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**The Attitude towards the Death of a Beloved in
Edgar Allan Poe's Poems, *The Raven*, *Lenore*,
Ulalume, and *Annabel Lee***

A Dissertation Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Master Degree in Literature and Civilization

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Dedication

I dedicate this work to my parents, my sisters and my sole brother.

With my apologies for too many hours spent away

To the soul of my beloved grandmother

To all my friends and colleagues.

To all my teachers.

Acknowledgements

I would like to acknowledge the generosity of The University of Mohamed Kheider whose excellent support of its thoughtful and encouraging administration and staff laid the foundation for the production of this work. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to my supervisor, Said Smatti for his encouragement as a scholar, teacher and advisor. His careful readings of my work, his tireless support for this project have given me a model of scholarship that I will always strive to emulate. I am extremely grateful for his words of wisdom that have been a constant source of inspiration. I would also like to acknowledge the support of a wonderful cadre of graduate colleagues and friends. I would especially like to acknowledge the members of the jury, Mr. Adel Boulegroune and Mr. Abdel Ouahab, who have provided advice, criticism, and encouragement. I would thank my teacher of computing Mr. Messaoud Mezatti, who helped me a lot in my work. Finally, I would like to acknowledge the support of my parents, sisters and my sole brother. Their love and indefatigable faith in me has brought this work to fruition.

Abstract

This dissertation examines man's attitude towards the death of a beloved in Edgar Allan Poe's poems, *The Raven*, *Lenore*, *Ulalume*, and *Annabel Lee*. Since the beginning of this life, man often avoids talking about the undeniable death because he could not bear the loss and bereavement alone. Few who stays strong and patient when a relative or close friend dies. Whatever the status of man, he suffers a lot in front of death. Everyone has his own way of mourning. Among them, poets are the most sensitive people who express their feelings of sadness and loss in a very elevated way, poetry. The use of the psychoanalytic approach in the analysis reveals the causes of the optimistic and the pessimistic attitudes, and the reasons behind the difference of man's attitudes towards death of a beloved. In turn, this approach will identify the man's state of mind then his personality as well.

Key words: Attitude, death, optimism, pessimism, psychoanalysis.

الملخص

هاته الأطروحة تهدف إلى تحليل موقف الرجل تجاه موت حبيبته في قصائد إدغار ألان بو، الغراب، لينور، أولالوم، و أنابل لي. منذ بدء الخليقة والإنسان يتهرب من الموت المحتم لأنه لا يستطيع أن يتحمل الخسارة و الحرمان لوحده. قليلون جدا هم الذين يجدون الصبر و الصلابة عند موت قريب أو صديق مقرب. مهما كانت حالة الإنسان فإنه يتألم كثيرا أمام الموت. لكل فرد طريقته في العزاء، من بين هؤلاء هناك الشعراء الذين هم أكثر الناس حساسية، يعبرون عن مشاعر حزنهم بأسلوب راق و هو الشعر. بالاعتماد على نظرية التحليل النفسي في تحليل القصائد سيكشف عن الأسباب الخفية التي وراء التفاؤل و اليأس في كل قصيدة، و من بعد عن الأسباب المسؤولة عن الاختلاف في موقف الرجل تجاه موت حبيبته. و منه هذه النظرية ستعرف عن الحالة الذهنية للرجل و من ثم شخصيته.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الموقف، الموت، التفاؤل، التشاؤم، التحليل النفسي.

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Thank Heaven! the crisis,
The danger, is past,
And the lingering illness
Is over at last—
And the fever called 'living'
Is conquered at last.

Edgar Allan Poe: For Annie (1849)

General Introduction

1. Background of the Study

Whenever we heard the name Edgar Allan Poe, we remember *The Raven*, a poem that became popular due to the musicality of its refrain "Nevermore". Poe is not only a poet but also a short story writer. He is known for his tales of fantasy, terror, horror and ratiocination stories; hence, he is the father of the detective stories. Edgar Allan Poe as an American dark Romanticist suffered a lot in his life. His woeful life made his way for writing. He suffered a lot with poverty and death that took all of his family. Thus, death was an essential theme in his works. Moreover, his misfortune made him breathless, heavily facing the world and lonely. In addition to his occupation as a writer, Poe was an editor and critic in the same time, but his reputation was not good during his time. Poe was a talent and genius writer. He has his own philosophy of writing. Unfairly, Poe did not receive any appreciations from his fellows despite his worthy works as others did.

During his lifetime, Poe was often searching for love and happiness, but both of them were far to realize, so he sees them as his lost dreams. He wanted at least to be regarded by his society, which did not appreciate his works. Nowadays, Poe is considered by many critics as one of the greatest authors whose works contributed in shaping the American literature. The well-known short stories that Poe wrote are *The Fall of the House of Usher*, *The Black Cat*, *The Mask of the Red Death*, and *The Purloined Letter*. On the other hand, poetry, in his point of view, is the most beautiful genre in which sensational words bind with a special music such, *To My Mother*, *To Helen*, *A Dream*, *Alone*, *Ulalume*, *Annabel Lee*, and *Lenore*.

2. Statement of Problem

This dissertation deals with the four poems of Edgar Allan Poe, *The Raven*, *Lenore*, *Ulalume*, and *Annabel Lee*. These poems are best examples about the theme of death of a beloved. Through these poems, the protagonist is always a man who is mourning his youth and beautiful woman. However, the interesting matter here is that man's attitude lays into two categories, optimism and pessimism. The latter impression is a normal behaviour towards death, but the optimistic attitude is the ambiguous one. Therefore, this dissertation is held to study the different attitudes and the reasons behind this variation.

3. Research Questions

This dissertation aims to answer the following questions:

- What are the reasons behind the pessimistic and optimistic attitudes of man towards death of his beloved in each poem?
- Why is there a difference in man's attitudes towards the death of the beloved in these poems?
- How does the death of a beloved manifest itself in these poems?
- Does this theme reflect Poe's private life and his psyche?

4. Research Hypotheses

- It could be that the pessimistic attitude is due to the absence of faith and disbelief in God as our taskmaster. Thus, man shows despair and loses hope after the death of his beloved. He believes that there is no other life to meet together again.
- It could be that the optimistic attitude is due to the belief of man in the after-life. Moreover, that death separates only their bodies but their love is immortal and he will meet his beloved in the Heaven where she is living in peace.

- The different attitudes mainly refer to Poe's own attitude. In addition, the reason behind this could be the mental disorder that Poe is suffering from.
- The variation of attitudes could be related to Poe's psyche that affected by the alcohol.
- It is possible that the strong pain and suffering that leads people to be unconscious in certain moments, so that different attitudes can be developed towards death.

5. Aim of the Study

The aim of this study is to present an analysis of the different man's attitude towards death of a beloved and the reasons behind this variation on the light of Poe's biography and psyche.

Through this work, we analyze why are some attitudes optimistic and others pessimistic. To achieve that, we make a scrutiny study about this theme in his poems. In addition, we look at the literary devices that the writer uses to highlight his theme such as figurative language, imagery, diction, connotation and tone.

Progressively, this examination goes parallel with Poe's private life that clarifies better our study since we deal with the concept of attitude towards death of a beloved.

6. Limitation of the Study

In literature, each piece of work should be analyzed in certain way. Thus, our scope of study is about the optimistic and pessimistic attitudes of man towards death of a beloved. Furthermore, we limit our analysis in studying poems of Edgar Allan Poe, *The Raven*, *Lenore*, *Ulalume* and *Annabel Lee*. We chose Edgar Allan Poe in particular because most of his works have arguments on the relationship between the narrator and Poe himself. We also chose these poems due to their unified theme about death of the

beloved and the varied attitudes on which we are concerned. *The Raven* and *Ulalume* are about the pessimistic attitude; however, *Lenore* and *Annabel Lee* are about the optimistic one.

7. Significance of the Study

Death as an unavoidable destiny is a major theme in literature. The outcome of death is tough and no one could bear it easily. Those ordinary people who lose their beloved may do something special to memorize them. For a writer, the matter is different. He memorizes his beloved by writing for them, which may be the only thing that he could do.

When we talk about death, we are certainly talking about the separation between two people, and in our case, it is between two beloved. Death deeply hurts any person who could not deny this loss or even bear the sadness of being lonely.

Therefore, the significance of studying the different attitudes of man towards death of a beloved is to learn more about death itself by analyzing the optimistic and pessimistic attitudes. By the study of the optimistic attitude, we can learn how we deal with death and how we should accept it in our life since death is unavoidable destiny. In other words, it helps us not to give up but instead to carry on our life hopefully.

