

## Semantic Figures Analysis, Meaning and Its Moral Value in The Poems of on the Pulse of Morning and Still I Rise by Maya Angelou

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### Abstract

A semantic figure is another term from figurative language which is the use of word that diverges from its normal meaning or a phrase that stylistic with a specialized meaning not based on the literal meaning of the words in it. The objectives of this study are examined two cases; (1) semantic figures in the poems of Maya Angelou; (2) moral value and its meaning of the poems. This study using descriptive qualitative method because post positivism form is used in this study. From this perspective, this study is seen as theoretical, in which results in a substantive formation based on conceptualizations on possible variation to compose, develop and reconstruct theory. There are two poems of Maya Angelou in this study as the samples; (1) On the Pulse of Morning; (2) Still I Rise. The results of this study indicated that there were many semantic figures implied. There were oppression and persecution meanings based on 2 poems. This study is proved that semantic figures and the meanings which are implied from 2 poems have important roles in convey moral value or message and idea to the reader and can be used as a guidance in our lives. The implication of this study is that the authors believe that this study is going to help the reader to understand what the semantic figures mean is, they also will know the meanings of the Maya Angelou's poems collection.

**Keywords:** Semantic Figures, Meanings, Moral Value, Poem, Stylistic

### INTRODUCTION

Poetry is a type of literature whose form is carefully chosen and arranged so as to increase people's awareness of an experience and generate special responses through sounds, rhythms, and special meanings. There are also those who say poetry is an essay of a typical language that contains experiences that are structured in a special way. Poetry can also be called poetic art because poetry can arouse feelings, attract attention, generate clear responses, or can create compassion because every lyric must have an implied meaning from each sentence.

Reading activities cannot be separated from student activities. In reading, the most important is the ability to understand each information. The development of science and technology today is understood when reading activities are carried out related to information on the development of science and technology. Besides, Pratiwi and Subyantoro (2003: 18) argue that *"the reading process takes a place as an active response in the level of the reader's awareness of a written speech (reading) which stimulates it"*.

Reading is a process that is carried out and used by the reader to get the message to be conveyed by the author through written language. Reading can also be considered as a process to understand what is implied in the explicit, see the thoughts contained in the written words.

Shortly, it can be said that reading is picking and understanding the meaning or meaning contained in written material. So, it is clear to us that reading is a process that is related to language. Therefore, it is very important to remember that any difficulties related to sounds, sequences of sounds, intonations, or pauses must be explained before the students are told to read silently or read verbally. The conclusion which can be drawn in the discussion above is that reading is understanding the language patterns of the written description.

Reading literature is the same as understanding the life (human) because the literary relationship with life is very close. Because, in literary works often reflected a variety of life both regarding human relationship with others, humans with themselves, humans with their environment, or humans with their God. Starting from this assumption it is clear, that without ruling out the nature of literary works as works of art. Literary works as if required to provide 'value' which in turn is used by humans as the basis of their lives. Besides, such problem also give rise to other assumptions that good or useful literary works are valuable literary works

Reading poetry appeared in Indonesia since 1960, this term was brought to Indonesia by W.S Rendra who was a gift for his return from America. Previously, in Indonesia known as declamation. Poetry is also very different in how to convey it by reading a fiction prose (Novel). Poetry is interpreted as the writings of poets. But this understanding is denied by some people, because they think that poetry is a kind of personal spontaneous, which can be expressed by written words, forms of physical action, or relatively musical sounds, or even just feelings. So that, it is clear that every poem must have an implied meaning, it indicates that the author of the poem is trying to express his/her feelings through lyrics.

The implied meaning of each lyric is called semantic figures. A semantic figure is another term from figure of speech, is a word or phrase using figurative language, language that has other meaning than its normal definition. In other words, semantic figure relies on implied or suggested meaning, rather than a dictionary definition. According Leech & Short (1981:278); Tarigan (2009:66), argued that "*Semantic figures is a way of using language in certain contexts, by certain people, for certain purposes. When viewed from the function of language, the use of language is included in poetic functions which is to make the message weightier. The correct use of the app can attract the attention of the recipient. On the contrary, if the use is not right, then the use of semantic figures will be useless*".

