

TRACING HISTORY IN EDGAR ALLAN POE'S *THE COLISEUM*

A THESIS

Submitted as Partial Fulfillment of the requirements for the Sarjana Degree of English
Department of Humanities UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya.



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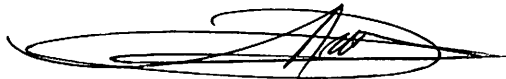
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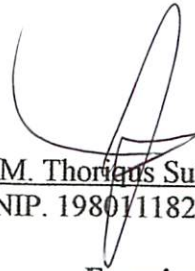
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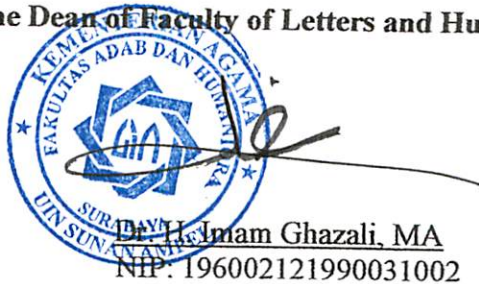
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ABSTRAK

Noviani, Ayu. 2015, “Mengusut Jejak sejarah dalam Puisi Karya Edgar Allan Poe *The Coliseum*”, skripsi Jurusan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Sastra dan Humaniora Universitas Islam Negri Sunan Ampel Surabaya.

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Edgar Allan Poe adalah seorang penyair Amerika yang terkenal dengan gaya klasiknya dan berbagai genre. Salah satu karyanya yakni puisi yang berjudul *The Coliseum*, puisi ini ditulis pada tahun 1832. Puisi yang berjudul *The Coliseum* adalah puisi yang menjadi puisi terbaik dalam kontes sastra. Di dalam puisi ini menceritakan tentang kejadian bersejarah yang pernah terjadi di Roma, tepatnya di sebuah bangunan coliseum. Penulis tertarik untuk mengetahui kejadian bersejarah yang mempengaruhi pengarang untuk menulis puisi ini dan penulis juga ingin mengetahui bagaimana kejadian yang ada didalam puisi saat itu bisa merefleksikan kejadian yang berlangsung saat pengarang menulis puisinya. Karena dalam studi ini, penulis fokus hanya pada kejadian yang ada didalam puisi.

Penulis menggunakan metode penggambaran qualitative agar bisa mendapatkan sebuah hal yang nyata dan informasi yang valid tentang puisi ini. Dalam skripsi ini, penulis menggunakan pendekatan sejarah untuk menemukan kejadian bersejarah yang ada di puisi ini di waktu tertentu. Penulis juga menemukan banyak kejadian yang berhubungan antara kehidupan pengarang dengan puisinya yang ada di dalam isipuisi ini.

Melalui pendekatan ini, penulis menyimpulkan bahwa puisi ini menggambarkan kejadian bersejarah yang pernah terjadi di sebuah bangunan coliseum. Bangunan ini adalah bangunan yang menjadi symbol kejayaan bangsa Romawi kuno. Selanjutnya, pengarang menceritakan beberapa kejadian pada waktu tertentu, ditempat tertentu dan kejadian kejadian yang berbeda di dalam pengalaman pengarang dan yang telah diekspresikan melalui kata katanya sendiri. Dan juga menghubungkan kejadian-kejadian tersebut dengan konteks sejarah.

Kata – kata kunci : Kritik sejarah, kolesium

ABSTRACT

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Edgar Allan Poe is an American Poet is well known with his classic style and variation genre. One of his works is the poem entitled *The Coliseum* which is created in the 1832. *The Coliseum* is poem which ever becomes the best poem on some literary contest. This poem tells about the historical evidence that ever take place in Rome exactly in the coliseum building. The thesis writer is interested in know historical events or movement that might have influenced Edgar Allan Poe in writing is *The Coliseum* and the thesis writer also wants to know how *The Coliseum* reflects the time in which it was written. Because in This study focuses on the specific events of Edgar Allan Poe's *The Coliseum* that used to appear within this poem.

The thesis writer uses qualitative descriptive method to get real and valid information about this poem. In this thesis, the writer uses historical approach to finding the historical evidence through to this poem by the specific time. The thesis writer also finds many related event between the author life and his poem by the content of this poem.

Through this approach, the thesis writer concludes that, this poem reflect the historical evidence that ever lead in the coliseum building. It is the building which becomes the symbol of glory time in the ancient Roman Empire. Furthermore, the author tells some evidence through his own word which is in the specific time, specific place and different events that happens in his experience and also is finding the correlation of historical context.

Key word: Historical Criticism, coliseum

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

poetry is simple but it need too many detail interpretations in analysis. Another reason, the author has been reflected the historical story through his works.

One of the poems that the thesis writer analyzes is entitled *The Coliseum* by Edgar Allan Poe. This poem is a lyric poem of forty-seven lines. It first appeared in *The Baltimore Saturday Visitor (Visitor)* in 1833. After he revised it, it appeared in *The Southern Literary Messenger* in August 1835 and *The Saturday Evening Post* on June 12, 1841. *The Coliseum* is a poem that the author will explore the history of the building in the Rome named Coliseum (<http://www.cummingsstudyguides.net/Guides7/Coliseum.html>).

Coliseum is a construction that it has become a symbol of Rome wealth. Coliseum is also of the amphitheater constructed in Rome between AD 70 and 82 near the Roman Forum. It could accommodate fifty thousand spectators for gladiatorial contests, executions, fights between men and animals, and other "entertainments." Most of the events ever be held in that coliseum is can be felt by the visitors until now (Schiffer 133).

Edgar Allan Poe, he is an American poet, he was born on January 19, 1809, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S. He is an author from *The Coliseum* poem who tells some experiences as the coliseum visitor. Which is the experience is described particularly by the author to convoy the speaker felt what he looks. However, the place is an evidence of glory Rome at the last centuries and the author give some evidences of glory Rome by his words that he uses in every stanza. The words has a meaning to show the reader some history, such as "rich

reliquary” its means some rich inheritance. And still many evidence of the event at last century that the author tells in his poem.

The Coliseum poem by Edgar Allan Poe is not the first time analyzes. Kent Ljungquist is a student of Worcester Polytechnic Institute that ever doing analysis of this poem. He analyzes *The Coliseum* poem through the dialogues approach. However, the writer analyze this poem is not use the dialogues approach but through the historical approach.

The writer is interested to analyze *The Coliseum* poem by Edgar Allan Poe using historical approach because the writer finds so many historical evidences at this poem that the author written at the time. Another reason, the writer is also interested to use this poem as the object because the author is an American people but he tells some histories of ancient Rome.

1.2 Statement of Problem

Based on the background of the study above, the problems will be formulated as follows:

1. What is the theme of *The Coliseum*?
2. How does *The Coliseum* reflect the historical events?

1.3 Objective of Study

Dealing with the statement of problems above, this study has an objective of finding out:

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.

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Secondly, making some notes of the poem to know what the meaning in it.

Thirdly, the writer reading some books through the history of ancient Rome and biography of Edgar Allan Poe.

Procedure of the Data Analysis

After collecting the data, the thesis writer represents analysis of the data. It is divided into some steps. Firstly, the writer classifies some words, phrases, lines and stanzas which show some history in *The Coliseum* poem and the historical event when the author written. Then, the writer will connect the theory with the data. The last the writer tries to interpret and make thesis statements from the analysis of data.

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1.7 Definition of Key Term

Historical criticism: Historical criticism or Historicism is critical movement insisting on the prime importance of historical context to the interpretation of text of all kinds (Hamilton 01).

Coliseum: Coliseum or Colosseum is represents, as no other monument, the amphitheatre. The powerful associations and images conjure up by the words “The Colosseum” convey both the majesty and might of the surrounding streets and buildings. It is at once both symbol and a metaphor for the imperial might of the Roman Empire that dominated the ancient Mediterranean world (Bomgardner 01).

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CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Theoretical Framework

In conducting this study, the writer uses the theory below:

2.1.1 Structuralism

Structuralism is a theory that sets up literature system as its object.

Literature system refers to the general and abstract convention arranging the relation of elements inside literary text. These elements are arranged to relate one to another and form a unity. Structuralism considers that the convention can be detected and described autonomously by structure analysis of literary text, separated it from the author and the social reality (tallack 09).

To analyze the literary work using the theory of structuralism it can be done by identifying, reviewing, describing the functions that has relationships between the intrinsic elements of the fiction. Firstly it can be identified and described, for example, how the State of events, the plot, the characters, and the characteristic, setting, point of view, and others. After it was explained how the relationships between elements so that each forms a totality of the ECE (Nurgiyantoro 31). Thus, the structural analysis is not quite done with merely describe certain elements such as events, plot, setting, and characters but, the structural analysis also helping the thesis writer to find the meaning use the structural approach. To find the meaning in this poem, the thesis writer has to

understand about the figurative language first. Then, it will be easier to know the meaning and what the theme in it.

2.1.2 Figurative language

Figurative language is the use language style by the poet to describe issue and express feelings and thought in writing poetry. Figurative language of poetry is causing a lot of meaning. Because figurative language to produce the imagination in poetry so that it becomes clear. Figurative language is not to make confusing, but to make clear (Jones 95).

There are many kinds of figurative language such as simile, metaphor, personification, etc. the thesis writer will explain more in the following paragraph.

Metaphor

A figure of speech of a compares two things that are not alike, but the metaphor does not use the word “like” or “as”.