However, the study of the pessimistic attitude gives us a lesson, in which how could death destroy not only our mentality, but also everything beautiful in this life if we keep on mourning our beloved.

8. Research Methodology

There are many methods in analyzing a literary work. Since we are dealing with poetry, the analysis follows a specific method. Thus, in analysing the poems that we have chosen, we use one of the literary theories, which is the psychoanalysis approach. This latter helps us to answer our questions since the attitudes are affected mostly by

the psyche. We use therefore the figurative language, imagery, diction, connotation and tone to fulfil this approach. First, figurative language, such metaphor, simile, personification and symbolism that could not be neglected or put apart in analyzing any literary work. In addition, imagery covers the use of language, which represents actions, feelings, thoughts, ideas, and even states of mind. Moreover, diction is the choice and the use of particular words instead of others. Connotation, on the other hand, is the implication that could be evoked by a word or phrase that the speaker utters through the poems in order to convey his ideas. Furthermore, studying the tone is necessary in order to analyze the speaker's attitude, which is in our case the man's attitude towards the death of his beloved.

As primary sources, we use poems of Edgar Allan Poe: *The Raven*, *Lenore*, *Ulalume*, and *Annabel Lee*. These poems are included in a book entitled *The Portable Poe*, edited by Philip Van Doren Stern on 1977 at New York.

9. Structure of the Study

Our dissertation is divided into three chapters in addition to the general introduction and conclusion. The introduction that consists of the background of the study, statement of the problem, research question, hypotheses, aim of the study, scope and limitation, methodology and the structure of the study. The first chapter is entitled definitions and the background. This chapter deal with the biography of the author and the definition of the main concepts in this dissertation. Then, the second chapter is about the analysis of the chosen poems related to the psychoanalytic approach, and it is devoted to answer the main questions of the dissertation. However, the third chapter is about the main literary devices that had been used in the chosen poems of Poe: *The Raven*, *Lenore*, *Ulalume* and *Annabel Lee*. Finally, we conclude with the general conclusion.

10. Review of Literature

Before conducting our research, we looked for recent works and researches about the theme of the death of a beloved in Edgar Allan Poe's poem, *The Raven*, *Lenore*, *Ulalume*, and *Annabel Lee*. We found a dissertation prepared by Heidy Adeline entitled *The Speaker's Optimistic Attitude towards Death in Edgar Allan Poe's Poems, Sonnet to My Mother, Annabel Lee, and For Annie*. Mrs. Adeline used a specific methodology which is a textual theory based on Poe's biography. Moreover, Mrs. Adeline dealt with the optimistic attitude only. Therefore, we see that if the new students on the domain of literature read her dissertation, they surely assume that Edgar Allan Poe is an optimistic writer, but in fact, he is not. The conclusion that Mrs. Adeline come up with is that the optimistic attitude of the speaker in Poe's poems represents his longing for peace during his lifetime. But, do these three poems that reflect his exact attitude? And does his longing for peace means that he is optimistic?

Therefore, in our dissertation, we analyze other poems that deal with the pessimistic attitude and on the same time we analyze too poems that tackle the optimistic attitude to make it easier for the readers to understand more and distinguish between the two attitudes.

However, Morris Wei-Hsim Tien, a research fellow in the Institute of American Culture, Academia Sinica, introduced many psychoanalysts' works in his article entitled *Literature or Psychoanalysis: Poe's Personality and his Works*. For instance, Sigmund Freud: *Creative Writers and Day- Dreaming*, Jacques Lacan: *The Four Fundamental Notions of Psychoanalysis*, and Joseph Wood Krutch: *Edgar Allan Poe*, Nina Baym: *The Norton Anthology of the American Literature*, Marie Bonaparte: *The Life and Works of Edgar Allan Poe: A Psychoanalytic Interpretation*, and James W. Gargano: *The Question of Poe's Narrators*. Those writers studied Edgar Allan Poe's

psychological impulse that led him to write about death in his works. Generally, they come up with a conclusion that Poe in particular should be analyzed by using the psychoanalytic approach. Because this approach helps researchers to understand more about Poe's strangeness in his works which is the outcomes of his mind. This latter affected mostly by his tragic life.

According to what we have mentioned above, in our analysis we focus on the psychoanalytic approach more than the biographical one.

Chapter One: Definitions and Background

1.1. Introduction

This chapter sheds the light on the main phases in Edgar Allan Poe's personal life in order to get a strong background for the next chapters of the analysis. Moreover, it gives some clarifications for the most important concepts, which they are the main key words in this dissertation.

Thus, this chapter is divided into two subtitles. The first one is about the biography of the author. The second subtitle is about the definitions of the four concepts: attitude, death, optimism, and pessimism. We define them from different angles: their nature, types, way of measurement and their consequences.

1.2. Biography of the Author

Edgar Allan Poe was born on January 19, 1809, in Boston, Massachusetts. Poe orphaned in an early age. His mother Elizabeth Arnold died when he was nearly three years old. Therefore, Poe was taken to the Allan's family, John and Frances Allan. In the new home and family, Poe was neglected by the expended family except his foster-mother Frances who insisted to take care after him. During his life, Poe experienced death, sadness, loneliness, and illness. Moreover, Poe was a poet, a short story writer, and an editor as well. His misfortune made him drink a lot; thus, many during his time and even now consider him as an alcoholic and none all of his works are valuable (Oakes 276-277).

Throughout his life, Poe grieved over the death of several women: his mother, the first love of his life; Jane Standard, who died when he was 15 years old; and his foster mother who died when he was 20. The last one was his young wife Virginia Clemm who fell ill for several months to die at the end living her beloved alone (Keltz 11).

Poe attended boarding schools in England, then returned to Richmond and continued his studies there. He entered the University of Virginia in 1826 at the age of 17. Unfortunately, Poe could not continue his studies due to the bad financial state of his foster-father, John Allan. The quarrel between Poe and John led Poe to leave the house forever. Back in Boston, Poe started his literary career. His first book of poetry was *Tamerlane and Other Poems* (National Park Service 3). In every genre, "Poe explores the psyche. Thus, Poe delved into accounts of madness and extreme emotion" (Van Spanckern 42) in order to elaborate the interaction between the reader and the text.

Poe suffered the poverty; hence, he lived bad conditions. In October, Poe was found incoherent in a Baltimore street. They took him to the hospital where he spent his last days. Before he dies, Poe said, "God help my poor soul". Poe died on October 7, 1849 (Fisher 10).

1.3. Definitions of the Concepts

1.3.1. Concept of Attitude

Before diagnosing a certain attitude, it is better to define this concept. An attitude is the immediate reaction towards a certain situation. Nevertheless, it is impossible to give a brief definition to this concept. For instance, Gordon Allport (1935) defines the attitude as "...a mental and neural state of readiness exerting a directive influence upon individual's response to all objects and situations with which it is related" (qtd. in Silk 2). This definition describes the attitude as an instinctive reaction that the individual reacts to all the objects and the situations surrounding him.

However, Krech and Crutchfield (1948) define the attitude as a consistent organization of motivational, emotional, perceptual, and cognitive processes with the individual's world (qtd. in Schwarz and Bohner 2). From this definition we can see how

close the relationship between the individual's behavior and the enduring nature of the attitude.

An individual's attitude can tell us a lot about the impact of that situation on him. Obviously, attitude which is a response towards objects need to be measured by self-reports of previous behavior towards a situation or by written or verbal statements about beliefs, feelings, or intentions involving the object presented in an interview or self-administered questionnaire (qtd. in Silk 3).

According to these measurements, many researchers claimed that there are two types of attitudes: implicit and explicit. The latter is the conscious attitude and it is easy to define, but the implicit is the opposite and difficult to define since it is an unconscious attitude (qtd. in Gawronski 574).

As far as, the main theme in the selected poems is the death of a beloved, it should be then important to define the notion of death. What could be therefore the significance of the concept of death?

1.3.2. Concept of Death

The literature on the concept of death was systematically reviewed for many years ago. Most of the people hesitate to think about death because they consider it as an uncomfortable subject. Yet, if there is one thing that is certain in life it is that we shall all die, sooner or later, but if one of us will live a long life, he probably will experience the death of one of his family, grandparents, mother, father, or even one of his closest friends. These may be the saddest moments in his entire life. What is then the meaning of death?

Physically, death is the irreversible cessation of all vital organs of the human, mental or physical (Jones 7). Theologically, death is defined as the time when the person's body is separated from their soul (Keating 2).