Based on the explanation above about reading poetry, there are 2 titles of poetry from the figure of a very well-known black American woman author, tells of an oppression of white people against black people and seeking for freedom in the United States and the titles are "*On the Pulse of Morning*" and "*Still I Rise*".

### Conceptualizing Poetry

The poetry is created in intends of condition of feeling, need soul expression spontaneously and compactly. By poetry, the poet chooses the word which is compacted the language. According to Waluyo (1991:25) "*poetry is a form of literary words expressing the feeling of poet imaginatively and arranged concentrated to the physical structure and soul structure*".

According to Hariratul Jannah (2018:8) "*poetry will not increase only our knowledge. Though it is a means of knowledge, it is more than a source of information. If we wish to extend our knowledge and our stock of information that we had better study books of philosophy or science of life. It helps us to see the truth and recognize value. It contributes to our understanding of the world and the people that live in it*".

In poetry, text or the words close is related to rhythm structure. That is why, it usually finds the deviation in structure of sentences. The deviation may be caused by sound similarity,

rhythm importance, the stressing of a word, figure of speech and sound of the meaning. A literary work is constructed by some united aspects. Those aspects are Intrinsic approach and Extrinsic approach.

The intrinsic approach here refers to semantic figures. Semantic figure is the way the poet explains his thoughts and feelings in a style that is very beautiful in the form of poet then the extrinsic approach here refers to the meaning of the lyric of the poem. Those following are an explanation of the extrinsic elements of poetry according Hariratul Jannah (2018:12) “1. *Analyzed the relation of literature and art to the poet (history and story of literature, in related to the rhyme, rhythm, musical (in drama), irony and cynical); 2. Literature and biography based on the social background and culture equal or not; 3. Literature and psychology; 4. Literature and society; 5. Literature and ideas; 6. Literature education; 7. Literature economic; 8. Literature and politics*”.

### Style and Stylistics

Semantic figures often considered as the synonym of the stylistics, but in the fact the semantic figure is a part of language style. The language fashion has many huge references. Based on Gorys Keraf (2002:112), “*Style changes to the ability and expertise to write or use words beautifully*”. Meanwhile, according to Hari Murti Kridalaksana (1993:63), the style (language) has three definitions, there are: “1. *The usage of someone’s language stuffs of speaking and writing; 2. The utilization of precise fashion to reap the sure effects; 3. The entire language person of organization of writers*”.

Stylistic of the study of varieties of language whose properties position that language in a context, and tries to set up concepts able to accounting for the precise picks made via way of means of people and social business of their use of language. The lyrics of the poetry contains of rhetorical devices which is a style where a style is part of classical rhetoric and a number of rhetorical devices are worth considering in any analysis of style.

The style of language is a deviation of meaning from written words that are intentionally carried out by the author to cause certain effects or cause certain connotations. Style is a form of expression of ideas or imagination that is in accordance with the goals and effects that will be created.

### Semantic Figures

Semantic figure makes up a huge portion of the English language, making it more creative, more expressive, and just more interesting. According Badrun (1989:26) mentions “*Character Language (Semantic Figures) is a language disclosure technique the meaning does not refer directly to the intended object and language. Character is part of the style of language. Chinese language is more likely to display the meaning is implied, so the capture of the meaning of the message is done first through interpretation. The use of character is done as a way to cause certain effects, so the recipient of the message is more interested. Glossy words the essence of giving other ways to enrich the additional dimensions of language*”.

Semantic figure is word that used in a discourse or text to give certain emphasis of an A semantic figure is a use of word that diverges from its normal meaning or a phrase with a specialized meaning not based on the literal meaning of the words in it idea or feeling. such as a metaphor, simile or personification. Semantic figures often provide emphasis, freshness of expression or clarity. Semantic Figure is not only used to embellish the language but also cause a moment of excitement when reading. So, it has a function role in a poem which makes the poem contains beautiful language, brief, solid and full of meaning. It is used similarly in writing

in addition to in speech. It additionally strengthens the innovative expression and outline at the side of making the language greater graphic, pointed and vivid.

