomy Sunday by Rezso Seress and understand the meanings. Then, the researcher selects the data based on the problem of study, in this case, the researcher limits on the listeners's responses after listening to the song. And the last is about procedure of data analysis. In this step, the researcher begins to interpret the lyrics of song each two lines of the lyrics, introduce the notable history of the song that has influenced the listeners to commit suicide, make a listener's analysis to prove about the influence of the song then connect into the theory, and the last is the researcher discusses about data-making conclusion from the result analysis

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1.7. Definition of Key Terms

To make this research more clear, there must be an explanation to explain more detail or specific from the concept.

- 1.7.1 Psychological Influence: Several factors that has primarily behavior-based that affect individuals decision making process
- 1.7.2 Song listeners: People who have listened and influenced to Gloomy Sunday song

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CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

In this chapter, the researcher will focus to theoretical framework and related study

2.1 Theoretical Framework

2.1.1 Reader Response Theory

Reading can be defined as the most beneficial activity especially for the students. It can help the students to enrich their own knowledges about everything in this world. Reading means to find, collect, and compare the informations easily and it will help the students to achieve good achievements.

It happens to when the students read the literary works, reading literary works will help students to know and understand the literary works around the word. However, every reader has their own interest in choosing literary works. This interest matter is usually based on reader's level age. According to Kiefer in *Children's Literature in the Elementary School*, he states that children have six stages in reading, those are before school/ infancy, preschool and kindergarten, primary, middle elementary, later elementary, and middle school or adult (24)

According to Kiefer's analysis above, the big difference of way in reading occurs between preschool stage and middle

school. It happens because for the middle school readers are considered as young adult readers. The position of middle school is in the center between children and adult stage. It means that the middle school is more critical in comprehending text (Koeswandi, 2014)

Reader response theory is one of the literature theories that focuses on the readers or audiences and their experiences of literary works.

According to Rosenblatt, the existing texts are only empty vessels that are ready to be fulfilled by meaning given by the readers when reading the text. The writers do not have any power to define the meaning of texts. A text does not independently make certain meaning (56). Rosenblatt also adds that reader as the one who creates meaning rather than meaning producer (56)

According to Philip Goldsteins, reader response theory maintains the interpretative activities of the readers, rather than the author's intention or the text's structure, explain a text's significance and aesthetic value (1)

In A Teacher's Introduction to Reader Response

Theories, Richard Beach states that readers may respond to express their emotional reactions, to explore difficulties in understanding, to corroborate or verify their opinions with others, to build a social relationship through sharing response, or to clarify their attitudes

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(6). He also continues that reader response theory also gives people the readers ground to acknowledge a steadily widening range of response media, including, for the example role playing, artworks, rewriting texts, or creating new texts (6).

Beach also adds that reader response theory also calls into question the idea of the literary canon as a means to simply position readers as potential members in an elite and cultural club (7).

Beach also states that as one of the reader response theorists who had paid more attention to analyze the social and intuitional influences on reader's response (4).

According to Beach, he has classified the primary theoretical perspective of reader response, they are textual, experiential, psychological, social, and culture (8). The five perspectives of reader response above represent different angles or lenses that illuminate or highlight particular aspects of the reader/ text/ context transactions (8).

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Starting from the definitions of textual theorist, it focuses on how readers draw on and deploy their knowledge of text or genre conventions to respond to specific text features. For the example when the readers try to respond to a mystery story, a reader usually applies her knowledge of mystery genre conventions to predict the story outcomes (8).

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The second is about experiential theorist. It is about nature of reader's engagement or experiences with the text, for the example, the readers analyze the characters, visualize the images, relates the personal experiences into the texts, or construct the words of the texts (8).

Then is psychological theorist. This perspective focuses on reader's cognitive or subconscious processes and how those processes vary according to both unique individual personality and developmental level (8).

Social theorist is about the influence of the social context on the reader/ transaction. For the example a book club context serves to encourage a lot of open-minded response (8-9).

And the last perspective is cultural theorist. It focuses how the readers' s cultural roles, attitudes, and values, as well as the larger cultural, historical context, shape response. For the example is the members of religious sect are socialized to respond to sacred texts according to the cultural values of that sect (9).

Beach adds that each of perspectives is limited by the fact that it illuminates only a particular facet of the reader/ text transaction (9).