Example:

Life is a hard road (Ehow Online : 2015).

Simile

A figure of speech of comparison made between two objects of different kinds which have, however, at least one point in common (Siswanto 24). It uses word or phrase such as : like, as, that. Seem or as if.

Example:

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Mary is as beautiful as a rising sun

Personification

A type of metaphor in which it distinct human qualities, e.g., honesty, emotion, volition, etc, are attribute an animal, objector idea (Frost Friend Online : 2015). The thesis writer gives human qualities to something that is not human.

Example:

The sharp teeth of the cold wind bit through my overcoat.

Apostrophe

A figure of speech in which someone absent or dead or something nonhuman is addressed as if it is alive and present (Frost Friend Online : 2015).

This figurative language is still related to the personification because of depiction of things or abstract objects are treated as human beings. Only in a postrophe, things, object or idea is called, talked to a person like us.

Example:

Milton! Thon shouldst be living at this our

Hyperbola

It is a figure of speech which states something or situation excessively.

This figurative language is uses by the poet in an effort to describe the object, idea, etc and give weight excessively pressure to obtain an intense effect (siswanto 32).

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Example:

I am able to fill it with tears.

Symbol

A figure of speech which describes something with other objects as symbol, because there are similarities between both of them, situation, and actions (Hayati, Wardoyo 34).

Example:

Some dirty dogs stole my wallet in the bus.

Metonym

A figure of speech which equates a thing with another things to replace it, (Tjahjono, 1988: 203). According to Pradono (2000: 77), this figurative language is the use of an attribute of an object or use something closely connected with him to replace the object.

Example:

Sceptre and crown must tumble down.

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Synecdoche

Figurative language that states an important part of a things (matter) to things or the thing itself (Pradopo, 78). This figure of speech is divided in two kinds: *pras pro toto* (part for whole) and *totem pras pro parpte* (whole for part).

Example:

A hundred wings flashed by.

Paradox

It is figure of speech which the use of words opposed between one to another, with the intention of smoothing the meaning (Tjahjono, 213).

Example:

And forthwith found salvation in surrender.

Irony

A figure of speech when an expression used is the opposite of the thought in the speaker's mind, thus conveying a meaning that contradicts the literal definition, (Frost Friend Online: 2010).

Example:

"Oh, that's beautiful", when what they mean (probably conveyed by their tone) is they find "that" quite ugly.

Understatement

It is figure of speech that in the expression states something positive with negative form or form that are contrary, (Djajasudarma, 25-26).

Example:

The results did not disappoint.

Parable

It is figure of speech that uses a parable or allegory in life. This figure of speech is contained in the whole essay and is summed in the form of life. In general, any work of literature contains a parable (Tjahjono, 2006).

Example:

Christ often spoke in parables such as the Good Samaritan, the Sower and seeds falling on rocky ground, (www.hull.ac.uk.com, 2015)

Association

It is a figure of speech which compares of something that has been mentioned, so it may cause the association or the response to the objects being compared (Hayati and Adiwardoyo, 3). In contrast to metaphor the comparison is expressed in association with the word like, like, alike, and so forth.

Example:

His eyes were red like fire.

Antithesis

It is a figure of speech which is conceived the charge of the opposition, the differences between the ideas expressed to each other and packed in one single sentence, (Siswantoro, 36-37).

Example:

Give every man thy ear, but few thy voice.

Oxymoron

A figure of speech that brings together ideas or terms that are opposites is an oxymoron, (Ehow Online: 2015).

Example:

Life is full of misery, loneliness, and suffering and it's all over much too soon.

2.1.3 Meaning

According to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, meaning is what is referred to or indicated by e.g. sounds, words or signals. Meaning as use refers to speaker meaning and particularly the intention of the speaker or the desired communicative effect of the utterance, (Mwihaki, 2004).

Language used for various activities and purposes in life, then the meaning of language is also a variety when viewed from different point of view. The meaning of a word or term is confusing. Each word is used sometimes to have wide meaning. That is why sometimes people are not satisfied with the meaning of words contained in the dictionary. These issues arise when people meet or deal with the idiom, figurative language, metaphors, proverbs, and phrases, (Pateda, 81).

From the explanation above can be conclude that the meaning is expresses of language by the writer or speaker to intention the reader or speaker in different point of view.

There are several types of meaning:

Conceptual meaning

According to Pateda (114), conceptual meanings are also called denotative meaning. Conceptual meaning is considered as a major factor in every communication. Conceptual meaning can be known after we connect or compare the level of language (114). Djajasudarma, states that the conceptual meaning is logical, cognitive, or denotative (21).

Example:

The word “horse” has a conceptual meaning “a kind of four-footed animals that can be driven”, (Chaer, 293).

Associative meaning

Associative meaning is the meaning of which has a lexem or words relating to the relationship that word with something that is outside of language.

Associative meaning is actually the same as symbol used by a language community to express other concepts, which has some similarities with the characteristics, situation, or features that exist in the concept of the origin of the word or lexem (Chaer, 293).

Example:

The word “jasmine” associated with something that is “sacred”; word “red” associated with “a brave or communism”, and the word “crocodile” associated with evil (Chaer, 293).

Thematic meaning

Pateda states that thematic meaning will be understood after being communicated by a speaker or writer, through a sequence of words, the focus of discussion and emphasis discussion (130-131).

Example:

- a. Mrs. Smith donated the first prize
- b. The first prize was donated by Mrs. Smith

In the first sentence “who gave away the prize” is more important, but in the second sentence “what did Mrs. Smith gave is important”. Thus the change of focus change the meaning also. The first suggests that we already know Mrs. Smith (perhaps through earlier mention) its known or given information while it’s new information (Universe of English Online, 2015).

Connotative meaning

Connotative meaning is another meaning is added to the denotative meanings related to with the sense of the person or group of people who use the word (Chaer, 292). Connotative meaning is communicated by virtue of what language refers to. Connotative meanings appear as a result of the language user associations feelings towards what was said or heard about the words (Djajasudarma 22).

Example:

The word “envelope” means “the cover which has function place fill in a letter will deliver to others. But in the phrase “give him an envelope for your business is finished”, the word “envelope” into the connotative

meanings is “give him money”. Envelope and money still has relationship because money can be filled in the envelope (Pateda, 112).

Affective meaning

Affective meaning is what is communicated about the feelings and attitudes of speaker or writer (Djajasudarma 22). On the other hand, Pateda, says that affective meaning is meaning that arises due to the listener or reader reaction to the use of words or sentences (97). Therefore, affective meaning is associated with the reaction of the listener or reader sense dimension, then its meaning is also affective meaning associated with figurative language.

Example:

“You are a vicious tyrant and a villainous reprobation and I hate you”.

We are left with a little doubt about the speaker’s feelings towards the listener. Here speaker seems to have a very negative attitude towards his

listener. This is called affective meaning (Universe of English Online,

2015).

Reflected meaning

Reflected meaning is what is communicated through association with another sense of the same expression (Djajasudarma 22).

Example:

“Are limbs so dear achieved, are sides,

Full nerved still warm-too hard to stir”

Owen here uses “dear” in the sense of expensiveness. But the sense of beloved is also eluded, (Universe of English Online, 2011).

Collocative meaning

Collocative meaning is what is communicated through association with words which tends to occur in the environment of another word (Djajasudarma 22). Pateda also states that although some words have similar meanings, but its use must be agreed with the objects and situations. Thus every word has its limitations in its use (110).

Example:

“Pretty” and “handsome” indicate “good looking”.

However, they slightly differ from each other because of collocation or co-occurrence. The word “pretty” collocates with girls, woman, village, gardens, flowers, etc. On the other hand, the word “handsome” collocates with boys, men, etc. so “pretty woman and handsome man”. While different kinds of attractiveness, hence “handsome woman” may mean attractive but in a mannish way (Universe of English Online, 2015).

2.1.4 Theme

Theme is the subject of talk, a piece of writing or a person’s thoughts; a topic, (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, 1273). Alfiah and Santoso states that theme is the main idea (subject matter) presented by the poet. All the work of literature must have a theme which is the principal issues raised in the written works of literature (27).

According to Wikipedia, theme is a main idea, moral, or message, of an essay, paragraph, movie, television program, book or video game. The message may be about life, society, or human nature. Themes often explore timeless and

universal ideas and are almost always implied rather than stated explicitly. Along with plot, character, setting, and style, theme is considered as one of the fundamental components of fiction.

The controlling idea of a poem is the idea continuously developed throughout the poem by sets of key words that identify the poet's subject and his attitude or feeling about it. It may also be suggested by the title of a poem or by segment of the poem. It is rarely stated explicitly by the poet, but it can be stated by the reader and it can be stated in different ways. The controlling idea is an idea, not a moral; it is a major idea, not a minor supporting idea or detail; and it controls or dominates the poem as a whole (Tripod Online, 2015).

Based on the statement above, it can be concluded that the theme is the description of the soul of a poem. It is clear that in a poem a poet wants to express something to readers. The poet wants to describe his feelings, his thoughts, with a view or experience the events and write it into words.

2.1.5 Historical criticism

Historical criticism views literature as not only the product of one artist's urge to say something but also a product of its historical time, shaped by the norms, hopes, fears, biases, attitudes, and limitation of the day (Gillespie 33). Therefore, the thesis writer as the reader of the literary work that wants to analyze, must focus to its historical context and pay attention to what contemporary issues it reflects at the era in which it was written.