In a fact, there are many types of Semantic Figures and each experts had a different opinion. In this case, the writers will take an opinion from Tarigan (2009:6), *“In general, in Indonesia semantic figures divided into 4 types of derivatives, those are semantic figure of comparison, semantic figure of contradiction, semantic figure of allusion and semantic figure of affirmation”* and also take some semantic figures passages from Hariratul Jannah in the book *“English Poetry: For Advance Level And Who Love It (2018:25 – 30).*

**Table 1.** Types of Semantic Figures

No.	Types	Description
1.	Comparison	Show about comparison to increase the impression and the effect either on the listeners and the readers.
2.	Contradiction	Commonly used to express an actual matter with the opposite term, intended to get the impression that is received by the readers or the listeners about what is conveyed.
3.	Allusion	Used to express a matter expressly in order to increase understanding and impressions for receiver.
4.	Affirmation	Intended to express affirmation to the receiver. It aims to change a person’s behaviors.

**Table 2.** Parts of the Types of Semantic Figure

Types	Parts of the Types	Description
Comparison	Imagery	Compares two different things simply but considered the same.
	Personification	Compares inanimate objects as if they have human nature.
	Metaphor	Expressing an analogical comparison between two different things or indicate one kind of idea to replace other word or phrase for suggestion of likeness between the two.
	Symbol	Used to describe something using animals, objects, or plants as symbols.
	Allegory	Use to explain about certain intentions indirectly (non-literally) but still interrelated.
	Simile	Compares explicitly between two things by using conjunction “as” and “like”.
	Metonymy	Used to mention one word with other word that are still closely related such as using brand or special name for an object instead of other more general objects.
	Synecdoche	Whereby the part is made to stand for the whole, the whole for a part, the species for the genus and vice versa. <i>Pars pro toto</i> is to use a part of something to state the whole of it, while <i>totem pro parte</i> is to use the whole to state a part of it.
Contradiction	Paradox	The style of language that presents contradictions between statements and facts.

	Antithesis	Present pairs of words but opposite the meaning. This pair of words is presented sequentially.
	Litotes	Understated or demanded rather than in reality.
	Hyperbole	Exaggerate from the original reality.
Allusion	Pleonasms	Used by stating a thing that is clear but still given additional words to reinforce the point.
	Repetition	Repetition of a word in several phrases with the aim of emphasizing a purpose.
	Tautology	Repeating words in sentence several times with the aim of affirming the intent.
	Rhetoric	The form of questionable question but actually there is no need to answer.
	Parallelisms	Repetition of figure of speech that used to affirm the meaning of phrases in a poem.
	Climax	Expresses more than two things in sequence with increasing levels.
	Anticlimax	States more than two things in succession with decreasing levels.
Affirmation	Irony	Use to express something in contradiction with reality. It sounds like praise but actually means negative / satire.
	Cynicisms	Used by expressing affirmation indirectly or implicitly.
Related Semantic Figure	Antonomasia	Used to a proper name in place of an ordinary word.
	Periphrasis	Descriptive phrase in a place of a simple expression.
	Euphemisms	Use of an inoffensive expression in place of an unpleasant tone.
	Oxymoron	Used to combine of incongruous words.
	Catachresis	Used to inappropriate word; incompatible imagery (mixed metaphor).
	Synesthesia	Illogical. Combination of non-sense impression terms.
	Hendiad	Use combination of two words to express a single idea.
	Pun	Play on words exploiting similarity in writing or have the same sound (homonymy).

### Moral Value

Moral value is the term humans refer to humans or other people in actions that have positive values. Humans who have no morals are called immoral, meaning they are immoral and do not have a positive value in other human eyes. The assessment includes true wrong or good or bad people in behaving So moral value is a rule and understanding that determines things that are considered good or bad, and explains what humans should and should do with others human.

### Biography of the Poet

Maya Angelou born in St. Louis Missouri 1928. She had a difficult childhood. Her father and mother break up whilst she become very young and she and her older brother, Bailey, have been dispatched to stay with their father's mother, Anne Henderson, in Stamps, Arkansas.

Angelou's career as a performer began to take off, In the mid-1950s. She landed a function in a visiting manufacturing of Porgy and Bess, later acting withinside the off-



Broadway Production *Calypso Heat Wave* (1957) and freeing her first album, *Miss Calypso* (1957). Angelou spent a whole lot of the 1960s abroad, dwelling first in Egypt after which in Ghana, operating as an editor and a contract writer.