Actually, this thesis talks about the influence of the listeners and readers after listening to Gloomy Sunday. According some of the trusted website sources, the listeners finally committed

suicide after listening to the song. Starting from that, the researcher argues that Gloomy Sunday influences to the listeners's psychology, and it means that the suitable perspective to analyze this research is psychological perspective in reader response scope.

2.1.2 Psychological Theory of Response

Psychological reader-response theory is a reader's motives heavily effect how they read, and subsequently use this reading to analyze the psychological responses of the reader.

According to Richar Beach, psychological theories of response assume that reader's responses are shaped by their level of cognitive or intellectual development, cognitive abilities and processes, and subconscious forces (71)

There are some developmental psychological theories to chart the shifts in responses according to different developmental levels. According to

In *Becoming A Reader*, J. A. Appleyard states that each developmental phase serves as a foundation for subsequent phases (16).

In his model of development of responses, Appleyard defines five roles for the reader, each of which represents a different developmental phase:

1. The reader as player

In this part, the reader plays as a player. Usually, the reader as a listener, engages in a fantasy world of images, fears, and desires. Usually it happens when the reader is in the preschool and early elementary class

2. The reader as hero or heroine

In this part, the reader typically identifies with the idealized heroes or heroines who represent role models of adult competence and virtue. It happens usually when the reader is in elementary school/ middle school.

Appleyard states that the reader usually needs to imagine their self as one of central figure who by competence and initiative can solve the problem of a disordered world (55)

3. The reader as a thinker

It happens when the reader is in secondary school. In this part, According to Richard Beach, the reader tries to think everything that happens in the literary works. The reader starts to explore what they begin to realize

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are underlying meanings or motives associated in with characters's actions (74)

4. The reader as interpreter

In this phase, the readers are ready to understand and look the meanings of the literary works. It usually happens in the high school and early college years.

Beach also states that the readers learn to perceive the text as problematic and as requiring interpretation (74)

5. The reader as pragmatic user of text

According to Beach, pragmatic use of text entails an ability for adults to voluntarily select texts and consciously respond according to their own adult needs and interests (75). In this part, the readers can

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compare the texts to the reality because the readers already have respond of 'life's truths' that has been shaped from their own real and adult lives

2.2 Review of Related Studies

Some literary works have connection with this research. The first is taken from the Journal entitled *Gloomy Sunday: Did The Hungarian Suicide Song Really Create A Suicide Epidemic?* Written by Steven Stack, Ph.D., Karolina Krysisnka, Ph.D., and David Lester, Ph.D. This journal talks about the historical of Gloomy Sunday and the influence to the listeners.

Second, the researcher uses the book from Richard Beach entitled *A Teacher's Introduction to Reader Response Theories*. This book tells about the reader response theory that will be used for the teacher to teach the students. In this book, the psychology of reader response theory is also included.

The last, the researcher uses a thesis from Inggrid Natalia from Universitas Pembangunan Nasional "Veteran" Jawa Timur, Surabaya in 2012 entitled *Pemaknaan Lirik Gloomy Sunday Karya Rezso Seress (Studi Semiotik Tentang Pemaknaan Lirik Gloomy Sunday Karya Rezso Seress)*. This thesis talks about the meaning of lyrics of Gloomy Sunday and the interpretations of the lyrics itself. Natalia uses semiotic saussure as the theory for this thesis

Furthermore this research there is a similar data of analysis, here means the song, but there is no similar theories. The researcher has different study and purpose to find the influence of listeners using reader response theory

CHAPTER III

ANALYSIS

3.1 Gloomy Sunday in Psychoanalysis

In this part, the reseacher will interpret the lyrics of Gloomy Sunday first according the self-interpretation. It will help the readers understand first about the meanings of Gloomy Sunday's lyrics. The researcher uses the lyrics of Billie Holiday's version. The lyrics of Gloomy Sunday are below:

(1) Sunday is gloomy, my hours are slumberless

Dearest, the shadows, I live with are numberless

Little white flowers will never awaken you.

Not where the black coach of sorrow has taken you.

Angels have no thought of ever returning you

Would they be angry if I thought of joining you?

Gloomy Sunday...

(2) Gloomy is Sunday with shadows I spend it all.

