

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1. Background of The Study

Literary works consists of knowledge or human life issues. So much literature has a message to explain the condition of the author. Literature is often an expression of society (Wellek and Warren, 1942: 89), literature is usually influenced by the social situation in which the author lived. From here we can find meaning in the literature to see what the author is saying and how he/she says it. As we know that many types of literary works, such as drama novels, poetry and short stories. There will be a very interesting special think of any kind of literature.

Poetry is one of literary works that more superiority than the other works, because inside the word in poetry there is language that says more and says it more intensely than ordinary language (Perrine and Thomas, 1992: 3). It means the language in the poem needs more analysis. Every word in the poem has more meaning. So that in the poem usually used supported element to enrich the meaning.

A poem is a media for a poet to express feeling and imagination based on condition of a poet's life. There are many things that the poet wants to send message in the poetic words that have deep meaning. Most

of ideas were taken by a poet is about happiness, sadness, beautiful things, etc. Those interpret everything happened at the time.

A poet usually used supported elements in a poem to make a message in poem send goodly. The supported elements in poem that usually called by intrinsic elements such as imagery, figure of speech, diction and tone. Those elements make the reader easily to understand the meaning of the poem and enrich the meaning of the poem.

Maya Angelou is one of poets who she uses a poem as a media to express her feeling. Though Angelou is essentially a secular biographer, her extraordinary and persistent sense of self, one that rises both through and above experience... (Bloom, 2009: 1). She was born in St. Louis, Missouri in 1928. She is Black woman living in America where Whites are majority there (quoted from <http://www.MayaAngelou.com> at June 1<sup>st</sup> 2014: 19.00 WIB). She is one of woman poets that use a poem as express her feeling and her life experiences. Some of her poems that are telling about her life and interesting to be analyzed are *Phenomenal Woman* and *Still I Rise*. Those poems have similar publishing in 1978 and the topic about condition of black woman in America, but also have differences intrinsic elements to describe the figure of black woman in those poems.

*Phenomenal Woman* illustrates the love a woman for herself even though she is not considered beautiful. The language and tone indicates that the speaker was abused. Her pride has risen from the torture and

neglect she experienced. Instead of being ashamed and blaming herself, she has gained hope, and strength, which makes her the *Phenomenal Woman*. This is one self-confident woman with exceptionally strong compelling persona and very high self-esteem, who loves herself in spite of the discrimination and the exploitation from society and people. While *Still I Rise* is Angelou's poem published in 1978. This poem also tells about the author's life. It talks about a black woman who lives among Whites. But she has strong confidence and believes that she will be better than the Whites.

Based on the discussion above, the writer interests to analyze the intrinsic element on Maya Angelou's *Phenomenal Woman* and *Still I Rise* poems which the intrinsic elements of those poems can describe about the figure of woman in those poems.

## **1.2. Statements of the Problem**

Based on the background of the study, this study focuses the problem as follows:

1.2.1. What are the intrinsic elements of *Phenomenal Woman* and *Still I Rise* poems?

1.2.2. How are the intrinsic elements using to describe the figure of woman on *Phenomenal Woman* and *Still I Rise* poems?

### **1.3. Objectives of the Study**

The writer conducts this study to answer the statement of the problem:

1.3.1. Describing the intrinsic elements of the Maya Angelou *Phenomenal Woman* and *Still I Rise* poems.

1.3.2. Describing the intrinsic elements that use to describe the figure of woman on Maya Angelou *Phenomenal Woman* and *Still I Rise* poems.

### **1.4. Scope and Limitation of the study**

This study focuses on the intrinsic elements of Maya Angelou's *Phenomenal Woman* and *Still I Rise* poems that use to describe the figure woman on those poems. The writer also limits the analysis on the words that represent the figure of woman in those poems. Furthermore, to complete the analysis, Maya's biography is also discussed.

### **1.5. The Significance of the Study**

The result of this research is expected to give contributions as follows:

1.5.1. The result of this study is expected to give practical contribution for the literature lecturers to be a source and empirical data in teaching about structuralism especially about intrinsic element in the poems.

1.5.2. This study is hoped to be able to give contribution and foundation for future researcher which are interested in literature to understand the structuralism that contain of intrinsic element. In addition, this study can become comparison for the future researcher especially in analyzing the intrinsic element of poem.

## **1.6. Method of the Study**

### **1.6.1. The Research Method**

To conduct this research, the writer uses descriptive qualitative method. The writer tries to descriptive the meaning of the words in Maya Angelou's *Phenomenal Woman* and *Still I Rise* poems.

### **1.6.2. The Unit of Research**

The units analysis of this thesis are two poems by Maya Angelou entitled *Phenomenal Women* and *Still I Rise* published on 1978, those poems are accessed from the book *The Complete Collected Poems of Maya Angelou*.

### **1.6.3. The Research Approach**

In this research the writer uses the structural approach. Structural approach accounts for intrinsic aspect in the poem. The writer also uses library research to obtain data sources and answer the problem. As for the main source of the data in the study is the subject of where the data was obtained (Suharsimi Arikunto, 2002: 107).

#### **1.6.4. Collecting the Data**

Therefore the collecting data makes good use of data from books, journals, and online resources. The data analysis follows the following steps.

1. Providing the environment of Angelou's life and what happen to her as a black woman to see the relationship between her life and her works.
2. Finding out the words that use the intrinsic element, then the writer will present the meaning of the words.
3. Making a connection between the intrinsic element and black woman figure that described by Angelou in those poems.

#### **1.7. Definition of Key Terms**

1. Intrinsic element: the analysis of the literature itself without looking the relation with the external aspect.
2. Phenomenal Women: one of Angelou's poems that tell about her life. Her poem illustrates the love a woman has for herself even though she is not considered beautiful.
3. Still I Rise: one of Angelou's poems that tell about her life among whites. This poem explains about her motivation to change her life better with her confident, narcissism, brave and knowledge.
4. Black woman's figure: the character of black woman which describe in *Phenomenal Woman* and *Still I Rise* Poems by Maya Angelou.