After publishing *Caged Bird*, Angelou broke new space artistically, educationally and socially together along with her drama, *Georgia* in 1972, which made her the first African-American woman to have her screenplay produced. Angelou went directly to earn a Tony Award nomination for her function withinside the play *Look Away* (1973) and an Emmy Award nomination for her work at the television miniseries *Roots* (1977), amongst different honors.

## METHOD

Post positivism form was used in this study. It believes that a reality needs to be treated as a fact that is multiple, can be systematized, has a characteristic, a conception and contains an associative relationship and must be understood naturally, contextually and hecically. From this perspective of post positivism, this study is seen as theoretical, in which this study results in a substantive theory formation based on conceptualizations, abstracts, characteristics and systems of conceptual relationships based on their possible variations. So that, this study is using open sampling because Grounded theory is used in this study as the strategies where it uses to compose, develop and reconstruct understanding.

This study was conducted in Makassar with flexible time and collecting data through many ways such as collecting, identifying, analyzing and giving other important notes to the source of data. The data are fields note and results of inductive observation participation while the model is record, document, and induction theory. The writers determined the main data which learning the object on the study and the data are the lyrics of Maya Angelou's poems collection under the title "*On the Pulse of Morning*" and "*Still I Rise*" and there were videos of Maya Angelou read the poems, books, essays, articles, journals, and all about her to support the main data.

First, the writers used documentation technique. Archive and various documents which can be used as the secondary data, to complete the data that has been excavated through observation of the lyrics of the poem. Secondly, the writers used interpretative understanding, identifying and classification data which is permanent or does not show changes in various situations and conditions. In this case, data is recorded through field notes. Thirdly, test the objectivity and validity of the data. Proving the validity of the data is determined by the credibility of the findings and their interpretation by seeking the findings and interpretations carried out according to the actual conditions and approved by other authors. While reliability, data can be cultivated by storing the database, which is ready to be tested again by other authors with the same results.

Descriptive qualitative was used in this study to describe the semantic figures of the poems of Maya Angelou collection. According to Bogdan and Biklen (1998:28) qualitative study is Descriptive "*The data collected is in the form of the word or pictures rather than numbers*". Process the data was taking from various sources, dialogue, picture, movement, article, etc. This study deals with a descriptive way to collect data. The writers selected the poems, downloaded the video, watched the video while read the lyrics of the poems stanza by stanza and line by line before analyze and the last was identify the semantic figures and analyzing the moral value inside the lyrics of the poems collection of Maya Angelou.

## FINDING AND DISCUSSION

### Findings

#### a) Background of the Poems

*On The Pulse of Morning* is 106 lines and 34 stanzas long, free verse, with no set rhythm to its lines, no pattern of rhyme in its many stanzas. It is a gradual constructing sort of song-tale with a heart-beat made of various elements – from a rock to a mythological king, from local Americans to dinosaurs. As pure poetry the language is not so musical or textured, the sense not so challenging, but where the poem does succeed is in its breadth and inclusiveness. It is a poem for everyone, it gives hope to all.

*Still I Rise* is a powerful, empowering poem all about the struggle to overcome prejudice and injustice. It is one of Maya Angelou's most popular poems. It is a reminder of the abuse of power by those who sit in government, the judiciary, in the military and in the police force. For members of the public, for society, it sends out the clear, repeated message of hope. No matter the circumstances, there must always be hope to cling on to.