My heart and I, have decided to end it all,

Soon there'll be candles and prayers that are said, I know.

Let them not weep, Let them know that I'm glad to go.

Death is no dream for in death I'm caressing you.

With the last breath of my soul, I'll be blessin' you.

Gloomy Sunday...

(3) Dreaming. I was only dreaming.

I wake and I find you asleep in the deep of my heart, dear...

'Darling, I hope that my dream never haunted you.

My heart is telling, how much I wanted you.'

Gloomy Sunday..

The researcher classifies the lyrics into three stanza. Then the researcher will interpret each stanza by putting in two lines. Now starts from the first stanza of the lyrics.

"Sunday is gloomy... My hours are slumberless..

Dearest, the shadows... I live with are numberless..."

In this part, Seress puts 'gloomy' to show the sadness. According to Merriam Webster dictionary, Gloomy means somewhat dark; not bright or

sunny. In this lyrics, gloomy condition happens in Sunday. So, Sunday in when Seress writes the song, the condition is gloomy or not sunny.

However, the researcher can apply gloomy here means the unhappiness condition of Seress. It is emphasized when Seress puts 'My hours are slumberless.' It means that the hours that Seress has are not good and effective. There is nothing to do of Seress in that Sunday. This condition happens because he loses his love. The shadows of somebody he loves always imagine to his head. It emphasizes in 'Dearest, the shadows.. I live with are numberless.' It means that, in those two lines, Seress wants to

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express his feelings about his unhappiness time when he has been left by his girlfriend.

"Little white flowers will never awaken you.

Not where the black coach of sorrow has taken you."

In this part, Seress explains that somebody he loves has passed away. It portrays in the part of *'Little white flowers, will never awaken you.'* Little white flowers here means the white flowers that grow in the grave area, named frangipanis flower, because from the whole lyrics, the story tells about the death of Seress's girlfriend. The death of his love emphasize too when Seress puts *'Not where the black coach of sorrow has taken you.'* The black coach of sorrow will interpret as a death coach.

According to Wikipedia, death coach is a part of the folklore of north western Europe. It is particularly strong in Ireland but it is also found in British and American culture. Death coach warns of imminent death to either oneself or to a close relative. In British mythology a death coach is said to be seen at time on the Royal Mile of Edinburgh, a place where death coach collects the souls of the dead
(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/death_coach)

"Angels have no thought of ever returning you.

Would they be angry if I thought of joining you?"

The unacceptable feeling of his love's death imagines in those lyrics. Seress wants the Angels come and bring back his love in He puts *'Angels*

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have no thought of ever returning you.' He feels so lonely and wants to try refuse this sad condition. Until finally, Seress thinks to follow his love to die in his writing '*If I thought of joining you?*'

From the lyrics above, the refusing-condition happens to Seress. The death of his love makes his days are so gloomy. He feels there is no useful again to live in this world. The loneliness and sadness make Seress thinks to follow his love die.

"Gloomy Sunday

Gloomy is Sunday with shadows I spend it all.

My heart and I have decided to end it all."

The second stanza, the start comes in those lyrics. In this part, Seress emphasizes his gloomy day with no his love. He feels the shadows of his

love always accompany his life. He spend all the days with the shadows.

The shadows here do not mean the abstract life of his love, but the memories. Bitter sweet memories accompany Seress through the days. Until finally, Seress feels too depressed and chooses to commit suicide. It is imagined into '*My heart and I have decided to end it all.'* part.

"Soon there'll be candles and prayers that are said, I know.

Let them not weep, let them know that I'm glad to go."

Seress predicts everything after his death. He predicts that a lot of people will find his carcass and soon to make a death-ceremonial. It

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imagines to *'Soon, there'll be candles and prayers that are said, I know.'*

Seress imagines that will be many candles and prayers for him in the funeral. However, Seress is happy after the death and ask people to not cry or sad in his funeral. It expresses into *'Let them not weep, let them now that I am glad to go.'* He believes that he will be happy after his death because he will meet his love. Even he knows that the death is not a hope, but in death, he can feels the happiness because he can meet and caress his love. Those feelings detail in the part of lyrics below

"Death is no dream for in death I'm caressing you.

With the last breath of my soul, I'll be blessin' you."