Spiritual death on the other hand, is a state in which the human soul is separated from God and has not been enlivened by his Spirit even he is physically alive (Keating 7). This abstract or spiritual death happens when a person is completely despaired and upset. That is due to the incompatibility between his internal world (psyche) and the external one (society). He is then unable to confront the difficulties in order to achieve his goals. We often find such people living between memories and dreams to escape from their melancholic destiny and the struggle between life and death.

Furthermore, there are many conventional definitions of death, but what death in our point of view is? Simply, it is when we lose someone close whom we loved so much. Therefore, death is related in general to the loneliness, emptiness, sadness, and bereavement. Accordingly, in our dissertation, the central theme in the selected poems is death of a beloved, as Poe claimed, "The death of a beautiful woman is the most poetical topic in the world" (Kennedy 526). What is the meaning of death? This is one of the most significant and debatable question in the world. Poe does not choose to answer this question in a clear statement. In fact, he makes the concept to be absurd, that meaning is different for each individual and can only be determined by the individual. However, Poe integrates his own experiences in his poems leading the readers to choose their attitudes.

Recent studies relied on a multidimensional measure of death attitudes claimed that there exist important differences in the type of attitudes man develops towards death: optimistic and pessimistic (Dezutter et al. 3). These two concepts are conceptualized as personality dimensions.

1.3.3. Concept of Optimism

Optimism is positively related to various signs of subjective well-being, such as happiness, satisfaction, and quality of life (Weber, Vollmann and Renner 169). The

popular conception of optimism is that it is the outcome of both inherited characteristics and experience (Social Issues Research Centre 5). It means that not only the individual nature that makes him optimistic, but also the surrounding situations interfere in his optimistic attitude; hence, it is the result of the interaction between the individual and his society. We understand that optimism is described as the strong belief in good results. Yet, it is related to the self-confidence and self-control.

The main issue here is how could the attitude towards death be optimistic? Optimistic attitude towards death does not mean that an individual is happy for losing his beloved, but there is another cause that leads him to be positive. Undoubtedly, religion is the impulse of such attitude. Thus, the individual believes that death separate only their bodies; however, their souls are still together. It had been said that religion is definitely a prime source of strength and sustenance to many people when they are dealing with death (National Institutes of Health 6). Religion gives life meaning. A belief in God as a Divine Taskmaster who has assigned task to individuals can provide strong meaning in a person's life, a reason to live. (Frankl 2).

The man in the poems, *Lenore* and *Annabel Lee*, experiences this kind of attitude. For example, in *Lenore*, Guy De Vere sheds no tears on the death of his beloved; instead, he is happy because her soul rose to Heaven next to God. Yet in *Annabel Lee*, the male is not depressed, but he is optimistic and claiming that their love was too strong to be defeated by angels or demons.

1.3.4. Concept of pessimism

Pessimists, in contrast, should be characterized by acts of demonstrating negative outcome expectancies, a pessimistic explanatory style, low self-efficacy expectancies, and negative feelings (Weber, Vollmann and Renner 173). It is said that

or a person with no hope or even expectation of spending eternity with the loving Creator of the universe, death is something that is to be feared (Keating 7).

Pessimistic is an expression used to describe someone who is depressed and hopeless because he loses something valuable, friend or a beloved. They often expect bad outcomes for that their behavior is negative. Yet, they have a gloomy vision towards the life. Such people who lose hope in this life may think that life is based on love. Their life has no meaning if there is no one who inspires them and to live for them in turn. Hence, pessimists are unwilling to accept death or to cope with it easily. Instead, they keep mourning their loved one.

If we talked previously about religion and how it gives strength to people to cope with the obstacles positively, pessimists may be far from religion and God as well. Most of them do not believe in the after-life. We find them therefore in a terrible state and their health is far to recover. This is definitely due to their belief that what had been lost in life never back any more.

The pessimistic attitude towards death of a beloved is well described in both poems, *The Raven* and *Ulalume*. In *The Raven*, the man is unable to free himself of his reliance upon the memory of his beloved, and he will never meet his beloved again according to the raven's response. However, in *Ulalume*, the poem describes the inner conflict and obsession in the man's soul with the loss of his beloved Ulalume.

1.3.5. Psychoanalytic Approach

"Psychoanalysis is a term that was developed by Professor Sigmund Freud and his pupils, which means mental analysis" (Brill 1). In other words, the term refers to the structure of psychoanalytic approach, which is based on the relation of the conscious and unconscious psychological processes. This theory is based on four principles: 1) the unconscious, 2) instinctual drivers, 3) Id, Ego, and Superego, and 4) anxiety. Under the

unconscious's influence, feelings and thoughts are displaced out of context. In analyzing a literary work, psychoanalysts focus mainly on the images and symbols that dramatize certain thoughts or state of minds. The second principle is the instinctual drives, Freud said that the unconscious conflicts involve instinctual drives, that originate in childhood. The third is the id, ego, and superego. These are the elements of mind that was portrayed by Freud. The id is the inherent drives that claim immediate satisfaction. Whereas, the ego is the motor control that its function is to prevent the unacceptable impulses by using the mechanism of repression of the events. Then, the superego is an element of mind that in normal personalities automatically modifies and inhibits those instinctual impulses of the id that tend to produce antisocial actions and thoughts. The last principle is the anxiety, which produce specific mechanism against the danger situations such the loss of the loved one as in our study (Arlow and Herma).

The psyche as Sigmund Freud defined:

It is like an iceberg, with most of it being below the level of consciousness. The tip of the iceberg, above the water, corresponds to what we can become aware of. We are aware of some aspects of ego and superego functioning, but the processes of the id are entirely within the unconscious. (Houston 295).

The following figure is the mind as Professor Freud described. The mind consists of three parts: the id, ego, and the superego. As the picture shows that the ego is the conscious; whereas, the superego and the id are the unconscious mind.

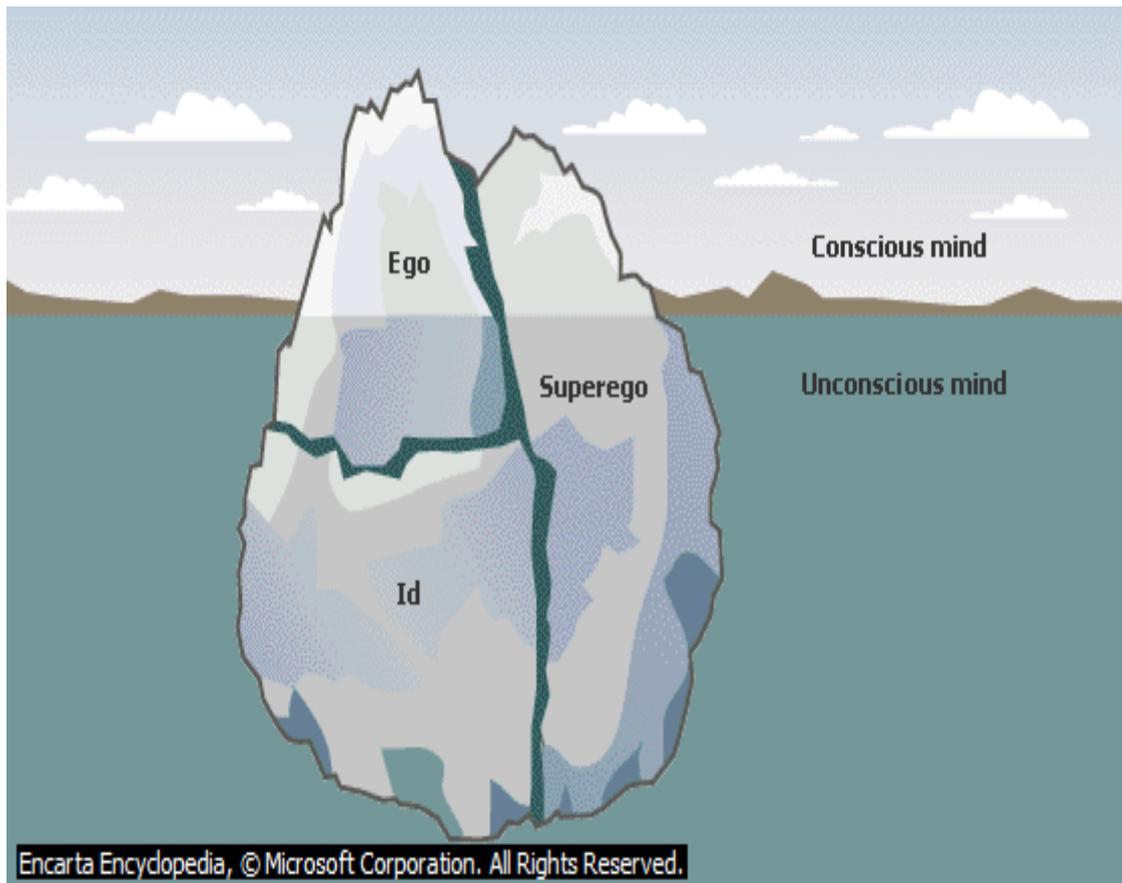


Figure 1: The Mind as an Iceberg

1.4. Conclusion

This dissertation tends to analyze man's attitude towards death of a beloved. Thus, such clarification about the concepts is required in order to go further with the analysis. We understand that our attitude towards death falls into two ways, optimism and pessimism. Some of us are strong enough to face death due to their religious status and close relationship with God. Whereas, others are weak and they do not believe in the after-life, in other words, what had been lost in life will never return.