Historical criticism main emphasis is to understand a literary work relying on the culture, intellectual, and social context that produced it. Moreover, Rachid

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Merzouki on his book entitled *Literary Criticism* gives statement that the author's life and biography is considered to be the first step to analyze the literary work (03). Therefore a historical approach depends on the author and his world. In the historical view, it is important to understand the author and his world in order to understand his intention and to make sense of his work. In this view, the work is informed by the author's beliefs, prejudices, time, and history, and to fully understand the work, the thesis writer must understand the author and his age.

There are many advantages to analyze a literary work uses historical approach. The reader and the writer can understand some histories era includeing the history of the author when he writes the literary work and the history that the author writes on the text. Meanwhile, Tim Gillespie also argues that without historical context the reader and the writer are just flat out incomprehensible (38).

Thus, the literary work or play located in a specific period is likely to be more meaningful if the reader and the writer knows something about its historical context. For example, the reader will likely have a richer reading experience if the reader knows about ancient Rome when the reader read some literary work telling about the ancient Rome.

To point out, the writer concludes these statements above that historical criticism has some ways to limited analysis. But the writer focuses in one way is uses historical approach that author of the literary work as context.

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2.1.6 Author as Context

In this case, the literary work is influenced by the author. Generally, what the author creates such as literary work will not be covered by the author. It means that the reader of the literary work just comprehend what the meaning in it without making relations with the author life. According to the Donald Keesey he says that some of the literary work's real meaning, it follows, is always in the past, even if sometimes in the very near past, and the search for that meaning is a search for the author's original intention (09). So, even when the reader or the writer dealing with contemporary work, it is seldom to find a problem and the author may has a little plan to make unconsciously intended by his work. Because it is the task of criticism to discover as fully the meaning of the work, this can best be done by understanding as fully as possible the minds that create it.

There are two influences that the thesis writer emphasis this context that is explained by Donald Keesey on his book:

This emphasis seems to have come about largely as a result of two different but mutually reinforcing influences. The first is a gradual shift in the conception of a literary work from something that reflects or imitated nature to something that reflect or express an individual, a unique mind. This shift, which has its chronological center somewhere near the beginning of the nineteenth century, is bind to focuses attention of the life of the author , a kind of attention not coincidentally, that some writers of the period seem to invite. The second influence, which also has its roots in the nineteenth century but which do not become dominant until the nineteenth, is the sense of the *pastness* of the past, and hence that the art of any period can be understood only by someone specially trained to understand this assumption and value (11).

From above statement, the thesis writer explains more that there are two influences if the thesis writer focuses on the historical context. Firstly, the thesis

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writer will be faced on the author that has a different mind, his literary work that will be analyzed by the thesis writer also contains the natural imitation, it mean that what the author reflects in his work, it can be said it is the something real. It is some problem that ever happens in the beginning nineteenth century when the time is still full evidence and the time is the history time. So, the thesis writer also analyzes the author life that has relating with something he wrote. Secondly, the thesis writer is not only influence with the some event in nineteenth century but some event in the past time especially the time that the author focuses the time his work.

According to the Broadview Presssays that the historicist approaches of some others twentieth century literary critics, however took the historical context (71). Historical criticism is the literary critics that it can be flexible critic. While the previous paragraph someone argues that the historical criticism is dominant in digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id the beginning of nineteenth century, but in this case Broadview argues that another literary works in the twentieth century such as the new critical literary they can be related by the historical criticism, depend on the content that has the historical context.

To point out, while the thesis writer is analyzing a literary work uses historical approach of author as the context, the work will be following some steps; they are objective interpretation, determinateness of textual meaning and verification trough to his work.

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2.1.7 Objective interpretation

E. D. Hirsch, Jr says in his book *Permission of the Modern Language Association of America* that objective interpretation is to make the search for the author's meaning once again the main business of literary study and to provide for that study a closely argued rationale that will allow it to stand as "a corporate enterprise and a progressive discipline" (463). In this matter, based on his statement above, Hirsch also makes some criteria for giving some meanings in literary work; it must be coherent and it is not only has an absolutely quality but also has a validity for the invoked interpretation.

2.1.8 Determinateness of textual meaning

In this section, the thesis writer will understand literary work related to the textual meaning. It can understand over interpretative of the text will based on digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id appeal to logical necessity and not to actual practice (Hoy 16). So, the writer who will interpret the text as the first step, it is getting the different meaning. Because, the text that might represent several structures of meaning does not imply that it does in fact represent all the meanings which a particular word sequence can legally convey. It almost cannot directly solve the interpreter's problem. It is to say that a text represents the determinate meaning of an author, but it is quite another to find what that meaning is. Therefore, the very same text could represent many different meaning performances. That's way of this steps will be explained by the thesis writer on the verification steps.

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2.1.9 Verification

Verification is the last step to get available meaning in analyzing a literary work using historical approach. While the previous step still get the problem in interpretation, in this section, the thesis writer can never be certain that what is read is correct. The thesis writer will find out the particular meaning which is specified by particular kinds of subjective act on the part of the author, and that these acts, such as remain unavailable.

Based on the method of this study, the verification is the process of the truthfulness or the meaning being asserted in the study. Lisa M. Given also says this process is a confirmability. She says that the confirmability is an accurate means through which to verify the two basic goals of qualitative study:

1. To understand a phenomena from the perspective of the study.

2. To understand the meaning of the author gives to his experiences.

Confirmability is concerned with providing evidence that the writer's interpretation is root in the data analysis and the resulting findings and conclusions can be verified as reflective of and grounded in the perceptions (112). Furthermore, verification step can be expressed as the degree to which the result of the study is based on the study purpose.

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2.2 Previous study

To broaden this study the thesis writer takes several previous studies as a comparative study that have relevant point in order to get some important matters to help this study, those study are:

The first writer is Kent Ljungquist, he is from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and he is analyzing *The Coliseum* by Edgar Allan Poe focuses on dialogues. His work entitled *The Coliseum: a Dialogue of Ruins* because of it, he analyzes all dialogue between the speaker and the ruin. He also analyze some intonations, spelling and then he connect his work depend on the other author to get some meanings. He does not use a literary approach but he uses theoretical of linguistic to help his work solve the problem.

The second writer is Hussain, he is thirteen years old when he writes his work. He writes on his site and says that he still seven grade. He analyze *The Coliseum* by Edgar Allan Poe does not same with previous writer, not only some language approach that he uses in his analyze but also some literature and historical background that he also analyze. But he does not applicant his work with the theoretical approach. Moreover, he can analyze a literary work completely related to his knowledge.

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CHAPTER III

ANALYSIS

This chapter attempts to analyze the historical event reflected in Edgar Allan Poe's poem "The Coliseum". The main analyze is about the relationship between the historical time written in the poem and the time event that the poem reflects (some events happen in the poem, colosseum building, ancient Rome history and Poe life). Meanwhile, to answer statement of problem the writer uses historical approach and to know the meaning and the theme of this poem the thesis writer uses the structuralism approach.

3.1 The Poem

The Coliseum By Edgar Allan Poe (1835)

Type of the antique Rome! Rich reliquary

Of lofty contemplation left to Time

By buried centuries of pomp and power!

At length, at length—after so many days

Of weary pilgrimage and burning thirst—.....line 5

(Thirst for the springs of lore that in thee lie)

I kneel, an altered and a humble man,

Among thy shadows, and so drink within

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My very soul thy grandeur, gloom, and glory.

Vastness and Age, and Memories of Eld!.....line 10

Silence and Desolation, and dim Night!

Gaunt vestibules⁴ and phantom-peopled aisles

I feel ye now—I feel ye in your strength.

O spells more sure than e'er Judæan king

Taught in the gardens of Gethsemané.....line 15

O charms more potent than the rapt Chaldee

Ever drew down from out the quiet stars!

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Here, where a hero fell, a column falls!

Here, where the mimic eagle glared in gold,

A midnight vigil holds the swarthy bat!.....line 20

Here, where the dames of Rome their yellow hair

Waved to the wind, now wave the reed and thistle!

Here, where on golden throne the monarch⁸ lolled,

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Glides spectre-like, unto his marble home,

Lit by the wan light of the hornéd moon, line 25

The swift and silent lizard of the stones!

But stay!—these walls, these ivy-clad arcades,

These mouldering plinths, these sad and blackened shafts,

These vague entablatures, this crumbling frieze,

These shattered cornices, this wreck, this ruin, line 30

These stones—alas, these grey stones—are they all—

All of the grand and the colossal left

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By the corrosive hours to Fate and me?

"Not all"—the echoes answer me—"not all.

"Prophetic sounds, and loud, arise forever..... line 35

"From us, and from all ruin, unto the wise,

"As melody from Memnon to the sun.

"We rule the hearts of mightiest men—we rule

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"With a despotic sway all giant minds.

"We are not impotent—we pallid stones.....line 40

"Not all our power is gone—not all our fame—

"Not all the magic of our high renown—

"Not all the wonder that encircles us—

"Not all the mysteries that in us lie—

"Not all the memories that hang upon.....line 45

"And cling around about us like a garment,

"Clothing us in a robe of more than glory."

3.2. The Figurative Language of The Coliseum

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After reading The Coliseum poem by Edgar Allan Poe, in this part the thesis writer tries to find the kinds of figurative language used in the poems as follows:

Metaphor

The thesis writer finds figurative speech in The Coliseum poem exactly in the lines 2, 8 and 9.