For the second stanza, the denial of Seress still happen. He shows the endless love by choosing to commit suicide after knowing that his love has passed away.

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Now, the researcher will focus to interpret in the last stanza. It starts in two line below.

"Gloomy Sunday

Dreaming, I was only dreaming.

I wake and I find you asleep in the deep of my heart, dear."

In this part, Seress already realizes about the life. He knows that committing suicide for his life is only dreaming. He puts *'I wake..'* in that part to show that he finally understands even his love has passed away, he can find his love in the deep of his heart.

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"Darling, I hope that, My dream never haunted you.

My heart is telling you, How much I wanted you.

Gloomy Sunday..."

In this part will express real feelings of Seress. Seress hopes that the willingness of his death never haunted his love. Seress feels that his insincere of his love's death can bother the peace of his love there. However, Seress puts '*How much I wanted you.*' to detail about his feelings for the love, about the denial of his love's death and the missing.

According to whole interpretations, the researcher concludes that Gloomy Sunday is a song about the broken-heart person after leaving by his love death. In this case, the writer wants to follow his love by committing suicide. The lyrics are very deep and mellow, such say: it is better to die than live with no a dearest person

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3.2 Listener's Psychologically Suicidal After Listening to Gloomy Sunday in Psychoanalysis Approach

Before the researcher focuses to classify Gloomy Sunday's lyrics into psychoanalysis approach and analyze the listeners's psychologocally, the researcher will give the proves that music can influence to psychological of human beings.

In Music and Human, Kent states that music is read differently in brain than nonmusical tones and is connected to many different areas of brain (3).

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He continues that learning music relegates a larger part of the brain to recognizing and interpreting music (3).

Perett also states that music is unique gift to and from each person who creates it. It reveals vast qualities of information about the performer, from their mood swings to biochemistry, inner rhythms of organs, and even the way they are psycally built (327).

According to Meyer, psychologically, music has a distinct effect on many biological process. It inhibits the occurrence of fatigue, as well as changes the pulse and respiration rates, external blood pressure levels, and psychogalvanic effect (Kent, 2006)

Music also can influence many applications in human's lives, such as in learning. Kent states that a survey studying the different GPA between students who listen to music while studying and those who do not finds no overall significant difference, but does find that students who listen to hip-hop and rap while studying score significantly lower while students who listen to easy listening and classical are likely to have higher GPAs (3).

Not only for learning, in this current era, but also music can be applied to health-treatment. Trehan states that Norwegian study displayed a higher affinity for music in medical students than other university graduates (Kent, 2006)

Lefevre also states that many physicians began to use a multidisciplinary approach to medicine and recognizing the soothing effect

of music, provided music therapy to patients who were thought to have an interest in music (Kent, 2006).

McCaffrey and Loscin state that studies have found that music is effective in decreasing stress preoperatively, postoperatively, and generally for the patient and the family members and friends. Patients who listened to music while waiting for surgery subjectively reported lower anxiety and also displayed lower blood pressure and pulse rates than those who did not. Generally, persons who listened to music during a hospital stay displayed lower anxiety scores than those who did not. Postoperative patients have pointed out the comforting aspect of music, and described a greater sense of control of their surroundings (Kent, 2006).

Music also helps the therapy of human beings. Gold states that the use of musical interaction as a form of communication suggests it would be a useful technique in therapy for patients who are not accessible through verbal language (Kent, 2006).

Bright also states that individuals who have difficulty finding words to express emotions are often said to have alexithymia. Music therapy is an effective tool in reaching these individuals by helping them to feel understood and validated by means other than verbal expression (Kent, 2006).

According to influence of music to human's lives, the researcher will try to analyze how Gloomy Sunday can influence the listeners.

Before the researcher shows the data analysis about Gloomy Sunday's influences to the listeners, the researcher will try to give some of examples of listeners who have been influenced by the lyrics.