Conceptualizing the nature of death shows the meaning of life itself. Since religion and love are important in life, our attitudes depend mostly on them.

Because of its special form and language, poetry is the direct speech of the heart. And it could be the poet's mirror of his personality. Thus, a psychoanalytic approach is ordered to decode these poems.

The following chapter therefore is devoted to the analysis of the four poems based on the psychoanalysis approach.

Chapter Two: Man's Attitude towards the Death of a Beloved

2.1. Introduction

In this chapter, depending on the psychoanalytic approach, the analysis will focus on man's optimistic and pessimistic attitude towards death of the beloved and the reasons behind the differences of attitudes in Edgar Allan Poe's poems, *The Raven*, *Lenore*, *Ulalume*, and *Annabel Lee*.

Although the theme in these poems is nearly the same, which is about man's loss of his beloved due to death, the attitudes are completely different. From that, we could distinguish two types, optimistic and pessimistic.

This chapter is divided into two subtitles. The first subtitle is about man's attitude towards death of the beloved in the four poems: *The Raven*, *Lenore*, *Ulalume*, and *Annabel Lee*. The second subtitle is about the reasons of the different attitudes based on Edgar Allan Poe's biography.

2.2. Man's Attitude towards the Death of a Beloved

2.2.1. In *The Raven*

In this poem, the speaker in this poem is a lover lamenting his dead beloved Lenore. In a dreary night of December, the lover is tired and weak, reading an old book to help him to forget his lost beloved. Then suddenly, he hears a sound tapping at his door. But he consoles himself that it could be some visitor and nothing more:

Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary,
Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore--
While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping,
As of someone gently rapping, rapping at my chamber door
(Lines 1-4).

Since the beginning of this poem, we can feel the ambiguity of the man's mental state that has been introduced. His inner fear from the unknown makes him somehow irritable: "Tis some visitor,' I muttered, 'tapping at my chamber door / Only this and nothing more'" (Lines 5-6).

After a while, the dying embers on the floor trigger certain memories about his lost Lenore. It is clear that the lover become unconscious, and he is in a moment of a flashback, as if he is living again a specific situation from the past. It is said that we unconsciously run away from distressing thoughts in which we often convince ourselves to forget them. These depressed ideas and emotions remain in the unconscious in a dormant state, but, as soon as any similar situation may bring them to the surface (Brill). However, the questions that arise in our minds as readers: Did Lenore die, or just go away? The only thing that we may understand is the lover's loss is as great as his sorrow.

Then, a raven enters his chamber and perches "upon a bust of Pallas" above his door (Line 41). A discussion then starts between the lover and the raven. The lover believes that the raven is a prophet that could predict something concerning his lost beloved. Unfortunately, each time the raven replies him with the same word "Nevermore". His curiosity increases each time, and the raven utters no other word. Hence, his passion to torture himself leads him to ask the raven for the last time if he is going to meet his lost beloved Lenore in the Heaven, but the raven replies him, "nevermore":

'Prophet!' said I, 'thing of evil!--prophet still, if bird or devil!

By that Heaven that bends above us--by that God we both adore--

Tell this soul with sorrow laden if, within the distant Aidenn,

It shall clasp a sainted maiden whom the angels name Lenore--

Clasp a rare and radiant maiden whom the angels name Lenore'.

Quoth the Raven, 'Nevermore' (Lines 91-96)

From these lines, the lover realizes that death is the end of everything, and he will never see his lost beloved. As a result, he becomes depressed and upset. The raven's repetition of the word "Nevermore" contributes to the mood of the poem. Nevermore is a negative word, which means never again, and also could evoke despair and hopelessness. Poe emphasizes nevermore because it helps to emphasize the depressed and despaired mood of the poem. Throughout the last two stanzas, the raven resembles something different than its usual sign of evil. This time, it represents the "Mournful and never-ending Remembrance" (Stern 564).

According to Freud's psychoanalytic approach, the man's attitude towards the death of his beloved is pessimistic. He could not break up his reliance on her memories. Even he tries to forget her by entertaining himself with reading, but she often comes to his mind. Obviously, the raven in the poem is the sound of his past memories or emotions that returns back to appear again as unwelcomed visitor and to depress the lover. This is one of the psychoanalysis's principles, which is the repetition of the events in the mind. We could assume that his unconscious mind's needs are responsible for his pessimistic attitude. "Unconscious motivations and needs have a role in determining our behavior" (Houston 294).

Relying on Poe's own life, it is possible that this poem refer to his recognition that his mother who dies early will never return back, or certainly indicates his fear and anxiety about the death of his beloved wife Virginia, since this poem was written a year before her death. "The raven is symbolic of all the loves he had lost as well as a foreshadowing of Virginia's fate" (Donschikowski 4).

When Poe wrote *The Raven*, he was in terrible life conditions that prevent him from progress. Because at that time, he became an editor and the journal was in bad financial. Poe's psyche had been depressed and ill; and he was on the point of losing control of everything. Furthermore, his wife Virginia was ill and needs a serious care, which Poe could not provide.

In his letter to E. A. Duyckinck, a successful New York editor, he said:

My Dear Mr. Duyckinck,

For the first time during two months, I find myself entirely myself - dreadfully sick and depressed, but still myself. I seem to have just awakened from some horrible dream, in which all was confusion, and suffering - relieved only by the constant sense of your kindness, and that of one or two other considerate friends. I really believe that I have been mad - but indeed, I have had abundant reason to be so [...] (Stern 24).

It is possible that these events contribute in his pessimistic attitude. He was unable to face his problems easily, and he was nearly to be mad. Thus, the strangulated events bring him down with hopelessness and sadness.

2.2.2. In Lenore

Unlike *The Raven*, the speaker in *Lenore* is not the lover himself; instead, he is a third person narrator who tells the story of the lover Guy De Vere and his deceased beloved Lenore.

From the beginning of the poem, it is clear that the occasion is a funeral of a beautiful woman named Lenore as the speaker appraises her soul as "saintly" (Line 2). Surprisingly, the lover Guy De Vere shed no tears upon the death of his beloved according to the speaker description: "And, Guy de Vere, hast thou no tear?--weep now or never more!" (Line 3).

In the second stanza, the lover De Vere accuses the speaker and his fellows for loving Lenore's wealth and hating her pride, and they are the only responsible for her death: "Wretches! ye loved her for her wealth and hated her for her pride, / And when she fell in feeble health, ye blessed her--that she died! (Lines 8-9)

Another interaction of the lover is when he tells the speaker that he is angry because he could not yet marry his beloved Lenore: The sweet Lenore hath "gone before," with Hope, that flew beside, / Leaving thee wild for the dear child that should have been thy bride- (Lines 15-16). In these lines, the lover's anger is a sign of his deepest love towards his beloved Lenore.

The lover Guy De Vere says to the speaker that he will not mourn for Lenore because he believes that her soul rose to the Heaven, a safer place next to her creator God:

"Avaunt! avaunt! from fiends below, the indignant ghost is riven--
 From Hell unto a high estate far up within the Heaven--
 From grief and groan, to a golden throne, beside the King of Heaven!
 Let no bell toll, then, lest her soul, amid its hallowed mirth,
 Should catch the note as it doth float up from the damnèd Earth!
 And I!--to-night my heart is light!--no dirge will I upraise,
 But waft the angel on her flight with a Paean of old days!" (Lines 20-26).

A clear repetition in this poem of the phrase "died so young". It emphasizes the lover's regret to his beloved whom her beauty was burden with her death, "That did to death the innocence that died, and died so young?" (Line 12).

In this poem, Guy De Vere's attitude towards the death of Lenore is optimistic. He has a strong faith about the after-life. This is the reason behind his optimistic attitude. Yet he believes that his beloved Lenore rose to an ideal place where there is no

pain or suffering, but it is an immortal happy life. He bears much more love towards her that death could not separate their love ties.