"By buried centuries of pomp and power!" (line 2)

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The figurative speech of metaphor in this line means that the author
Comparison of centuries to corpses. Another line such as lines 8 and 9 also
include the metaphor of figurative speech.

and so drink within

My very soul thy grandeur, gloom, and glory! (lines 8-9)

These are two lines that the author means to compare of grandeur, gloom,
and glory to beverages.

Apostrophe

This figurative of speech is found by the thesis writer in lines 10, 11 and
12. Here are the text of the lines 10, 11, and 12 :

Vastness! and Age! and Memories of Eld!

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Silence! and Desolation! and dim Night!

I feel ye now—I feel ye in your strength (lines 10-12)

The thesis writer finds Apostrophe such as Vastness, age, memories,
silence, desolation, and night. They are include the Apostrophe because still
related to the personification because of depiction of things or abstract objects are
treated as human beings. Only in apostrophe, things, object or idea is called,
talked to a person like us.

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Personification

In this case, the thesis writer finds the figurative speech of personification in lines 2 and lines 34 – 36.

These sad and blackened shafts (line 2)

The author of this poem try to compare of shafts to humans but only human can feel sad. In the lines 34 until 36, the thesis writer also finds the personification include in the text of this poem.

"Not all"— the Echoes answer me—"not all!"

Prophetic sounds and loud, arise forever

From us, and from all Ruin, unto the wise (lines 34-36)

In those lines, there is a dialogue between the Echoes and the human. They are not talking normally, because the echoes is not human that can not speak like human.

Simile

There are many simile that the thesis writer finds in this poem. It will show the text are consist the simile of figurative speech. They are found by the thesis writer in lines 23 – 26 and lines 45 – 47.

Here, where on golden throne the monarch lolled,

Glides, spectre-like, unto his marble home,

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Lit by the wan light of the hornéd moon,
The swift and silent lizard of the stones! (lines 23-26)

Not all the memories that hang upon
And cling around about us as a garment,
Clothing us in a robe of more than glory. (lines 45-47)

In the lines 23 – 26, the author of this poem try to compare the lizard to a ghost, it is means the spectre. While, in the lines 45 – 47 the author tries to compare the memories to a garmen.

3.3. The General Meaning and Detail Meaning of The Coliseum

The thesis writer presents the general and the detail meaning with the semantic and contexts of poems. After finding the figurative language of each poem, in this part the meaning of the poems are presented as follows:

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In the first stanza, in line one the word “type” it means symbol that stand for the great time in Rome. In the next line, the author describes the symbol that stand for in Rome, the word “lofty” mean that the symbol in the Rome is a supercilious building. But in the third line, the author says that the great building has buried in the last century, it can be seen in the word “buried”. In the lines five, the word “thirst” it means that the author feels thirsty when he visit in the building, because the weather at that time is summer time and after buried. While the place is buried in the last century, it still became the pride of Romans until now, the word “gloom” and “glory” are giving the meaning that the building is symbol of gloom and glory time. So, it can be concluded that this stanza means that there is

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the lofty building in the Rome it call The Coliseum. In the first stanza, the author describes and introduces the coliseum building.

The second stanza, the thesis writer concludes that the author still give the remaining of lofty building in the last century. It can be found from the word “vasness” and “memory of Eld”, they are means that in the last time actually in the coliseum building there are many great events take place in thee. The author also fells like he is in the glory place which can showing.

In the third stanza, in the line eighteenth, the word “ column” and “ fall” means that there is the destroying events happens in that time. Such as the earth quake, it can make the column fall down because it. While, in the lines twenty fourth, the word “ moss” shows that in the last century ever happen the flood which make the place grows he moss. So, the thesis writer conclude that in this stanza, the author tells the destroying in the coliseum is happens at that time.

Still the same topic, in the forth stanza the thesis writer finds evidences of destroying time trough the coliseum. In the lines 24, the word “crumbling walls” shows that the coliseum has been destroyed by some event in the past. It same in the lines 25, the word “mouldering plinths” has the same meaning with the previous word and the word “plinths” it self means square block of stones beneath columns. In the lines 26, “broken frieze” these word has meaning that the horizontal band on an entablature, often with sculpted images has destroyed. And also in the lines 27, the word “the ruin”, it means the destroying too. So, the thesis

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writer conclude that in this stanza give the meaning that in the past time the coliseum ever happens the great destroying time and get the effect until now.

The last stanza, in the lines 35, the words “mightiest man” and “we rules” have the meaning that in the coliseum ever happened the authority rule on the Romans emperor, it is the human stronger. In the next line, the words “despotic sway” and “giant mind” means that the authority in that time is ruled by the nice king and make his palace glory. But it is not the long time happens, after that, the words “pallid stone” stand for something happened in the last era that make the authority fall, stone is stand for something stronger and the previous lines say hat the stronger is the authority in the Romans emperor. Therefore, in the before the last lines ““Not all the memories that hang upon” it has meaning that all the events in the coliseum is real happen, whatever the events take place that the author tell in this poem. In the last line also tells that "Clothing us in a robe of more than glory" has the meaning which the glory time also remains the reader that it is ever happens not only the destroying time.

3.4. The Theme of The Coliseum

After finding both the general and detail meanings of the poem, then, the theme of the poem is presented as follows:

This poem is about the historical event in the past time consist of the coliseum place. The author of this poem gives description whatever events that happen in that time. Not only the glory time which happens in the past time but also the destroying time too? Because The Colosseum building itself inspires awe

in the speaker, as it does in most people who see it for the first time. It is not only its magnificent architecture that affects the visitor; it is also the imagined sounds of the crowd cheering or hissing a gladiator, or the sounds of animals fighting one another. In addition, it is what the Colosseum symbolizes: the power, the glory, the ingenuity, and the corruption of ancient Rome. And also Romans at that time watches men kill one another. They also watch wild animals kill men or other beasts, and men kill animals. The echoes of the past from the ruins of the Colosseum tell the speaker that "Prophetic sounds, and loud, arise forever / From us, and from all ruin, unto the wise" (35-36).

In other words, the Colosseum is a testament to the perverted entertainments that fascinated the Romans. The ancient stones of the amphitheater warn that civilizations will fall to ruin, like the Colosseum, if they adopt the Roman penchant for blood sport.

Thus, from the explanation above, the thesis writer concludes that this theme of the poem is the historical event of the glory and destroying time.

3.5. Reflection of history in "The Coliseum"

In the first stanza, the author gives introduction about the glory time in ancient Rome. That glory time is stood by colosseum. The glory time is reflected on the first and the second lines:

"type of the antique Rome ! rich reliquary"

"of lofty contemplation left to time"

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The first line, the thesis writer gives some meanings on that sentence; it is means the symbol stands for a glory at the time. According to A. J. O' Reille, colosseum is a building that becomes a symbol of glory time since 80 AD until today. But some activities in colosseum were ceased in 217. This colosseum lies at the small city in Italia, Rome, which is built by Vespian at the Domitianus era and it is finished by his son, Tacitus. Colosseum becomes one of the bigger works by the architect of Roman Empire that ever build.

From the explanation above, the author surely gives correct information about the colosseum that becomes a glory symbol of Roman Empire. Moreover, Aristotle's argue that poetry is superior to history, because poetry speaks of what must or should be true, rather than merely what is true (Charlesworth 20). So, in literary work especially poetry is more desire to emphasize the cognitive status of the experience of tragedy in the past time.

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"of lofty contemplation left to time",

Appropriate with the text on the second lines that the luxury of the colosseum building is accepted by most of peoples. Due to when the colosseum was still active as a center of the emperor activities on 80 AD, this building can intercept more than 80.000 peoples in it. By the way, the glory of coliseum can be seen until today.

Motionless talking about the glory time of Roman emperor that has been symbolized by the colosseum, while the emperor does not mentioned by the author, not only on the first line and the second line, but also the ninth line still the

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first stanza “my very soul thy grandeur, gloom, and, glory”, it also that colosseum building ever became an evidence when the Roman empire of Augustus rules exactly on 27 AD.

The first, second and ninth lines in this poem have the notions of evidence; that the glory times happen in Roman empire that stand for a colosseum building. But others on the contrary, the author also tell how the speaker feels devastation of the building by the various accidents that befell the coliseum. some events that lead to the building is not as majestic as in 80 AD will be explained by the thesis writer through the contents of the poem below and of course the author also relates the accident in the poem with the actual events.

3.6. The events causes the coliseum to destroy

3.6.1. Political event (corruption)

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As we know that history has been reflected by the literary works not only tells the winner time or glory times. On the other hand, a history also tells the destroying times or the fall times, because the history is born in the centuries before enlightenment age or before the 20th century. Thus, the author of literary work who tells some histories, he must understand any accident related in history at that time, Such as social context, intellectual milieu, climate, biology and politic context that happen in that time and also concern about author life.