#### b) The Corpus Data of the Poems

**Table 3.** Corpus data of *On the Pulse of Morning*

Stanzas	Corpus Data	Semantic Figures	Lines
1	<i>A rock, A river, A Tree</i>	Antonomasia	1
1	<i>Hosts to species long since departed,</i>	Metonymy	2
1	<i>Marked the Mastodon,</i> <i>The Dinosaur, who left dried tokens</i>	Symbol	3 – 4
1	<i>Of their sojourn here</i> <i>On our planet floor,</i>	Periphrasis	5 – 6
1	<i>Any broad alarm of their hastening doom</i> <i>Is lost in the gloom of dust and ages</i>	Metaphor	7 – 8
2	<i>But today, the Rock cries out to us, clearly,</i> <i>forcefully,</i>	Personification	9
2	<i>Come, you may stand upon my</i> <i>Back and face your distant destiny,</i> <i>But seek no haven in my shadow,</i>	Cynicisms	10 – 12
3	<i>I will give you no hiding place down here</i>	Pleonasms	13
4	<i>You, created only a little lower than</i> <i>The angels, have crouched too long in</i>	Allegory	14 – 15
4	<i>The bruising darkness</i>	Oxymoron	16
4 – 5	<i>Have lain too long</i> <i>Facedown in ignorance,</i> <i>Your mouths spilling words</i> <i>Armed for slaughter.</i>	Allegory	17 – 20
6	<i>The rock cries out to us today, you may stand</i> <i>on me,</i>	Personification	21
6	<i>But do not hide your face,</i>	Cynicisms	22
7	<i>Across the wall of the world</i>	Imagery	23
7	<i>A river sings a beautiful song,</i>	Personification	24
7	<i>It says come rest here by my side</i>	Metonymy	25
8	<i>Each of you a bordered country,</i>	Litotes	26
8	<i>Delicate and strangely made proud,</i>	Metaphor	27
8	<i>Yet thrusting perpetually under siege.</i>	Litotes	28
9	<i>Your armed struggles for profit</i> <i>Have left collars of waste upon</i>	Allegory	29 – 30
9	<i>My shore, currents of debris upon my breast.</i>	Tautology	31
10	<i>Yet, today I call you to my riverside,</i>	Metonymy	32
10	<i>If you will study war no more. Come,</i>	Irony	33
11	<i>Clad in peace and I will sing the songs</i>	Pun	34
11	<i>The Creator gave to me when I and the</i>	Symbol	35
11	<i>Tree and the Rock were one.</i>	Hendiad	36

12	Before cynicism was a bloody sear across your Brow and when you yet knew you still Knew nothing.	Allegory	37 – 39
13	<i>The river sang and sings on.</i>	Personification	40
14	There is a true yearning to respond to	Imagery	41
14	<i>The singing river and the wise rock</i>	Paradox	42
15	<i>So say the Asian, the Hispanic, the Jew The African, the Native American, the Sioux, The Catholic, the Muslim, the French, the Greek, The Irish, the Rabbi, the Priest, the Sheikh, The Gay, the Straight, the Preacher, The Privileged, the Homeless, the Teacher,</i>	Antonomasia	43 – 48
15	<i>They all hear</i>	Metonymy	49
15	<i>The speaking of the Tree</i>	Paradox	50
16	They hear <i>the first and last</i> of every Tree	Climax	51
16	<i>Speak to humankind today.</i> Come to me, beside the river.	Cynicisms	52
17	<i>Plant yourself</i> beside the River.	Irony	53
18	Each of you, <i>descendant of some passed</i>	Litotes	54
18	On <i>traveller</i> , has been paid for.	Metonymy	55
19	<i>You</i> , who gave me my first name, <i>you</i>	Repetition	56
19	<i>Pawne, Apache, Seneca, you</i>	Antonomasia	57
19	Cheeroke Nation, who rested with me, then Forced on bloody feet, left me to the employment of	Pleonasms	58 – 59
19	Other seekers – desperate for gain. Starving for gold.	Allegory	60 – 61
20	<i>You, the Turk, the Arab, the Swede, the German, the Eskimo, the Scot ... You the Ashanti, the Yoruba, the Kru, bought</i>	Antonomasia	62 – 63
20	<i>Sold, stolen, arriving on a nightmare</i>	Tautology	64
20	<i>Praying for a dream</i>	Euphemisms	65
21	Here, root yourselves beside me.	Imagery	66
22	I am <i>the Tree planted by the River,</i>	Metaphor	67
22	<i>Which will not be moved</i>	Litotes	68
23	I, the <i>Rock</i> , I, the <i>River</i> , I, the <i>Tree</i>	Symbol	69
23	<i>I am yours</i> – your passages have been paid	Cynicisms	70
24	Lift up your faces, <i>you have a piercing need</i>	Hyperbole	71
24	For this <i>bright morning dawning</i> for you	Metaphor	72
25	<i>History, despite its wrenching pain, Cannot be un-lived, but it faced With courage, need not be lived again.</i>	Tautology	73 – 75
26	Lift up your eyes upon	Imagery	76
26	This <i>day breaking</i> for you	Metaphor	77
27	Give birth again To the dream.	Allegory	78 – 79
28	<i>Women, children, men</i>	Antonomasia	80
28	Take it into the palms of <i>your hands</i>	Catachresis	81
29	Mold it into the shape of your most Private need. Sculpt it into The image of your most public self.	Allegory	82 – 84
29	Lift up your hearts	Imagery	85
29	Each <i>new</i> hour holds <i>new</i> chances	Repetition	86
29 – 30	For <i>new beginnings.</i>	Euphemisms	87 – 88