2.2.3. In Ulalume

As one reads this poem, he will find himself in front of a conversation between the lover, his psyche, and Astarte, a moon goddess of fertility, love, and reproduction in the ancient Middle East (Astarte).

Until the second stanza, the narrator's presence is introduced. The lover is walking with his psyche in a forest as he states:

In the ghoulish-woodland of Weir.
Here once, through an alley Titanic.
Of cypress, I roamed with my Soul--
Of cypress, with Psyche, my Soul (Lines 10-13).

From these lines, we could see a kind of unconsciousness or madness that disturbs the lover's state of mind since he could speak to his psyche as a real person.

After a while, he sees a glint of light, the light of a crescent diamonded. Suddenly, his psyche feels worried, and tells the lover that she does not trust in this light: But Psyche, uplifting her finger, / Said-"Sadly this star I mistrust- (Lines 52-53). But, the lover calms her down by telling her that this light will guide us to a world full of hope and happiness where the pain and loneliness do not exist:

I replied--"This is nothing but dreaming:
Let us on by this tremulous light!
Let us bathe in this crystalline light!
Its Sibyllic splendor is beaming
With Hope and in Beauty to-night:-- (Lines 62-66).

The lover nearly succeeded in pacifying his psyche when he comes across a tomb, then he asks her to tell him what is written on this vault. She replies that it is the grave of your lost beloved Ulalume:

And I said--"What is written, sweet sister,
On the door of this legended tomb?"
She replied--"Ulalume--Ulalume--
'Tis the vault of thy lost Ulalume!" (Lines 79- 82).

That is what these lines tell, but what is meant by all these symbols. It is definitely that the lover has a deep pain could not be healed since his beloved deceased. Many interpretations were held to decode the ambiguity. If we return to the date when this poem was written, we will find that Poe had composed it few months after the death of his beloved wife Virginia.

It probably could be at that time, he seeks for another love to forget his pain, and get rid of his loneliness. Unfortunately, he finds himself bound to her memories and it is not easy to break with. The woman whom he loved so much, and she was his wife and mother and his life died early letting him alone in a world no one appreciates him. Her death led him to madness. Poe expresses his feelings to his fellow George Eveleth, he says:

Each time I felt all the agonies of her death - and at each accession of the disorder I loved her more dearly and clung to her life with more desperate pertinacity. But I am constitutionally sensitive - nervous in a very unusual degree. I become insane, with long intervals of horrible sanity. During these fits of absolute unconsciousness, I drank - God only knows how often or how much. [...] I had, indeed, nearly abandoned all hope of a permanent cure, when I found one in the death of my wife [...]

hope and despair which I could no longer endure without total loss of reason. In the death of what was my life... (Stern 29-30).

Thus, according to Poe's private life, we could assume that this poem describes the split between the soul and body of the lover. His body wants passionately to follow the moon that promises him by a new love that will reveal all his agony; however, his psyche which tries to caution him not to trust this moon. Moreover, he convinced him to stay faithful to the memory of his lost beloved, and to revere the love that they bear.

The moment when his psyche alerts him about the vault's name, he remembers the tough pain that he endures for a long time. Then, he recognizes that the moon's promise of a immortalized happiness is false. A great pain and despair he expresses, for instance, he says that his heart is like the falling dry leaves from the trees: "As the leaves that were crisped and sere / As the leaves that were withering and sere" (Lines 83-84).

In this poem, the lover's attitude is too pessimistic because of his despair that he will never be happy after the death of his beloved, and no new love could replace his first one. His psyche stands for the inner side, which tries to keep the lover safe from the bad outcomes. There is an interpretation that may support the idea in this poem, which is "every part of the mind is trying to do the best it can. When 'bad thoughts' come up, it is the burdened part of the mind asking for help rather than trying to make the conscious mind suffer" (Erlendsson 5).

2.2.4. In Annabel Lee

Unlike *Ulalume*, this poem has a special mood in which the man's attitude is definitely optimistic. In addition, the lines are enough to clarify his attitude. For instance, in the first stanza, man's love to his beloved could not be summarized in few words; he sees her as a maiden in a kingdom by the sea. He chooses the most beautiful

image for his beloved. That leads us to assume that they are living happy with their love as the only thing they were created for: And this maiden she lived with no other thought / Than to love and be loved by me (Lines 5-6).

The lover continues his description about their pure and innocent love. In fact, he says that their strong love led the angels of the Heaven feel jealousy:

But we loved with a love that was more than love--

I and my Annabel Lee;

With a love that the winged seraphs of heaven

Coveted her and me (Lines 9-12).

Moreover, the lover describes himself and his beloved as children, as if he feels that he needs love as a child does. We can say that the lover lost love during his childhood, and when he found it, he feels as if born again: I was a child and she was a child / In this kingdom by the sea (Lines 7-8). It is probably that the lover feels nostalgic to his childhood. Childhood is an important stage in the human's life. Thus, any kind of trauma or accident could last for a long time, or forever. It has been said that there is always an intimate connection in our present emotional experience with something that occurred in the past (Brill 8).

In addition, we do not find any signs of despair or pain. Instead, we see a lover who feels nostalgic for his lost days with his beloved Annabel Lee whom the wind killed her: It was many and many a year ago, / In a kingdom by the sea, / I was a child and she was a child (Lines 1-2, 7).

The death of Annabel Lee does not depress the lover due to his belief that true love could never be easily broken. It is obvious that his love has a super and hidden power, in which led him to claim that no angels, demons, or whatever will separate their souls:

And neither the angels in heaven above,
 Nor the demons down under the sea,
 Can ever dissever my soul from the soul
 Of the beautiful Annabel Lee (Lines 30-33).

On the other hand, the lover no longer respects the angels and may feel anger because of their jealousy, which costs him the life of his beloved. He calls them "highborn kinsman" instead of angels as if they are from a noble family and everyone should obey them:

So that her highborn kinsmen came
 And bore her away from me,
 To shut her up in a sepulchre
 In this kingdom by the sea (Lines 17-20).

There are several repetitions of some lines and phrases with the same meaning. This repetition shows the impact of the death of Annabel Lee on her lover. In another situation, the lover expresses that their profound love is much stronger than the adults' love. Thus, the angels envy them: But our love it was stronger by far than the love / Of those who were older than we / Of many far wiser than we (27-29). Through the poem's analysis, we can define that the lover's attitude towards the death of Annabel Lee is optimistic.

Undoubtedly, Poe in this poem narrates his own story with his wife. Poe claims in the last stanza that his beloved never let him. He sees her everywhere in nature like the moon and stars because he ties with her soul. As if he promised his wife that, he will be faithful towards love that they bore:

For the moon never beams without bringing me dreams
 Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;

And the stars never rise but I see the bright eyes
 Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;
 And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side
 Of my darling, my darling, my life and my bride,
 In her sepulchre there by the sea--
 In her tomb by the side of the sea (Lines 34-41).

Poe's love to his wife is a legend. He once wrote a letter to his fellow George Eveleth just a year after his wife's death, he said ...a wife, whom I loved as no man ever loved before, [...] (Stern 29).

2.3. The Reasons of Man's Different Attitudes towards Death of a Beloved

After the analysis, we find two different attitudes, optimistic and pessimistic. Thus, the main question here is why there is a difference in man's attitude towards the death of a beloved. Since the theme of death is repeated in Edgar Allan Poe's works, in particular the four selected poems that means this theme has definitely a close relation to Poe's private life. Based on certain assumptions, James W. Gargano said that, Poe and his narrators are "identical literary twins," yet "he must be held responsible for all their wild or perfervid utterances" (Gargano 177). Thus, we could say that the optimistic and pessimistic attitudes towards the death of a beloved are referred to Poe.

According to his biography, Poe's recognition to the concept of death moves through stages. When he was a child of nearly 3 years old, his mother died, but for a child in this age death is understood as a temporary event, and the dead persons who had gone will be back. Poe experiences the loss in an early age. During his growth therefore his views towards death developed progressively till his adolescence when he experienced the loss one more time by the death of his foster mother, Frances Allan, and later on his beloved wife Virginia. It is clear now that Poe experienced a trauma since

the death of his mother. It is said that "A child may need to mourn a deeply from time to time until adolescence" (National Institutes of Health 11). Hence, a child needs support and understanding through this grief process and permission to show all of his feelings. Poe did not find any emotional support, for that he become "depressed, withdrawn, irritable, aggressive, or other physical symptoms" (National Institutes of Health 8).

After the death of his mother, Poe sought for another maternal love. Unfortunately, he did not find that love. As a result, Poe became very depressed due to the constant misery, which seems a seemingly endless that one wants to die. Depression is a loss of an important life goal. As David B. Cohen said, "People with major depression often have feelings of despair, hopelessness, and worthlessness, as well as thoughts of committing suicide" (Cohen sec 1).

