

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of study

Literature, says Hoep finger, is a reflection of history and culture, a contemplation of the universal themes of the human experience, and a window which allows readers to see life through other people's eyes, giving readers a more thorough understanding of the world (22). That definition may conclude that some literary works is not always contains about the author's imagination, but it sometimes contains something beyond imagination, in this case, fact or reality that really happens in life. The fact or the reality can be in the form of experiences that the author experience and also phenomena that happens in the author's life. Therefore, it can be said that the historical evidence influence the author to create some literary work.

As far as statements above, literature is regarded as offering a unique access to history (Bennett 44). Since literature can be said as the author experience or something happens in real life, some history will be understood by the author of literary work to give his experience to create some of it.

One of the kinds of literary work that the thesis writer is interested in is poetry. Poetry is a dramatic experiment with language. More than in any other form of writing, the poem is where the writer tries to create a transformative experience, one that changes the reader or the reader's perspective on the world (Brewer 111). The thesis writer is interested in poetry; because the language

1. To know the theme of *The Coliseum*.
2. To know the way *The Coliseum* reflects the historical events.

1.4 Scope and Limitation

This study focuses on the specific events of Edgar Allan Poe's *The Coliseum* that used to appear within this poem. The thesis writer also limits the analysis on the word that events have related to the history in this poem. Furthermore, to complete the analysis, history of the ancient Rome is also discussed.

1.5 Significance of Study

The result of this research is expected to give the benefit to the reader and the researcher. The reader of *The Coliseum* poem can get the result as new information from this research. The reader will know about everything that has relation with history from this poem. Especially, what happened by the author's life when he created this poem has the relationship with the historical event at the ancient Rome. Then the result of this research is expected can give inspiration and also advantage the other researcher that will do the same study for other poetry.

The research is also expected to give the benefit to the students at the State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya, especially for student of English Literature. They may use the result of the research as a material to the next research.

1.6 Method of the Study

The research method

To conduct this research, the thesis writer uses descriptive qualitative method. The writer tries to describe the historical events of the Edgar Allan Poe's *The Coliseum* poem.

The unit of research

The unit analysis of this thesis is the poem by Edgar Allan Poe entitled "The Coliseum" published in 1835. This poem is accessed from Complete Poems of Edgar Allan Poe's book

The research approach

In this research the thesis writer uses the Historical approach. Historical approach accounts for events in the poem. The thesis writer also uses library research to obtain data sources and answer the problem. As for the main sources of the data in the study is the subject of where the data was obtained (Arikunto 107).

Procedure of the Data Collection

There are some steps which must be done by the thesiswriter to collect the data. The thesis writer collects the data through library technique to make description of the data collection process is clear. So, the thesis writer uses some steps to do that. Firstly, reading and finding Edgar Allan Poe *The Coliseum* poem.