	Do not be <i>wedded forever</i>		
30	To fear, <i>yoked eternally</i> To <i>brutishness</i> .	Oxymoron	89 – 90
31	<i>The horizon leans forward,</i>	Personification	91
31	Offering you <i>space to place</i> new steps of change.	Euphemisms	92
31	Here, on <i>the pulse of this fine day</i>	Metaphor	93
31	<i>You may have the courage</i>	Irony	94
31	To look <i>up and out and upon</i> me, the	Pun	95
31 – 33	<i>Rock, the River, the Tree, your country.</i> No less to <i>Midas</i> than the <i>Mendicant</i> . No less to you now than the <i>Mastodon</i> the.	Symbol	96 – 98
34	Here, on <i>the pulse of this fine day</i>	Metaphor	99
34	You may have the grace to <i>look up and out</i>	Pleonasms	100
34	<i>And into</i> your sister's eyes, <i>and into</i> <i>Your</i> brother's face, <i>your</i> country	Repetition	101–102
34	And say <i>simply</i> Very <i>simply</i>	Parallelisms	103–104
34	With hope	Imagery	105
34	Good Morning	-	106

**Table 4.** Corpus data of *Still I Rise*

Stanzas	Corpus Data	Semantic Figure	Lines
1	You may write me down in <i>history</i>	Pleonasms	1
1	With your <i>bitter, twisted lies</i> ,	Tautology	2
1	You may trod me im <i>the very dirt</i>	Pleonasms	3
1	But still, <i>like</i> dust, I'll rise.	Simile	4
2	<i>Does my sassiness upset you?</i>	Rhetoric	5
2	<i>Why are you beset with gloom?</i>	Cynicisms	6
2	'Cause I walk <i>like</i> I've got oil wells	Simile	7
2	Pumping in <i>my living room</i> .	Pleonasms	8
3	Just <i>like</i> moons and <i>like</i> suns,	Simile	9
3	With the <i>certainty of tides</i> ,	Periphrasis	10
3	Just like <i>hopes springing high</i> ,	Metaphor	11
3	Still <i>I'll rise</i>	-	12
4	Did you want to <i>see me broken?</i>	Cynicisms	13
4	<i>Bowed head</i> and <i>lowered eyes?</i>	Hendiad	14
4	Shoulders falling down <i>like</i> teardrops,	Simile	15
4	Weakened by my <i>soulful cries?</i>	Oxymoron	16
5	Does my haughtiness offend you?	Rhetoric	17
5	Don't you take it awful hard	Irony	18
5	'Cause I laugh <i>like</i> I've got gold mines	Simile	19
5	Diggin' in my <i>own</i> backyard.	Pleonasms	20
6	You may shoot me with your words, You may cut me with your eyes, You may kill me with your hatefulness,	Cynicisms	21 – 23
6	But still, <i>like</i> air, I'll rise	Simile	24
7	Does my sexiness upset you? Does it come as a surprise?	Rhetoric	25 – 26
7	That I dance <i>like</i> I've got diamonds	Simile	27
7	<i>At the meeting of my thighs?</i>	Euphemisms	28