According to Stack, Krysinska, and Lester, many victims are listed after listening to Gloomy Sunday since it was first time airwaved in Hungary. The victims increase after Billie Holiday's version drops in 1941 in English. As many as two hundred persons commit suicide after listening to this song. This song also rumors be banned in United Kingdom, America, and France until 2002 (351)

They also continue that from Www.phespirit.info, accessed October 26, 2006, reports that suicides associated with the song occurred in Germany where a young shop-keeper hung herself leaving a copy of the sheet music (Gloomy Sunday) under her feet (351)

This source also reports an eighty years old man who jumped from a seventh story window while the music was playing. Then a fourteen years old girl who drowned herself while clutching the music (Stack, Krysinska, and Lester, 2008)

Another website also tells about it. According to www.qls.net reports that a young secretary in New York City who gassed herself and requested that Gloomy Sunday be played at her funeral. This website also reports an eighty two years old man who jumped from the seventh floor of his apartment building in Manhattan after playing the song on his piano (Stack, Krysinska, and Lester, 2008)

Time Magazine on January 25th, 1937, reports that Jerry Flanders, a twenty four years old man, in Indianapolis, hired a soloist to sing Gloomy Sunday then he was arrested in saloon after drinking a glass of poisoned beer.

Times Magazine on March 30, 1936, reports that a Hungarian shoemaker named Joseph Keller killed himself after leaving a note at the scene of his suicide quoting some of the Gloomy Sunday lyrics.

New York Times on January 14, 1968 also reports the suicide of Rezso Seress in Budapest, Hungary. Seress jumped from a window of his small apartment, shortly after his 69th birthday.

The last story comes from Floyd Hamilton. New York Times on April 6, 1936 that reports the suicide of a thirteen years old boy in Michigan, named Floyd Hamilton, Jr., who hung himself in the living room of the house which he lived with his divorced father and had a copy of the lyrics of the song (Gloomy Sunday) in his pocket.

According to the detail information above, Hamilton comes from the divorce family. He lives with his father in Michigan. He is thirteen years old and for the death, he hung himself in the living room of the house. The connection with Gloomy Sunday is found a copy of the lyrics of the song in his pocket.

Starting from the sample of the listeners of Gloomy Sunday above, the researcher is excited to make a something analysis about the influence of Gloomy Sunday to the listeners. In this research, the researcher will try to be

a reader and listener of Gloomy Sunday itself and try to analyze the influence of Gloomy Sunday’s lyrics to himself

3.3 The Listener’s Influence Analysis

In this part, the researcher will focus to be a listener and reader. The researcher will read the lyrics of Gloomy Sunday itself and then, listen to the song. The data of listener is:

Name : Rizal Kurniawan
Born : March 17, 1992
Age : 23 years old
Sex : Male
Address : Jl. Bungurasih Timur RT 10/ rw 01, Waru, Sidoarjo
Occupation : A Student and Daily Worker

Life-Backgroud :

- A boarding-house person
- Live alone with no father and mother (passed away)
- Close-minded person

The first listening time is in 2010 in one of the trusted website sources. The listener read first for the story of Gloomy Sunday and then downloaded the mp3 version. After that, the listener listened to the song. The effects after listening to Gloomy Sunday, there was a frightened feeling when the music were playing. The listener was influenced to be fear in that song even

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there was nothing else happen, such as a feeling to commit suicide. In this year, definitely, the researcher still lived with his complete family, including mother and father. He lived in his parent's house and felt happy as normally human being.

The second listening time is in 2015 when the listener tries to focus to make this song as his own research. The personal background of the listener is changed. His father and mother have passed away in 2012 and he lives alone in his simple boarding-house. He works and tries to finish his study in one of the state universities. The effects after listening to Gloomy Sunday are changed. He feels so sad and remembers to his father and mother. In some of the lyrics, he is influenced to turn up the mood. Exactly the whole lyrics of Gloomy Sunday influence him to cry and touch his heart, but the lyrics that have been influenced to the listener alot are:

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- Little white flowers will never awaken you
- Angels have no thought of ever returning you
- My heart is telling you how much I wanted you

After knowing some of lyrics that influenced a lot to the listener, now, the researcher will give some reasons why why the listener chooses those lyrics because:

- Little white flowers will never awaken you

Starting from the interpretation before, this lyrics tell about the flower in the grave yard area named frangipanis. This lyrics touch

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the listener because they remind him about the death of his mother and father and there is nothing again can wake his parents up

- Angels have no thought of ever returning you

In this lyrics, the listener is also touched because the meaning is almost same with the previous lyrics. The lyrics also tell that there is nothing can return his parents again even he misses his parents so much

- My heart is telling you how much I wanted you

In this lyrics, the listener cries when the music is playing. The lyrics tell about how much Seress misses his girlfriend back and how much Seress wants his girlfriend. In this case, the listener also feel the same condition even in different addressee. The listener misses his parents so much and it comes from his deeper heart.