A literary works such as The Coliseum poem by Edgar Allan Poe, it has many historical events in the content. One of the historical events in this poem is about destroying of the building that causes by some events. Firstly, the writer

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finds out the political events or a corruption which led to the destruction of the glorious colesseum. The author has been reflected in the lines 38, 39, and 40, as follows:

“we rule the hearts of mightiest men- we rule”

“with a despotic sway all giant minds”

“we are not impotent- we pallid stone”

The three lines above are getting the meaning of a power that rule at the time. Talking about the authority or power it surely not far away with political matters. An uncommon problem occurs in a region which is caused by many corruptions or bad politic rule. This problem will be bad influence for glory of the region, in fact it can be cause the beginning of destruction in a nation. Because the corruption continuous to persist in various countries in spite of promises of probity and accountability and Political corruption has led to despondency among ordinary citizens whose faith in horizontal accountability has been shattered (Adjibolosoo 130). However, the three lines also use the pronoun “we”, some of “we” pronouns in the last stanza refer to the ruins which is has meaning a state of complete destroy. However some texts are explains about something state fall cause by the corruption.

In the 19th century, the Roman Empire faced a crisis which it nation attacks from bar-bar, the civil war, and hyperinflation has been occurred in the same time and continuously, which almost caused the collapse of the Roman Empire. This mess is one of unclear system that regulates succession. Since

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Augustus died without appointing a successor to continue ordering Empire and normally the power will be handed over to the son of the Emperor, but the Augustus period he does not children. In this way, causes of the cheat in managing power and until the problem of corruption. So, when the third century precisely in the year 265 – 284 the State activity in the colosseum building has not been controlled by the structure. The brief story on top is the corruption that became a factor destruction of glory Rome and also great effect on the colosseum building; the writer finds the historical incident in a book by Guglielmo Ferrero, entitled *Characters and Events of Roman History*.

3.6.2. Gladiator contest

This is a second factor of destroying accident in the colosseum building and that is reflected in this poem entitled *The Coliseum*. The thesis writer will explain more and also explain the factor of second ruin.

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“prophetic sounds, and loud, arise forever

“from us, and from all ruin, unto the wise”

These lines, 35 and 36 describe about occurrence of an incident. The murder accident between gladiators and their animals contest, not only fellow human beings they also kill each other. The speaker in the poem still hears a sound of murder that ever happened at that time. However to analyze a literary work using historical approach, the author will know how the author reveals the circumstances experienced by the speaker when it is happen (Gillespie 33).

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Alan Baker tells about the history of murdering that happen in the colosseum on his book entitled *The Gladiator*, he says that when in the second century the history of the Colosseum began in Rome when the first recorded gladiatorial and fights was staged in 264AD. Along with crowds of fifty thousand Romans citizens, the emperor and prominent politicians frequently attended the entertainments in the colosseum, which include gladiator contest, performance by animals and their trainers, and even mock naval battles that requires flooding of the arena.

Romans watches men kill one another. They also watches wild animals kill men or other beasts. And men kill animals. Baker also tells that the gladiatorial battles is rather basic, primitive affairs, without the extravagance and refinement in cruelty that will be witnessed later in the amphitheaters at Rome and other cities and towns (20). On the other hand the author also finds one of the words in the poem that deals with in this case. That Word is "the echoes" that Word can be found in the line 34 from a sentence "not all-the echoes answer me – not all", the word echoes which means a sound that is a copy of another sound and that is produced when sound waves bounce off a surface (such as a wall). the speaker in the poem hear echoes that resembles the sound of a battle in the coliseum but the writer connects the text with the theory of truth or historical critics Which is means the speaker can hear the echoes of a guide who accompanies his travel. Because of the battle of gladiators it happens a few centuries ago.

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The third factors above about the destruction of the colosseum building at the time, which originated from humans or residents in the vicinity of the building. But factor in the onset of destruction that lasted a few centuries ago and in reflected by Poe in his poems of this time do not happen because of human factor, but natural factor can also occur. So, some disasters that became a factor of colosseum destruction in the Roman empire are going on to explain the author and the author also connects this incident with the historical truth at that time.

Kenneth Hewitt argues on that disasters are the products of historical as well as natural processes and that they are in fact a part of normal life in a culture and disaster as triggers of cultural change have been studied by archaeologist, and also increasingly by historian (04). So, the natural disaster is an accident that is not only make people's damage, but also makes the greater benefit for author who wants to reflect these events lead the literary works.

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3.6.3. Earthquake

In this case, the thesis writer will explain the occurrence of natural disasters that happened in Rome precisely that hit the colosseum building at that time. Edgar Allan Poe reflects the incident through his poetry. Some of the lines in the poem suggest the existence of the occurrence of natural disasters at that time. Lines 18, 28 and 29 are lines that show evidence of the incident, the following line is the author means above:

“here, where a hero fell, a column falls!”

“these moldering plinths, these sad and blackened shafts”

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“these vague entablatures, this crumbling frieze”

In lines 18 which mention a word column falls it means a building collapsed due to a natural disaster. Just the same as the word “moldering plinths” that is on line 28, the writer gives the meaning of square blocks of stones beneath columns is broken by natural disaster. In line 29 “entablature”, the author also gives a sense of the meaning of horizontal structure above the columns and beneath the roof which also collapsed due to natural disasters. All the rows above which explain the collapse of some parts the building in colosseum. The collapse of several buildings in the coliseum that the author gives reasons due to natural disasters certainly not imagining something or fabricated, but the author will give a reason from the book that explains the truth of history at that time.

Mischameier, a historian tells that in the first century A.D. Is one of the most pressing tasks for a Roman principle is to provide rapidly, bureaucratically, and effectively help in times of urgent. When a large earthquake, flood, or other disaster occurred in any part of the Roman Empire, the emperor would swiftly intervene, using spectacular measures to alleviate the suffering of the victims and bring about the restoration of the affected city or region (21). On the other hand, in 1349 AD, a major earthquake caused severed damage to the colosseum. The south sides, which have been built on relatively unstable alluvial soil, give way and collapse. The damaged portion of the colosseum yield a treasure trove of stones and other building materials, which is uses for building palaces, church, hospital etc. in other part of Rome.

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According to historical truth in a variety sources, the writer actually finds four times the occurrence of earthquakes that hit the colosseum building, among others, in 413, 508, 840, and the last in 1798, the writer more find information in the first century, and in the 1349. Although the colosseum building has undergone four times by the earthquake but up to now the building can still be seen, because the building was also renovated in order to make the inhabitants of Rome can feel the glory of Rome until today.

3.6.4. The long dry season

The dry season is part of the occurrence events that ever exist at the time and of course that time also makes the colesseum visitors feel how hot the increasingly and made them thirsty. In the 6 line in the poem the coliseum by Edgar Allan Poe give evidence of the event due to a drought at the time.

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 “of weary pilgrimage, and burning thirst”

Above the author phrase, provide sufficient clue to the writers to understand the content of the line. Obviously, what the author says on the line 6 that the speaker feel thirsty. The main factor of thirst is the weather at the time was very hot during the dry season or until it dries and surrounding plants in the building also feels hot.

The writer will give the reasons of the thirst factor that speaker fell at the line 6 with connecting events point to the truth of history in the past. Because some historians use the available scientific data to explore the effect of climate variations on past societies the and some scientific work in collaboration with

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historians, archaeologists, and anthropologist to reconstruct the temperature and rain shower records of the past (Fleming). However, a history is very useful for anything related to the State of the past, including an expert climatology who wanted to know the State of the weather at the time of yesteryear, it can also be said that to analyze a literary work approach historical context to find out how the weather on past time, so, the author must be looking for historical information that is associated with the weather on a while ago.

The truth of history say that in ancient Rome it is also a major attraction for those who wanted to see the various events that were put on at this vase building. The Coliseum can hold over 50,000 people and the viewing public is well looked after by the authorities. However, when the temperature Rome is the summer, it can be very hot.

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Another book that give the more information about climate in ancient Rome entitled *Enemy of Rome* by Douglas Jackson tells that at summer, AD 69. Rome and its empire are in turmoil, caught in the coils of desperate and destructive civil war. The emperor onto is dead by his own hand and his rival, Aulus Vitellius, occupies the imperial throne. However, a new challenge has arisen in the east – the legions of titus flavius Vespasian have declare him their emperor.

In the dry heat of an august morning, Gaius Valerius Verrens prepare for his last day on earth. Wrongly accuse of deserting his legion on the field of Bedriacum, it seems he is destine to die a coward's death (11). We know that

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when the civil war be held on AD 69, the climate at that time is a summer or in the dry heat.

3.6.5. Flood

In this section the author still analyzing about the occurrence of natural disasters that have occurred in the coliseum building, even the disasters is the factor t caused the destruction of the coliseum building became a symbol of the Romans glory. This is the last natural events that are found by the author through the text that indicates the meaning of the poem by Edgar Allan Poe the coliseum. The last natural disasters are floods, and the author finds text that indicates when the flood never overwrites at the coliseum in the past century. The text is on line 24, following the content of that line:

“on bed of moss lies gloating the foul adder”

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On line 24, the thesis writer gives opinion according to the view of literature and science. it is the author says in that line to indicate that the speaker in the poem see the mossy. In the Biological Sciences expressed by SJ Jarman in his book entitled *the mosses and liverworts of rainforest* that Bryphtes are the plants popularly known as mosses, liverworts and hornworts. Most are land plants but a few grow in freshwater and some occur in the spray zone in coastal areas, although none is marine (10). So, moss is a plant often found in damp areas or in places which are ever puddles.

If statement above says the coliseum is there mossy place, it can say the venue is flooded, it can be said that there place ever flood. Thus, the author also

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relates the history of the biological sciences which the Science also helps the author analyze the literary works. Both of relation are human biologist can exploit historical data, that is, the written records of communities that short-lived in the past, in order to explore an agenda of significance to biology (smith 1).