To forget his pain and loneliness, Poe used to drink a lot of alcohol. He once writes to George Eveleth in his letter:

But I am constitutionally sensitive - nervous in a very unusual degree. I become insane, with long intervals of horrible sanity. During these fits of absolute unconsciousness, I drank - God only knows how often or how much or how long. As a matter of course, my enemies referred the insanity to the drink rather than the drink to the insanity.

Therefore, alcohol was the means that led the unconscious of Poe's mind reveals all of his needs or ambitions.

We could assume now that Edgar Allan Poe's childhood trauma is the main cause of his manic-depression, which refers to a mood swings from overly "high", manic to overly "low", depressed (Life Challenges: Manic Depression sec 1) It called also "Bipolar". Moreover, this kind of illness makes one's attitude alternates between depressive and manic phases. It is said:

During the depressive phase, people feel very sad or profoundly indifferent to work, activities, and even people that once brought them pleasure. They think slowly, concentrate poorly, feel tired, and experience changes. They often feel a sense of worthlessness or helplessness. In addition, they may feel pessimistic or hopeless about the future and may think about or attempt suicide. In some cases of severe depression, people may experience psychotic symptoms, such as delusions (false beliefs) or hallucinations (false sensory perceptions).

The man in both *The Raven* and *Ulalume* experiences this depressive attitude. We think that the pessimistic attitude is due to Poe's fear from the future. He thinks that God will never forgive him his sins that he committed; hence, he will never see his beloved in the heaven. In his poem *Al-Aaraaf*, Poe said,

Still think my terrors but the thunder cloud,
The storm, the earthquake, and the ocean-wrath
(Ah! will they cross me in my angrier path?)
To every heart a barrier and a ban
Lest the stars totter in the guilt of man!" (Lines 136-138, 149-150)

However, in the second phase, they said:

During the manic phase, people feel intensely and inappropriately happy, self-important, and irritable. They have inflated self-esteem and confidence and may even have delusions of grandeur. Mania may make people impatient and abrasive, and when frustrated, physically abusive. They often behave in socially inappropriate ways, think irrationally, and show impaired judgment.

The man in both *Lenore* and *Annabel Lee* experiences this manic attitude. Poe has a faith in God that He will never let him down. The last word Poe uttered is "God help my poor soul" (Stern xxxiii). Thus, his optimistic attitude represented in his longing for peace.

2.4. Conclusion

The psychoanalytic approach helps a lot in revealing the impulses that led to such attitudes. Yet, it gives more evidences about the reason behind the difference of man's attitude towards the death of a beloved.

According to this analysis, we discover that the attitudes presented in these poems refer to Poe's own attitudes. Poe's manic-depression makes him mad and genius. In addition, we discover that the childhood's traumas grow as the person does.

The next chapter, however, is about the literary devices used in the selected poems.

Chapter Three: The Literary Devices Used in the Selected Poems

3.1. Introduction

This chapter deals with the literary devices that are used in the selected poems, *The Raven*, *Lenore*, *Ulalume*, and *Annabel Lee*. The literary devices represented in five elements: the figurative language (metaphors, similes, personification, and symbolism), imagery, diction, connotation, and tone.

3.2. Literary Devices

3.2.1. Figurative Language

Figurative language is an expressive language in which a word or group of words used to create an image that enriches the message, an idea or a sentiment (Figure of Speech). There are several types of figures of speech used in Edgar Allan Poe's selected poems. The main figures are similes, metaphors, personifications, and symbols.

3.2.1.1. Metaphors:

It simply equates two things that are not the same without using the words "like" or "as" (Volkman sec 2). For instance, in *The Raven*, the man says that "And each separate dying ember wrought its ghost upon the floor" (Line 8). The lover is describing the fire and the "dying embers" look as a "ghost" for him. If we rely on the previous line: "Ah, distinctly I remember it was in the bleak December," the image of the ghost that comes in his mind may be due to his fear of loneliness as if he remembers an event from the past. Furthermore, there are other positions of metaphors like in the line (40): "But, with mien of lord or lady, perched above my chamber door", Poe says that the raven has "mien of lord or lady", a metaphor of the bird acting like a lord or a lady. Another metaphor stands for the night in the line (46): "Nightly shore", here the night is referred to as a shore. Hence, in "To the fowl whose fiery eyes now burned into my bosom's core" (Line 74), the lover portrays the raven's eyes as a "fiery eyes" that looks

as a fire burns in his heart. The fire could stand as either the anger or the enthusiasm of the lover towards his lost beloved Lenore. Yet, another use of metaphors in "Prophet!" said I, "thing of evil!—prophet still, if bird or devil!" (Line 91), the lover addresses the raven as a "prophet" or "devil" that visits him to tell him a message. In the line (101): "Take thy beak from out my heart, and take thy form from off my door!" the lover recognizes that his discussion with the raven is pointless, thus, he asks the bird to live him and to take its beak out of his heart. "from out my heart" is a metaphor for the pain and never-ending remembrance of the lover that he no more endure. Besides that, in line (105): "And his eyes have all the seeming of a demon's that is dreaming", it is obvious that the lover compares the raven's eyes to a demon's due to the disappointment that the raven brings to him. In the closing stanza, the raven is referred to as a demon.

On the other hand, in *Lenore*, the lover Guy De Vere addresses his deceased beloved as a "child". This metaphor could pretend that Lenore is innocent, or simply she died very young: "Leaving thee wild for the dear child that should have been thy bride" (Line16). In line (11) however, when the lover says, "By you--by yours, the evil eye,--by yours, the slanderous tongue", he describes the eyes of the mourners, who come to the funeral, as the evil eye, which is an expression that suggests the mourners' jealousy and hatred towards Lenore. Another example of metaphor is in the line (25) when the Guy De Vere characterizes that his "heart is light". He describes his heart as a light that means he is not obsessed or depressed towards the death of his beloved Lenore. Instead, he thinks that she ascended to the place where she should be or deserves next to her Creator.

However, in *Ulalume*, the lover expresses his sadness and pain through the phrase "my heart was volcanic" (Line 13). He is upset and lost after the death of his beloved Ulalume. When someone says that his heart is like a volcano that means he

endures pain and suffering. Furthermore, the lover sees the light of the moon as a crystal in which he could trust in its brightness.

In *Annabel Lee*, an example of metaphor in the line (7) when the lover says that he is a "child". He portrays himself as a child; this word evokes that the lover holds a pure and innocent love to his beloved who shares him the same feelings. Yet, the lover describes the angels who come to bear Annabel Lee's soul as a "highborn kinsmen" (Line 17).

3.2.1.2. Similes

Unlike the metaphors, similes compare two things by using the word "like" or "as". In *The Raven* for instance, in the line (3-4): "suddenly there came a tapping / As of someone gently rapping". In this line, the lover is comparing the tapping sound that he hears to someone knocking his chamber door. Another example of simile is stated in the line (56): "That one word, as if his soul in that one word he did outpour". It expresses the lover's grief to the raven's reply to him. Likewise, in the line (59), the lover says, "On the morrow *he* will leave me, as my Hopes have flown before", in which he means that the departure of the raven is an ordinary event like of all his friends who left him as well as his hopes. The two last similes show the lover's despair since the day of the death of his beloved Lenore. In addition, another example of simile is in the line (99): "Leave no black plume as a token of that lie thy soul hath spoken". The lover compares the raven's black feather as the token reminds him of the lie it has told. The lie is the repeated word "nevermore" which evokes that he will never see his beloved Lenore.

On the other hand, in *Ulalume*, there is a simile in the lines (13, 15) when Guy De Vere's heart erupted with emotions like the lavas that flows out of a volcano. The other simile is stated in the lines (82, 84): "Then my heart it grew ashen and sober/ As the leaves that were crisped and sere--/ As the leaves that were withering and sere". As

Guy De Vere discovers the tomb of his beloved, he remembers how he burns her a year before in that place. Thus, he portrays his heart as the dead leaves of the fall.

Concerning the rest two poems, *Lenore* and *Annabel Lee*, there are no implications of the similes.

3.2.1.3. Personification:

It is the attribution of human qualities to inanimate objects (Cuddon 661). It means that the abstract or concrete objects are represented as living being. For instance, in *The Raven*, examples of personification are clearly stated as in the repeated phrase "Quoth the Raven, 'Nevermore'" (Lines 48, 60, 72, 84, 90, 96, 102). As far as the raven is a bird and it could not talk, Poe gave it a voice to talk with as humans.