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After finding the results of analysis above, the researcher will try to classify again about the psychology background of the listener. The first listening time, a listener is in the happy time. He lives with his complete family in the house. After listening to Gloomy Sunday, there is no big effect or influence there. He just feels afraid with the song and it happens too after he read the articles of Gloomy Sunday. So, in this case, the researcher can conclude that the listener is influenced to the song because after reading the articles and not about the song itself. The second analysis is in the different life of a listener. He feels sad and cries after listening to the song. It happens

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because there is different life-background there. He has being left by his parents passed away and when he is listening to the song, he remembers to his parents.

Now, the researcher will compare the result of analysis and the story of Floyd Hamilton in 1936. According to Time Magazine on March 30, 1936, Floyd Hamilton, Jr., a thirteen years old boy in Michigan, hung himself in the living room of the house which he lived with his divorced father. According to the detail information above, Hamilton comes from the divorce family. He lives with his father in Michigan. He is thirteen years old and for the death, he hung himself in the living room of the house. The connection with Gloomy Sunday is found a copy of the lyrics of Gloomy Sunday in his pocket.

According to finding of the researcher, there are similarities of life background between Kurniawan and Hamilton. Kurniawan and Hamilton

comes from motherless condition. Kurniawan is being left by his mother and so is Hamilton. Even Hamilton still has father, but he comes from divorced family. His age is still under-age person. The stable of mood is still up and down or easy-swing. It is quite different with Kurniawan, he has mature enough when his parents passed away. He has been twenty years old when he has being left by his parents. So it means his mood is more stable and can accept the conditions. It has different condition when Kurniawan still has complete parents. In Kurniawan's eighteen years old, he just feels

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afraid to the song and there is no feeling else happen. The fear happens because he read the articles before listening to the song.

The finding of analysis of the researcher is Gloomy Sunday influences to the listeners depend on the listeners's life background. Gloomy Sunday just influences the listeners when they have mellow life-backgrounds. In another conclusion, Gloomy Sunday can not influence the listeners when the listeners in happy conditions. It influences the listeners when the listeners bring the mellow life-backgrounds and connect them into the lyrics of song. It means that Gloomy Sunday is just a trigger to do something bad, such as commit suicide, for the listeners

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CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSIONS

Gloomy Sunday is Rezso Seress's song that tells about the feelings of human being after being left by his love die. Gloomy Sunday has influenced a lot of people to commit suicide after listening to the song. According to the reasons above, the researcher is excited to analyze it using reader response approach.

In this research consists about the facts of the victims of Gloomy Sunday and how the polices found them in dead-condition. Most of them are committed suicide after listening to this song. All of prooves tell that the victims died after listening to Gloomy Sunday, such as the polices found a copy sheet of Gloomy Sunday lyrics in the pocket of the victims.

This research uses the researcher itself to be a listener of the song. The time of listening to the song is twice, the first when a listener in happy time on 2012 and for the second is in sad time on 2015. Happy time here means when a listener still has complete parents and lives in the house with his parents, and for the sad time means the listener lives alone in the boarding house and being left by his parents die.

The findings of the analysis are in the different condition will cause different influence. In happy time, the listener just feels afraid to the song and it happens because the listener read the articles about the Gloomy Sunday. And for the opposite time, in sad time, the listener cries and feels so sad because he remembers his parents when he read and listened to the song.

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Then, the researcher compares the results of analysis of a listener, named Kurniawan, with a true victim named Floyd Hamilton, Jr. Hamilton was found die by the polices after huging himself in his living room. The polices also found the lyrics of Gloomy Sunday in his pocket. Hamilton is a thirteen years-old boy with a divorced parents. He lived with his father in Michigan.

Then the researcher can find the data that Gloomy Sunday is a trigger for the listeners to do something over such as committed suicide. Human usually is heart-touched easily when they have mellow lives and then, they connect to the song. When their problems are big and they can not share the problems alone, they will feel complicated and this song, Gloomy Sunday, will support them to commit suicide

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