For more accurate, the writer also provide the proof of history stating in the past that the building ever happen by the natural disasters. It is floods that could damage the nation's symbol of Roman splendor. By the first century AD there was water available in quantities which permitted the flooding of the amphitheaters, providing whole new rangers entertainment. At the opening of Balbul's theatre in 13 BC the nearby Tiber had flooded, with the result that it was impossible to get into the theatre except by boat. Perhaps this introduce the idea of staging in the amphitheater the naumachiae, the naval battles with real casualties such as Claudius had stage on lake. Claudius's successor, Nero built a wooden amphitheater in AD 57 for which his engineering devise plumbing that permits the arena to be flooded for naval battles, and then drain for the reappearance of the gladiator, and this performance can be repeated several times in the course in one series of spectacles (Jones 125).

Nancy Thomson de Grummond says on her book *entitled Encyclopedia of the History of Classical Archaeology* that the archaeological history of Rome may be taken to date from the destruction of the classical city. There has been, since the Renaissance, a debate over what portion of the blame is to be assign to natural causes and what portion to human causes. The city has always been prone to natural disasters: flood (until the great embankment works on the Tiber beginning

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in 1876), fires and earthquake. But human ravages have been, I must be admitted, much more destructive as early as ca. 500 A. C. Cassiodorus complained of the damages inflict by lime burners (976).

According to the argument which it gives the same historical story but different resource. From the first statement said that in the first century occur natural disasters, floods. It is continue till today that use beneficial incident. If the previous building which is call the symbol of glory Rome, it is use for a main center of activity of the Roman empire that moment, such as politics, sports, theatre and more, but when the flood happens, these activities are less enough and they make advantages of its moment that decide one art activity but they use boats to join or watch it. The flood happens a long time until a battle above the water.

Meanwhile, according to second statement that since the age of enlightenment the Rome often gets some natural disasters to successive

bandwagon. Originally, a flood is last long happen then, after that the fire happen and some earthquakes. A variety of natural disasters that hit the building, another reason is from human damage. From the historical history in the previous section, this coliseum not only damage from natural disaster but some factor in human performance at that time was also influential on the damages that occurred.

3.6.6. fire

In the previous section, the author provides evidence of the existence natural occurrence that happened in the past which is reflected by an American author namely Edgar Allan Poe through the work of his entitled *The Coliseum*.

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Then the author also relates what is written by the author with some historical truth from various books. But in this section the author will give evidence about the damage of the coliseum through the events described by the author in the poetry.

There are some lines that there is described by existence of an event that has ever befallen the coliseum building on the past. A few lines of it row 3, 4, and 5. As for the content of that line will be mentioned by the author below:

“ by buried centuries of pomp and power!”

“ at length, at length after so many days “

“ of weary pilgrimage, and burning thirst”

On line 3, the author put a word "buried" which means a fire occurred in the past. The exact reasons why the fire happened is the writer will provide an explanation why the fire happened by searching various historical sources from various books. Then, in a line 4 and 5 are actually connected with a line 3. The writer interprets on rows 4 and 5, these are after the fire, a few years later going on a drought which impacted on the temperature in the building, and this section is already described by the author in the previous section. Due to the occurrence of a fire to make the coliseum become arid and hot, so when the dry season arrives in the building temperature increases heat. This event makes visitors feel thirst if it is in the building.

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The next step, the writer will provide the historical truth in the various books that recount the events over in the past. However, literary works are conceived as so many manifestation of ideology, the imaginary representation of actual historical existence (Colebrook 18). So, to analyze how event such as fire incident that occur in the coliseum which has reflected by the writer through his poetry, then surely the writer connects the events with historical truth. Here are a few books about the history of fire events at the coliseum in ancient Rome.

Angus Macleod Gunn writes some book Encyclopedia of Disasters: Environmental Catastrophes and Human Tragedies, on his book, he says that Historians is doubtful about Nero's involvement, because his place is a victim of the fire. This building, fires is commonplace in Rome. Dozens broke out every day. Roman historian Tacitus is one person who does convince that Nero is responsible but many Romans thought it had been triggered accidentally. In the course of the conflagration some people see to be spreading the fire while other prevents attempts to extinguish it. Is this the work of people under order or are they just looters taking advantage of the chaotic situation. They are neither but rather gangs of irresponsible people wandering the streets looking for anything they can steal. When the fire finally burned out only four of the city's fourteen districts has been untouched by the fire. Lost in the flames are all kinds of art works, both Greek and Roman, and many of temples are also destroyed including Vesta and Jupiter Stator (07).

Other author tells that the famous Coliseum in Rome was begun during Vespasian reign. He was succeeded by his son Titus and later by his second son,

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Domitian. Titus, the emperor in the assassins of Rome, reigned for only three years (A.D. 79-81). Before become emperor he engaged in a number of military campaigns, the most noteworthy was the capture and destruction of Jerusalem in A. D. 70, which result in numerous Jewish captives being brought to Rome as slaves. During his reign, however, he was a benevolent ruler and pursued peace and conciliation throughout the empire. The colosseum is complete under his rule, and two important disasters occur. The first was the great fire of Rome and the second the eruption of Mount Vesuvius, which buried the cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum (Gillespie 85)

Alfred Le Maitre also writes on his history book, the content is about the great fire in the colosseum building, Rome. He tells that during the night of July 18, 64 AD, fire broke out in the merchant area of the city of Rome. Fanned by summer winds, the flames quickly spread through the dry, wooden structures of the Imperial City. Soon the fire took on a life of its own consuming all in its path for six days and seven nights. When the conflagration finally ran its course it left seventy percent of the city in smoldering ruins (59).

According to Tacitus on his book *The Annals of Imperial Rome*, Nero was away from Rome, in Antium, when the fire broke out. He return to the city and took measures to bring in food supplies and open gardens and public buildings to accommodate refugees. After six days the organized clearing of built-up areas brought the conflagration to a halt before it reach the Esquiline Hill. There is a further outbreak in the Aemilian district, involving the destruction of temples and arcades but less loss of life. However the fire was now under control. Of Rome's

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14 districts, 3 are completely devastated and only 4 completely escape damage (44).

Griffin tends to agree with Tacitus and believe that Nero probably do not cause the fire. It is postulate that the fire has been intentionally start to create room for Nero's Domus Aurea, but the fire start 1 km (0.6 miles) away from the site where this palace will later be built, on the other side of the Palatine Hill. Moreover, the fire destroyed parts of Nero's own palace, the Domus Transitoria. It seems unlikely that Nero wanted to destroy this palace since he actually salvages some of the marble decoration and integrate it into the new Domus Aurea. Even the paintings and wall decorations of the new palace were similar to the ones that had been burned. Last, the fire started just two days after a full moon (132).

From several sources that explain the occurrence of the great fire in Rome till the Coliseum building damage, basically they take it from book's history and opinions of historians. The truth of history say that in 64 AD occur the great fire of Rome and the incident is bad for the proving of the Government at the time. A variety of evidence above reinforces the writer analysis to convey the truth between what is written in the literary works and opinions of historian's truth. However, essentially their opinion there is different argument between one side and another. There is an argument say that the fire cause from human error who came from their committee it self at that time. Their committee is Nero who someone Christianity that they are the Roman enemy at that period. Others historian argument says that the event is not relate cause from Nero, but it came from something error or it can be say a natural disaster. To enactive this evidence

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of something event, the writer give the result from historian who say that this event happen because of human error that lead to their emperor it self. This result takes from most of the historian perspective.

3.7. Author as Context

In this context, Edgar Allan Poe is the poem writer; he creates The Coliseum when he has finished in his military academy at 1832. Within he does not do the army activity he try to became the writer. He also confess that the academy of military is not his destiny and make it not himself. After that, he changes his life and decides to write some literary works. There are many his literary work that successes in many contest; one of them is The Coliseum poem. It is the poem that is a major effort, but somewhat a typical of Poe's work. It is almost surely composed for submission in a prize contest, and probably in haste.

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It is extremely rhetorical, perhaps calculate to please judges more likely to admire rhetoric that subtler kinds of art. The form, blank verse, is new to Poe.

The subject in this poem is common place, for everyone knows the coliseum, at least from pictures. Actually, the content of this poem is Poe inspire of some book entitled Manfred by Byron. In the content of this book is that some descriptions of something in the ruins only the fall of Rome and the impotence. Other content is there someone asking about the causes of it fall in Rome, then Poe takes a problem from it book and make it result in his poem entitled The Coliseum. Consider to the Poe that the author of it book sees a memorial of the source of the civilization, by no means impotent but even an inspiration.

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Furthermore, Poe compares his poem between the coliseum and MS. Found in Bottle. In the MS. Found in Bottle, Poe compares it story with The Coliseum that it appears in the sentences “ I have been all my life a dealer in antiquities, and have imbibed the shadows of fallen columns” and “until my very soul has become a ruin”. From these sentences that has the same words which are “antiquities”, “ columns” and “ ruin”, they are also occur in The Coliseum poem in first line “ Type of the antique Rome ! Rich reliquary” the word “ antique” in the first line, it has the same meaning with the word in the MS. Found in Bottle, then the word “ columns “ it can find in the line 17 “ here, where a hero fell, a column falls” and the last word is “ ruin” , the thesis writer find it word in some sentences or some lines, they are find in the line 29 and 35, in the line 29 the thesis writer read “ These shattered cornice- this wreck – this ruin” and the writer also read the word “ruin” in line 35 “From us, and from all Ruin, unto the wise”. However , all these words that exist in the MS. Found in Bottle and also exist in The Coliseum are have the same meaning, are means that tells that something glories build will fall or ruin because of something event destroying. What ever the event happens is always the human causes.