On the other hand, in *Lenore*, there is a case of personification when the lover gives a quality of a human being to something abstract "the innocence that died".

Besides, in *Ulalume*, "And has come past the stars of the Lion / To point us the path to the skies" (Lines 44-45). In these lines, the lover gives the star a human quality that is "to point" something. Moreover, in the whole poem, the lover compares his psyche to a human being, so it could walk as in "I roamed with my Soul" (Line 11), talk as in the line (52): "Said, 'Sadly this star I mistrust' ", and besides all that it has a finger. In this poem, Poe endows the lover's psyche with living qualities in order to show how the unconsciousness of the lover is revealed, and how the loss affects people in their lives.

Moreover, in *Annabel Lee*, in the line (25-26): "That the wind came out of the cloud by night / Chilling and killing my Annabel Lee", the lover describes the wind as a human being, which comes out of the cloud and kills his beloved Annabel Lee.

3.2.1.4. Symbolism

It is the use of images or objects in order to present something abstract, ideas or feelings. Symbolism is the most used method in literary works because it allows authors to express themselves indirectly especially in the controversial subjects (Madden sec IV). Hence, symbolism is hidden in Poe's poems, so we have to search out the symbols that reveal Poe's inner conflict.

In *the Raven*, there are several symbols Poe have used them to create obscurity in this poem. For instance, the name "Lenore" appears eight times. Nevertheless, to what could this name stand for? Certainly, she is an important person, and the main subject to the lover who recalls her name through the whole poem. Lenore stands for a deceased woman, and this is the only thing that we know about her as the lover says in the lines: "From my books surcease of sorrow—sorrow for the lost Lenore / For the rare and radiant maiden whom the angels name Lenore" (10-11). Furthermore, in the line (28): "And the only word there spoken was the whispered word, 'Lenore!'" . Here, we cannot figure out who the speaker is, but then in the next line: "This I whispered, and an echo murmured back the word, 'Lenore!'" (29), we recognize that the lover is the one who utters the name of his beloved and the voice we hear is the sound that the echo murmurs back. In the lines (77-78): " On the cushion's velvet lining that the lamp-light gloated over / But whose velvet violet lining with the lamp-light gloating over", the lover remembers an image when his lost beloved Lenore uses to sit on the cushion. We often remember the way of smiling or laughing that the dead person used to do, but sitting on a cushion is something unusual. This is could be the lover's mental disorder that Poe wants us to discover. Moreover, in the lines (82-83): "Respite—respite and nepenthe from thy memories of Lenore / Quaff, oh quaff this kind nepenthe and forget this lost Lenore!", the lover is tired of bearing the sufferance, so that he asks for a relief

from the pain of thinking about her all the time. The last example of the word Lenore is in the lines (94-95): "It shall clasp a sainted maiden whom the angels name Lenore / Clasp a rare and radiant maiden whom the angels name Lenore". "Sainted", "maiden", "rare", and "radiant" are expressions that show the deep love that the lover holds and an appraisal of his lost beloved Lenore. As a result, Lenore is a symbol of the ideal woman that the lover grieves on her loss (Shmoop Editorial Team).

The second example of symbolism is the raven itself. The raven is "a culture hero and trickster" (Raven: Native American mythology). However, Poe uses the raven in particular to illustrate the sadness; and through the raven's vague speech with the lover, we know much more about the lost Lenore. Through the whole poem, the raven symbolizes the never-ending remembrance of the lover. Since Poe personifies the raven to inform the lover that he will never see again his beloved, the idea that could appear here is the raven probably stands for the loss of the lover's faith. His belief that he will never see Lenore makes him depressed and despair of the future. "Since he thinks the word 'nevermore' is actually foretelling the future," "he is completely convinced that it knows what it's talking about" (Shmoop Editorial Team). This is stated in the stanza (17):

Be that word our sign of parting, bird or fiend!" I shrieked, up starting-
 "Get thee back into the tempest and the Night's Plutonian shore!
 Leave no black plume as a token of that lie thy soul hath spoken!
 Leave my loneliness unbroken!--quit the bust above my door!
 Take thy beak from out my heart, and take thy form from off my door!"
 Quoth the Raven, "Nevermore".

Furthermore, another symbol in this poem is "Night's Plutonian Shore" (in lines 47, 98). If we take each word aloof, we find that "night" stands for the darkness. Then,

"Plutonian" that derives from the word "Pluto", is "a god of the underworld in the Roman mythology" (Pluto: Mythology) who is responsible of the dead people. Shore, on the other hand, symbolizes the night. Accordingly, "Night's Plutonian Shore" as a whole symbolizes the darkness that the raven comes from since the raven symbolizes the evil.

Besides, "nepenthe" is a drug that people took to forget their sadness or troubles in the Greek mythology (Nepenthe). In the lines (82-83): "Respite—respite and nepenthe from thy memories of Lenore! / Quaff, oh quaff this kind nepenthe and forget this lost Lenore". Nepenthe, then, symbolizes the refuge or the mean for the lover to forget all of his pain that is placed in his life after the death of his beloved Lenore.

In *Lenore*, the second poem, in the opening line: "Ah, broken is the golden bowl". The golden bowl symbolizes the life, and its breakage means death. Next, in the second line "Stygian river" symbolizes death. In the Greek mythology, Stygian river is "the river where the souls of the dead were ferried across into Hades" (Styx). In these lines, the two symbols symbolize the death of someone that we do not yet realize.

On the other hand, in *Ulalume*, the first stanza, the lover narrates a certain day in October; the gloomy surroundings that he describes symbolize the narrator's melancholic state of mind:

The skies they were ashen and sober;
 The leaves they were crisped and sere--
 The leaves they were withering and sere;
 It was night in the lonesome October
 Of my most immemorial year;
 It was hard by the dim lake of Auber,
 In the misty mid region of Weir--

It was down by the dank tarn of Auber,

In the ghoulish-haunted woodland of Weir (Lines 1-9)

Another symbol in this poem is in the line (37): "Astarte's bediamonded crescent". Astarte is the goddess of love, fruitfulness, and reproduction in the Greek and Roman mythology (Astarte). Undoubtedly, Astarte represents the inner desire of the lover to try another love as a relief to forget his pain. Throughout the poem, the light of the moon and stars symbolizes the glint of hope that the lover seeks for: "We safely may trust to a gleaming / That cannot but guide us aright / Since it flickers up to Heaven through the night" (Lines 69-70)". However, the gloom symbolizes the fear from the unknown: "And tempted her out of her gloom / And conquered her scruples and gloom" (Lines 73-74). Also, "the dust" could symbolizes the pain, tiredness, and depression of the lover as he says:

In terror she spoke, letting sink her

Wings till they trailed in the dust--

In agony sobbed, letting sink her

Plumes till they trailed in the dust--

Till they sorrowfully trailed in the dust (Lines 56-60).

However, in *Annabel Lee*, the best example of symbolism is the symbol "The cloud", which symbolizes the dark envy of the angels from the strong love that ties the lover and his beloved Annabel Lee: "A wind blew out of a cloud, chilling / My beautiful Annabel Lee" (Lines 15-16).

3.2.2. Imagery

"Imagery as a general term covers the use of language to represent objects, actions, feelings, thoughts, Ideas, states of mind and any sensory experience" (Cuddon 413). For instance, in the line (8), Poe succeeds in formulating a sentence that attracts

the reader's mind by leading him to imagine the situation; the dying embers on the floor evoke the warm that we need in the winter: "And each separate dying ember wrought its ghost upon the floor". Poe, on the other hand, uses an imagery to describe the raven's entrance to the chamber in the line (41): "Perched upon a bust of Pallas just above my chamber door". Also, in the line (101): "Take thy beak from out my heart, and take thy form off my door". Here, is an imagery that makes us imagining that the raven's beak is really in the heart of the lover, but in reality, it is not.

In *Lenore*, there are different imageries that Poe uses them to picturize ideas or feelings. In line (2): the image of "bell toll", Poe uses this image to make us feel as if we are in a funeral, thus because of the bell's sound. Yet, in the same line: "a saintly soul floats on the Stygian river" makes the reader picturizing the scene in which a soul flies over the river.

Moreover, in *Ulalume*, the best example of imagery is when Poe makes the lover's psyche behave in a human way:

Of cypress, I roamed with my Soul--
 Of cypress, with Psyche, my Soul.
 But Psyche, uplifting her finger,
 Said--"Sadly this star I mistrust (Lines 11-12, 51-52)

Furthermore, in the line (9), "In the ghoulish-woodland of Weir", Poe gives an image about the forest as if it hunts the ghosts, or souls.