8	Out of the huts of history's shame	Cynicisms	29
8	I rise	-	30
8	Up from a past that's rooted in pain	Cynicisms	31
8	I rise	-	32
8	I'm a black ocean, <i>leaping and wide</i> ,	Metaphor	33
8	<i>Welling and swelling</i> I bear in the tide.	Pun	34
9	Leaving behind <i>nights of terror and fear</i>	Metaphor	35
9	I rise	-	36
9	Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear	Metaphor	37
9	<i>I rise</i>	Euphemisms	38
9	Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,	Hyperbole	39
9	I am <i>the dream and the hope</i> of the slave	Metaphor	40
9	<i>I rise</i>		
9	<i>I rise</i>	Parallelisms	41 – 43
	<i>I rise</i>		

### c) Meaning of the Poems

On the Pulse of Morning has historical elements and philosophical passages and urges everyone to do their best and share the planet wisely. This poem talks about oppression, where the poet Maya Angelou takes a symbol *a Rock, a River, a Tree* from a song and shows them as the black people who lived in bordered country in America. But, the Native American didn't accept them, how the Native American intimidated the Black people such as they did not have any compassion. They such as like an animal who wants to war to innocent person like the black people. Therefore, the black people were intimidated there and with this poem, the poet shows her power inside the poem to ask for freedom and peacefully.

Still I Rise talks about how the poet Maya Angelou arise for her gloom ages of history with sacrifice, suffering, persecution, oppression and sexually abused by her mother's boyfriend, with the presence of this poem, the poet Maya Angelou asked for women rights in that time period and proved that the women shall not be forever like that. The meaning of this poem is really about self-respect, and confidence. In the poem, she reveals how she will overcome anything with herself-esteem. She suggests how not anything can get her down. She will upward push to any event and not anything, now no longer even her pores and skin will maintain her back. No matter what happens or what it thrown at Maya Angelou she will always rise. There is a line by line inside the poem which says that she will rise like a dust, she will rise like air, no matter how big the obstacles are, no matter how strong her enemy intimidate her but her will prove to survive to maintain her dignity as a woman.

### d) Moral Value of the Poems

In the poem On the Pulse of Morning, the poet Maya Angelou mention and show that the Native America had immoral, where they had a dirty soul who always wants to see the black people tormented by the heart with hatred of them. There are many moral values we can find out inside this poem, that inspired by Negro spirituals and other songs, the poem asserts that human beings every single person have a chance to change to be better and that working with the nature, do not see our different races, our wealth, our degree, our ethnicity, our position, our inheritance, our intelligence and especially our skin, be kind to other people because our dignity is the same in the eyes of the Creator.

Meanwhile, in the poem Still I Rise, the poet Maya Angelou told her story through this poem where she was a victim of rape from her mother's boyfriend. This poem helps to convey her message because at some points, when she's reading it, she laughs. This emphasizes her self-confidence even more. In the poem, she also asks rhetorical questions to showcase her pride. Many people can talk down on and degrade us, but it won't make us stop from rising

above it, do not make that to stop your ambition, and we as a human being especially a man, have to respect to a woman. Why? Because you were born from your mom's humiliation hole and that's only belong to a woman and your mom is a woman. So, this poem left us a message is no matter what had happened in your life even its gloomy with persecution, victims, intimidation or etc. That's the moral value which could take from this poem.

## Discussion

### a) On the Pulse of Morning

With a strong iambic beat the first line introduces three fundamental things; a Rock, a River, a Tree. Note the capitals which mean that the Rock for example represents the entire family of rocks. It looks back objectively, way back in time, to when dinosaurs ruled the planet. announces that the rock has a voice and that voice is crying out to modern day humans, not only in the USA but all over the world. This personification of the rock leaves the reader in little doubt that this is now a shared world, one world in which the fate of the human and the rock are bound together. The Rock has a vital message - humans must face their destiny with a fresh openness, come out of the shadows and live up to their spiritual potential. Open hearts are what is needed. After the Rock comes the river, whose song can be heard over the barriers, the wall of the world. Nature is forgiving, Nature is resilient. Water washes waste away and cleanses most things. This in itself is a beautiful thought and this is a powerful section which poses an existential question in metaphorical form. The voice of the Tree is reminiscent of the Statue of Liberty's in New Colossus (a sonnet). It is a welcoming invitation to all peoples to stay and be secure. Those who arrived as slaves, native American Indians, immigrant newcomers - there is no debt to pay - all individuals can be rooted again, just like the Tree.