Edgar Allan Poe writes The Coliseum in the 1832, he creates this poem when his town faces a problem. It problem that appears in his town is not a little problem; it is the cholera disease that the first time appeared in his town. There are many reason that this problem causes from some ways, someone says that this problem causes from the bad whether and the condition in the city. The bad whether is the summer until become as the dry season, the condition of this city

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also influence it problem, while many condition in the city at that time is the bad condition, such as the physical city is not keep from cleaning condition then the economical condition at that time is economical crisis because the governments are have another mission to get the benefit from its problem, so the political condition at that time is bad too (Rosenberg 06). There are some problem occurs in Poe's place when he write The Coliseum, it predictable, at that time Poe get the inspiration to write The Coliseum from his city matter. Doe to his poem which repute some media to allusion the government how they swept their problem at that time.

Remaining of the author process to write the coliseum has not plan or it can says that the author writes this poem is simultaneously, because this poem is written to complete his poem contest. Meanwhile, to write this poem Edgar Allan Poe has not plan what he write, but the content of this poem is meaningful and also has relation with Poe's life. There are many objects can inspire Poe to write The Coliseum, these are will be explained by the thesis writer according several books.

The first object comes from his experience

The Coliseum poem is written by Edgar Allan Poe when he stays in Baltimore, Ney York. After the thesis writer read and interprets of this poem, the poem is telling about the coliseum building in Rome, but Poe is never stay in Rome. However, Poe gives his knowledge about historical event in Rome which is reflected by his poem. It is impossible, if the author of the literary work that

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tells about something foreign place but he can reflect or tell goodly. But if the author ever study about this context or ever shows it, it is possible to get the reasons.

In May, 1827, Poe is enlisted in United States Army as a private. He registered himself with the name, Edgar A. Perry of age 22. Poe is finally discharge from the Army on April 15, 1829. When Poe still enlists in the Army Academy, he ever follows the army activity in Rome, the place exactly at the coliseum building. Thus, Edgar Allan Poe knows about the coliseum building and he can reflect his knowledge in his poem, because of his experience.

The second object comes from the problem of his town

The thesis writer explains the problem of Poe's town in the previous paragraph, that the author inspires from something matter in the Baltimore to write *The Coliseum*, because he allusion his government. The bad political condition in that time makes the society is not attention by his government, such as the health condition badly and the minimum of medical center or the public service. Poe is the author of *The Coliseum*, he writes his poem to tells something happens in his town but he uses other place, he tells that the authority of law which is ruled by the bad human, it can be causes of destroying.

The third object comes from his life

In March 1831, Edgar Allan Poe returns to Baltimore to his aunt, brother and cousin. His brother fell seriously ill due to his alcoholic habits and died on August 1, 1831. Within his comes in the Baltimore, he fells falling in love with

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his cousin, Virginia Clemm. After a long time he stay together with Virginia, both of them have special relationship, but their relation is not acceptable by every one and always give the bad comment, because their relationship is not proper and has controversy. Several people says that Poe and Virginia are like sister and brother, so they are able to feel love each other. Some days, the bad news about Poe's relationship is changes became the good news, Poe wants to his relation get approval from every one, he decides join the competition and he hope this competition make his life better then before. He writes The Coliseum and MS. Found in Bottle greatly to submit for the competition. Finally, he can change his life as the winner from the competition and he get accepted by each people. Because his poem and his story that contain about some problem in his country, his poem become the best letter to allusion his government. Thus, Poe writes The Coliseum to get acceptable for his relationship with Virginia.

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The forth object comes from several literary works

The contents of The Coliseum poem are easy to understand and there are many vocabularies are familiar. Such as the dialogues in The Coliseum is response from child Harold asking in Byron's book. Not only inspires from Byron's book but also several book that Poe get inspire to write The Coliseum. The writer will explain more what books that Poe get inspire it and what vocabularies has been taken by Poe from other literary book.

These are many vocabularies that Poe uses in The Coliseum inspire from several books, in this case the thesis writer will explain it based on the web site

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(www.eapoe.org/works/mabbott/tom1po61.htm), here are the information will explore by the thesis writer :

Start from the title “The Coliseum” that has the meaning of the great Flavian Amphitheater at Rome, begin by Vespian and finish and dedicate by his son Titus in A. D. 80. In the eight century the Venerable Bede say of it (as Byron put it in Childe Harold, IV, CXLV, 1- 3, pointing out that the merely translate a remark he found in the last chapter of Gibbon);

“While stands the coliseum, Rome shall

Stand;

“ When falls the coliseum, Rome shall

Fall;

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“And when Rome falls – the world;

The name may have come from its proximity to a colossal statue; hence modern writer prefer a “more learned” spelling, Colosseum, the venerable Bede called it Colyseus; but Gibbon and Byron the Coliseum, and Poe follows them. Still more Poe’ vocabularies that inspire from several books, here are the thesis writer take from the web site;

Line 1, Gibbon says “ the most liberal on the pontiff, Benedict the fourteenth Consecrate (the Coliseum) a spot which persecution..... had stained with blood of so many Christian martyrs”.

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Lines 2-3, Byron in *Childe Harold*, IV, cxxviii, 7-8, calls the Coliseum”

This long – explored but still exhausteess mine / of Contemplation”.

Lines 3, Compare Gray’s “elegy” : “ The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power”, echoed also in the 1827 version of “Tamerlane”, line 355 : “My eyes were still on pomp and power”.

Lines 4, There are may be reminiscence of Keats “ Eve of St. Agnes”, stanza38:

“Ah, silver shrine, here will I take myrest”

“After so many hours of toil and quest,”

“A famish ‘d pilgrim....”

Lines 9, “Grandeur , gloom and glory” seems it a rhetorical phrase needing no special inspiration, although a striking parallel is “ of life extremes the grandeur and the gloom,” in Thomas Campbell’s once widely read *Gertrude of Wyoming*, 1, vii, 2 .

Lines 13-14, At first sight this seems to be an allusion to the lord’s agony in the garden of Gethsemane, but the word “King “ is not capitalized, nor is it quite correct to call his teaching “spells,” Solomon is the only jewish king greatly fame, even in legend, for magic, bit is he connect with Gethsemane?

Lines 15, The Chaldeans, priests among the Babylonians and Assyrian, were great student of astrology, Poe allude to them in “Al Araaf”, ii,43.

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Lines 17-25, Killing Campbell points out the triple use of “Here, where” in Childe Harold (IV, cxlii, 1, 2, 5) and compares Manfred, III, IV, 22 – 26 :

Where the Caesars dwelt,

And dwell the tuneless birds of night, amidst

A grove which springs through leveled

battlements,

And twines its root with the imperial

Hearths,

Ivy usurps the laurel’s place of growth.

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Also striking are line from Lydia H. Sigorney’s “Rome”: “Mid Nero’s house of gold, with clustering bats, / And gliding lizards”, and Gray’s “Impromptu”, lines 13 – 14: “ Here Moldering fanes and battlements, / Turrets and arches nodding to their fall”.

Lines 18, The reference is probably simply to the Aquila, the principle standard of Roman legion, it was an image of an eagle, sometimes made of gold and usually at least of glided metal, carried on a pole, it was a symbol of victorious Jove. The eagles were themselves object of worship among the Romans. There is in Poe’s “Maginalia,” number 228.

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Lines 20, Poe changes “ yellow hair” to “ glider hair” to be correct, few Romans ladies are natural blonde, but many use a dye , a plant call lysimachia, which pliny the Elder (Natural History, XXVI, xciiii) say impart a blonde tint to the hair.

Lines 29, Campbell (Poems, p. 220) again cites Childe Harold, 1V, cxiv, 8 : “ Rome and ruin past Redemption’s skill”.

Lines 32, The striking Phrase “ corrosive hours” recurs in Poe’s “ Colloquy of Monos and Uva” (1841), and the rest of the line recall Gray “elegy” ; “And leaves the world to darkness and to me”.

Lines 36, according to the ancient Greek legend Memnon is the son of Tithonus and Eos, the Dawn, he say to have been the ruler of Ethiopia and of Egypt and, according to Homer, was an ally of Priam during the Trojan times, digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id gave out, when struck by the rays of the morning sun, a sound like the breaking of a harpstring. It is heard by Strabo, and the Emperor Hadrian, but ceased in the third century. It say the statue was that of memnon, saluting his mother. Actually, it represents king Amenophis III. The colossus is made of gneiss or breccias, repaired with sandstone. Poe in Politian called it the “ granite Memnon” but abandoned the reading, for correctness.

Lines 37, Compare Manfred, III, iv, 40 – 41 : “ The dead, but sceptred, sovereigns, who still rule / our spirits from their urns”.

Lines 45, there seems to be an echo here of Wordsworth’s “Ode : Intimation of immortality” : “ training clouds of glory”, and of that poet’s sonnet “

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Composed Upon Westminster Bridge” : “This City now doth, like a garment, wear / the beauty of the morning”. The letter probably alludes to psalm 104 : 2, “Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment”.

