#### **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

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'erJudæan king
Taught in the gardens of Gethsemanéline 15
O charms more potent than the rapt Chaldee
The state of the s
Even draw down from out the quiet stard
Ever drew down from out the quiet stars!
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
71 initialization vigit holds the swarting but
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,

Glides spectre-like, unto his marble home,
Lit by the wan light of the hornédmoon,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
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

"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

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)

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!

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 Vasness, 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.

### Personification

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

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 tray 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:

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 fells 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

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

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, form 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 introducetion 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 lef to time"

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 explaination 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.

"of lofty contemplation lef 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 colosseumwas 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

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 fells 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)

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 20<sup>th</sup> 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

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

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.

"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).

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.

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.

### 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"

"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.

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.

"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

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.

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

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"

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

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

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*.

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.

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, 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

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

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. 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.

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

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

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

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.

# 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

(<u>www.eapoe.org/</u>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 Bade 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:

"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".

Lines 2-3, Byron in *Childe Harold*, IV,cxxviii, 7-8, calls the Coliseum" This long – explored but still exhausteless 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.

Lines 17-25, Killing Campbell points out the triple use of "Here, where"in Childe Harold (IV, exIii, 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.

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.

Lines 20, Poe changes "yellow hair" to "glider hair" to be correct, few Romans ledies are natural blonde, but many use a dye, a plant call lysimachia, which pliny the Elder (Natural History, XXV1, 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 Down, he say to have been the rule of Ethiopia and of Egypt and, according to Homer, was an ally of Priam during the Roman times, 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 Hardian, but cease 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 ofgritstone or breccias, repair 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"

Composed Upon West minister 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

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

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, Sardanaplus, in a panoramic view of civic destruction in city of Rome (238).

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

poem. Because the writer wants to strengthen it 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 Yorkers and Poe certainly understand the circumstances in place he live, because Poe at that time is working as a journalist in Baltimore Saturday Visiter. 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 leads 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 firs 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 problem.

New York committee decided to make hospitals and several other buildings.

When they are need a large funs and spacious grounds to finally feel aggrieve

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.

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 acceptation 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.