### b) Still I Rise

This stirring poem is packed full of figurative language and when read through comes over as a sort of secular hymn to the oppressed and abused. The message is clear and loud – irrespective of the cruelty, no matter approach and circumstance, the sufferer will upward push up, the slave will triumph over adversity. Although written with the black slavery and civil rights troubles in mind, *Still I Rise* is accepted in its appeal. Any harmless individual, any minority, any state change to oppression or abuse ought to recognize the underlying theme – do not supply in to torture, bullying, humiliation and injustice. This is a poem aimed toward the oppressor. Note the first “You” withinside the first line and the rhyme scheme **abcb**, which tightly knits the stanza collectively. It's really well worth going thru the rhyme's impact due to the fact the entire rhymes consisting of *eyes / cries, hard / backyard, surprise / thighs* maintain as much as the remaining stanzas whilst the scheme adjustments from **abcb** to **abcc** and **aabb**, giving an absolute strong finishing to the piece. If this poem were a sculpt it would have a granite plinth to stand on and the natural imagery is far reaching and voice loud. There are moons and suns, tides and black ocean; there's clear dawn and ancestral gifts, all becoming a member of collectively in a crescendo of hope. All in all, an inspirational poem with powerful repetitive energy, a universal message and clear, positive pulse throughout.

## CONCLUSION

The present study proposed and analyzed the lyrics which contains semantic figures line by line from Maya Angelou's single and took it from her different album: “On the Pulse of Morning” in 1970 and “Still I Rise” in 1978. The analyses were including the detection of semantic figures, the determination of the kind of them and the relation of their contribution in building the meaning and reveal the moral value of the poem as follows:

### a) On the Pulse of Morning

Maya Angelou is a famous writer and African-American actress. She was a first woman who asked to read her poem “On the Pulse of Morning” in front of the people as her own work in the inauguration of the President of United States in 1993 and directly in front of the President Bill Clinton at the time. This poem is a free verse poem which have 34 stanzas and 106 lines and also the writers got a lot of semantic figures inside the poem where the semantic figure is uncountable to mention one by one where the writer got lyrics neither used the same semantic figures which means, this poem has the deepest meaning implied inside and all of the lyrics of this poem conscious of fellowship.

This poem represented the feeling of the poet every lyric. From a part of the lyrics its mention A Rock, A River, A Tree as a symbol the Black People who intimidated in their own sojourn by the Dinosaur, the Native American ask for freedom, peacefully and this poem shows the power of Negro neither who will never give up to maintain their position and their dignity as the Black people by the native American terror, instead the Black people ask for peace, really noble heart. This poem can also teach us a lesson that whatever our position, our degrees, our heritage, our knowledge, our race, our tribe, even our skin and our religion, we remain the same in the eyes of God. Even you were a bad people, there are still chances to change, there is still a chances to be better such as like be kind to another people because nothing is more noble than respect each other.

#### **b) Still I Rise**

It was built with 9 stanzas and 43 lines in 1978 by Maya Angelou. In analyzing the writers get a lot of the same semantic figures used in the lyrics inside the poem which are Simile, Metaphor, Cynicisms, and Rhetorical question. It made by the poet gloomy history where she was a victim in sexuality by her mother’s boyfriend who is very convenient. This poem represents the feeling of the poet, how mean and cruel the man who does not have the feeling that he violently rapes an innocent underage girl with a lust and desire like an animal.

She also built this poem to represents the heart of the woman rights that women have very high dignity. It gives us a lesson, even though many people who talked about your gloomy history, but do not look back, lift up your eyes open to future, do not make that history stop your ambition, instead that gloomy history should be a lesson to us to still arise, no matter how big your sacrifice, how big your suffering, how big your obstacles, such in the lyrics of the poem “*like dust... like air...*”, which are not be touch, which are not be killed or broken, so it will rise always. It also has a meaning implied inside which is we are human beings especially men, must respect women because, our future is in women hands. We as men should protect women and apply the women rights not even destroy her future.

From the semantic figures and the meaning of the poet analyzed, it concludes that both of the poem from Maya Angelou poem collection tell about as human beings must to respect each other especially to women.

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