From above explanation, the thesis writer take the simple result that in *The Coliseum* poem there are many vocabularies take from several literary works before it. Every lines in the Coliseum has relate to other story which is ever created by several author. So, to write *The Coliseum*, Poe inspires several literary works to get the great work and he also wants the reader of his poem can analyze more it.

3.8. The Coliseum” writing time

In 1832, Edgar Allan Poe writes his poem entitled the coliseum. he can reflect some historical event at the last centuries in his poem while the condition of that time and he wrote is long distance ago, but it is the Poe’s work that makes the writer to analyze what happens in that time when Poe writes his poem and in the coliseum time, any correlation both of them between the author and the place or the evidence happens in the last century with the place in 1832. However the writer will analyze what it does happen the coliseum in around 1832 then the writer tries to combine the time when the author creates his poem.

According to Roberto and Massimiliano, in the mid-19th century or in 1832, the building became the strongest historical evidence in ancient Rome when it has undergone repairs. Although, a few renovation have been done by their empire. While various some disasters which are still often being due to damage

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the property. In 1832 a few painters, architects and partners have archeological to fix the building. the property that is where various events or can be said the place where a historical places, some archaeologies is an important part to give his knowledge role to uses his work through became a painting or sculpture on the wall and a few sculptures by the painter and sculptor. To organize their existence, an architect also organizes every room that visitors feel the historical ever existed (13).

A previous explanation about a building call the coliseum in which the poetry of the coliseum is written (1832), it is apparently very small possibility the author saw history in the coliseum at the time. Because of the property has been renovated drastically. While the author describes his poetry as history in the building has not been through as a whole remodeling period, until the author is still mention many part of evidence in the building is damaged by the events of the last century. So, above understanding still had not made a strong evidence of the reason which the author wrote that poem.

For more specific, the writer is still looking for sources pertaining to the time of the author's writing her poems and events are actually in the coliseum who affect the author to create some literary work at that time. If that time in 1832 at the coliseum has no effect with the author, then the writers are looking for other information about why the author wrote his work in that year.

In fact on the previous section, the author already provides an explanation while the author also has the most important position to create his work. It

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explains that the author wrote the poem after several years he visits the place between 1827 and 1828, at the time Poe is undergoing a military school in the United States Army. This time in the military explains the base of a battle and the setting of the Roman Coliseum. So the author will provide information to the reader about the coliseum in 1827 and 1828

Helene E. Roberts says, the image of the physical destruction of the city at the hands of an enemy lent itself to related themes of the decay of the city from within, destruction of the city's inhabitants through epidemic, or destruction of political autonomy by externally imposed regime. John Martin's fall of Nineveh (1827-1828) thus includes the suicide, together with his companion luxury, of the last decadent rule, Sardanapalus, in a panoramic view of civic destruction in city of Rome (238).

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To sum up, the writer in this case can draw the conclusion that what presented by Roberts above relates to the State of the Roman Empire or *the coliseum* which Poe visits that place between 1827 and 1828. Likely, Poe got the inspiration to write the poem *the coliseum* when he visits the place. In lines 38, 39, and 40 in the poem the coliseum describes political power into the impact damage to the building and in the statement above also says about the incident damage the power in Rome that be bad for the coliseum building at that time.

The writer already gives an explanation of the relationship of the coliseum in which Poe paid a visit to the Roman Empire (1827-1828), in this case, the writer will give an explanation about the circumstances of Poe when he wrote the

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poem. Because the writer wants to strengthen its analysis with some reference that is associated with the author and literary works.

In 1832, Edgar Allan Poe creates some poems and *The Coliseum* is one poem that he writes. In that year Poe has become the new Yorker and Poe certainly understands the circumstances in place he lives, because Poe at that time is working as a journalist in *Baltimore Saturday Visitor*. This statement the author already explained in the previous section. But the authors also give more explanation about the circumstances of Poe's residence in 1832.

Drs. Hay and Simpson of Leeds returned from a fact-finding tour of Newcastle in January 1832; they had emphasized the need for a hospital, so the Central Committee set about looking for a suitable site, having been given £200 for this purpose by the Subscription Committee. The first plan put forward, to enlarge the fever ward of the County Hospital, was rejected as too expensive, so it was decided to rent an isolated house near Fishergate Bar. A burial ground was also needed. At first the Committee had wanted to use a piece of land close to Walmgate Bar, but the Society of Friends, who had a school near by, had objected to this arrangement (Durey 06).

Regarding the understanding of the above, the writer tries to connect the events that occur in the author's residence in 1832 with *The Coliseum* poem. According to the above exposure, in 1832, New York is experiencing a problem. New York committee decided to make hospitals and several other buildings. When they need a large funs and spacious grounds to finally feel aggrieved

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residents due to the rise in taxes their living needs. Not only that problem, the people who have land near Fishergate Bar, it must be lose his home, because their rulers have already force it to keep their several buildings.

It is clear that the problems experience by the residents of New York City in 1832 has a population problem in common with Rome in the 64 century. At that time some inhabitants of Rome that around the Coliseum became victims of the great fire cause by Nero, three days events it last up to seven districts on fire. After the fire is extinguished, Nero can build several magnificent buildings around the coliseum. It is says that fire due to a power game. A similar incident in Rome are same the evidence in New York, 1832 that the writer explains above. So the author of the poem entitled *The Coliseum* is inspired by events that took place at his residence relate the contents of his poem and also his experience and his knowledge in colosseum building.

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The thesis writer gives the reasons why Edgar Allan Poe creates his poem *The Coliseum* in the 1832 and the thesis writer also has many reasons to answer it. Firstly, the thesis writer argues that this poem is written by Poe to representation its problem in his country and also to allusion his government how they solve their problem. Secondly, Poe writes this poem to get acceptance from everyone knows about his relationship, because before he writes this poem, his relation became a controversial issue. Lastly, there is some books that tells about Rome fall or the ruins in the coliseum Rome, they are tells that history but still some questions from their readers, in this poem, Poe writes to give the response from the readers of several books.

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CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

Edgar Allan Poe is an American poet, he capture the imagination and interest of readers around the world. His creative talents led to the beginning of different literary genres, such as *The Coliseum* poem “among other distinctions, his life, however, has become a bit history itself. And the lines between fact and fiction have been reflected substantially since his life. He also the best American poet that always make his work meaningful and give the new knowledge each his work. Not only have these characteristics before, but also made his work like the story of his experience or the historical context. Within his work has the word “I fate”, it mean his world refer to suggestion the readers possibility of his work.

One of his literary works that have this word is the coliseum.

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This poem is actually part of play by Edgar Allan Poe, and the entire plot is Rome and about much evidence through the Roman Empire (Colosseum). This may have something to do with the complicate relationship that Poe has with his cousin that was much younger than he, with whom has relationship is very strange. Along with this, Poe’s vast knowledge of history allowed him to make reverences to mythology. He uses this knowledge of his history and the English language to create his own style and genre that made him famous. In these, and many other ways, the life of Edgar Allan Poe greatly changes the person and author that he became.

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Then he use simple and understanding word for the diction in his poem, so the readers can understand easily with the content such as Judæan king , melody from Memnon and the coliseum, it is the great building which is stand for the glory Roman empire. At the last century, much evidence happens in the coliseum building. Most of the events take place is get the destroying factor. However, the author life at that written time ought to influence of this poem and some of the evidence are the same with his life.

In this poem, the thesis writer finds many foreign words which are relate with the historical of ancient Roman Empire. Some of the first century until the third century or 64 AD until 80 AD, these last centuries are getting the serious event that lead in the coliseum building. At the beginning evidence occurs when the glory time by Augustus emperor rule. After that, some of disaster through the building continuity, Such as flood, fire, earthquake, the long dry season and corrupt are the destroying factors. The author feels all event ever take place when he visit that building and still some of the places show the evidences, the next year, when there are many evidences in his own town , the author reflects his experience and his knowledge through to the literary work. This poem remains us to the history of ancient Roman Empire and the historical evidence in coliseum building that became ruin it.

After the thesis writer analyzes this poem uses historical approach, the thesis writer knows about some historical events or movement might have influenced Edgar Allan Poe in writing. There are many historical events that influence Poe to write this poem, firstly, Poe influences some problem in his

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country such as corruption and bad authority. Secondly, Poe inspires to write *The Coliseum* when he visits that place. Thirdly, when he writes *The Coliseum* there are many literary works that has written before and Poe inspires to write it. Lastly, it is came from his condition in his life, before it written, Poe has problem due to his controversial relationship and after his writers *The Coliseum* and also get the prize from his poem contest, it problem can be solved it. All these events can inspire Poe to write *The Coliseum* and he reflects to contain it. However, in *The Coliseum* there are some historical events that have been reflected by Poe. These events such as the glory time of Roman Emperor in Colosseum building, the bad authority until the corruption make destroying, the gladiator contest until the evidence of murder, the long dry season, the fire, earthquake and flood. All the events above, it is causes the ruins in the colosseum building at that time. So, the content of Edgar Allan Poe's poem *The Coliseum* also uses to allusion his

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government how solved his problem.

In this study, there many problems occurs when the thesis writer in finding the solving problem, because a few student that has analyze this poem and the poem author gives little information about this poem why this poem has been written. In this study, the thesis writer also analyze the figurative speech to know what the meaning in general or the specific word in it and also in finding what the theme of this poem, to solve these problem, the thesis writer uses the structuralism approach. The thesis writer hopes the next writer can solve the entire problem and give more information completely about the author and the coliseum it self.

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