In *Annabel Lee*, on the other hand, the repeated phrase "Kingdom by the sea" makes the reader imagining the situation where the lover and his beloved living. Also, the image in the line (25): "That the wind came out of the cloud by night", which attract the reader's mind in way that there is a wind behaves as a human by killing Annabel Lee, the man's beloved.

3.2.3. Diction

In general, diction denotes the vocabulary used by a Writer. As it has been said that poetic diction usually refers to a particular kind of language and artificial arrangement employed by many poets, or authors (Cuddon 679).

In *The Raven*, the word "midnight dreary" evokes a very cold and windy night. Then the expression "volume of forgetting lore" brings to our mind the old books that have been organized on the shelves. Moreover, "Deep into that darkness peering" is an expression that suggest the loneliness of the lover.

However, in *Lenore*, the word "child" evokes the innocence of the deceased Lenore. In addition, "a dirge" recalls death in our minds.

Besides, in *Ulalume*, "ghoul-haunted" suggest the fear and strangeness.

3.2.4. Connotation

It is the suggestion or implication evoked by a word or Phrase, or even quite a long statement of any kind, over and above what they mean or actually denote (Cuddon 176). Poe often selects his expressions carefully. In *the Raven*, from the opening line, "Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary", Poe introduces the man's status of weakness and tiredness in one hand, and horror on the other hand by using the connoting words "weak" and "weary". In the second stanza, on the other hand, several words suggest the sadness and grief such "bleak", "dying", "ghost", and "sorrow". Many lines in *The Raven* evoke the fear that dominates the lover's heart. For instance, in the lines:

"'Tis some visitor,' I muttered, 'tapping at my chamber door"

"And the silken sad uncertain rustling of each purple curtain"

"So that now, to still the beating of my heart, I stood repeating"

"'Tis some visitor entreating entrance at my chamber door"

"Darkness there and nothing more"

"Let my heart be still a moment, and this mystery explore"

"'Tis the wind and nothing more". (5, 13, 15-16, 24, 35)

Unlike *The Raven*, In *Lenore*, there are several terms Poe uses them to connote the death, sorrow, anger, and optimism. For instance, the first line: "Ah, broken is the golden bowl! the spirit flown forever" that evokes death. In addition, the line that connotes the sorrow of the lover when his beloved died so young: "A dirge for her, the doubly dead in that she died so young" (7). Yet, in the lines (10-12): " How shall the ritual, then, be read?--the requiem how be sung / By you--by yours, the evil eye,--by yours, the slanderous tongue / That did to death the innocence that died, and died so young?", these lines connote the anger of the lover towards the mourners. In the line (25): "And I!--to-night my heart is light!--no dirge will I upraise", evokes that the lover is optimistic due to his strong faith that nothing separates him from his beloved.

In *Ulalume*, there are many words connoting death, destruction, loneliness, suffering, and. For instance, in the first stanza, "ashen," "withering," "lonesome," "dim," "misty," "goul-haunted". Such expressions introduce a gloominess scene that suggests darkness and decay. In the third stanza, expressions like "Palsied," "sere," and "treacherous" show the lover's state of mind. He is definitely unconscious since he says that his thoughts are palsied and sere, yet, his thoughts are treacherous. In other words, his mind is out of control due to something bad happens to him. In addition, in the lines (42-43) "She has seen that the tears are not dry on / These cheeks, where the worm never dies", we can see the depth of the lover's suffering, and his mournful state for the loss of his dear beloved. In the second stanza, "Volcanic," "sulphurous," and "groan," are words that show the pain of the lover. Besides, in the fourth stanza, Poe denotes some words that connote hope like "senescent," "liquescent," and "nebulous". When the

lover sees the glints of light, he feels that he will live happy one more time. Again, in the sixth stanza, Poe uses certain expressions such "agony" and "sorrowfully" to focus that the lover's state of mind reaches its peak due to the destruction of both his psyche and body.

Likewise, in *Annabel Lee*, Poe indicates some expressions and sometimes phrases in order to connote nostalgia, innocence, love, jealousy, beauty, and faithfulness. There are lines that connote the nostalgia of the lover to his past days with his beloved as in the first line: "It was many and many a year ago". In addition, Poe uses the term "child" to connote the innocence. Furthermore, the following lines evokes the strong love that is indestructible.

And this maiden she lived with no other thought
 Than to love and be loved by me
 But we loved with a love that was more than love—
 I and my Annabel Lee;
 With a love that the winged seraphs of heaven
 Coveted her and me
 But our love it was stronger by far than the love
 Of those who were older than we--
 Of many far wiser than we
 (5-6, 9-12, 27-29).

Besides, the lines: "A wind blew out of a cloud, chilling / The angels, not half so happy in heaven" (15, 21) evokes the jealousy of the angels in the Heaven according to the lover. However, the beauty of Annabel Lee is connoted using the words: "moon," and "bright eyes". Yet, the lines (38-41) are the connotation for the faithfulness:

And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side

Of my darling, my darling, my life and my bride,
 In her sepulchre there by the sea--
 In her tomb by the side of the sea.

3.2.5. Tone

It is the reflection of a writer's attitude, manner, mood and moral outlook in his work; even, perhaps, the way his personality pervades the work (Cuddon 229). The tone, in each literary work, is an essential device through which we could figure out the attitudes. In *the Raven*, the tone since the beginning is melancholic and depressive. The rhyme contributed in denoting the gloominess of the lover. Thus, it is easily to deduct the attitude introduced in the poem. The tone varies from the beginning to the end of the poem. The lover has a little hope before the coming of the raven, but after, he totally loses hope about seeing his beloved again. Hence, his tone becomes too sad, dark, depressive, and angry then before. Accordingly, the man's attitude towards the death of his beloved is pessimistic in this poem.

In *Lenore*, the tone is different from the one in *The Raven*. Guy De Vere is much more optimistic than the lover in *The Raven* is. The tone of the lover is full of hope and comfort, he has a hope to see his beloved, yet, he feels comfortable that Lenore is safe in the heaven.

However, in *Ulalume*, a dark tone that overwhelms the lover. The psyche, which has been introduced as a person in the poem, is the inner sound of the lover. Therefore, we point out two tones. In the beginning, the lover is happy because he finds at last a way to get rid of his saddest memories while his psyche's tone is full of fear and hesitation. Afterward, when the lover discovers that the happiness the moon Astarte promises him to give is a big lie. Accordingly, the lover's tone becomes very upset and depressed.

In *Annabel Lee*, the tone of the lover is optimistic due to the lover's the faith that he will see his beloved Annabel Lee again in the heaven. Even though Annabel Lee is everything to him, his love and life as well, her death does not depress the lover. Instead, he thinks that their love is immortal and none can destruct.

3.3. Conclusion

After the analysis of the literary devices in these selected poems, we succeed in determining the attitude of the man towards the death of his beloved.

Poetry is like a puzzle, and the only way to decode its lines through the analysis of the literary devices that is used in. Thus, the codes in four poems of Poe, *The Raven*, *Lenore*, *Ulalume*, and *Annabel Lee* are revealed. The figurative language, in one hand, helps the reader to understand the ambiguity through the poem. On the other hand, imagery, diction, connotation, and tone are the main devices by which the poem gets its final layout. Poetry has a specific language and compressed one due to the diction, connotation that the author uses. Yet, each line or verse tells a story by the use of imagery and figurative language. Therefore, the literary devices are the basic element in the literary work especially poetry.

General Conclusion

Based on the psychoanalytic approach, the analysis of Edgar Allan Poe's poem, *The Raven*, *Lenore*, *Ulalume*, and *Annabel Lee* demonstrates that the man's attitudes towards the death of a beloved are mainly classified into two categories: optimistic and pessimistic. However, consequences of the death of a beloved include hope and despair, acceptance and depression.

As far as we treat the man's state of mind of each poem as a real person, the findings of this dissertation are very important because while a broad literature on studying the attitudes towards the death of a beloved, little integration and synthesis of the nature of the attitudes and their causes and consequences.

Moreover, this analysis answers the main questions of this dissertation. In one hand, the optimistic attitude is definitely due to the strong belief in God. Thus, religion is the main cause of determining the attitudes. The lovers in *Lenore* and *Annabel Lee* are optimistic. Because they think that true love is indestructible and immortal as well. We discover that religion gives life meaning. Yet, a belief in God will strengthen the individual's motivation to live happy as possible. On the other hand, the pessimistic attitude is due to the poor belief in the after-life. Hence, the lovers in *The Raven* and *Ulalume* are pessimistic. They have no sign of hope; instead, they are depressed and upset. In addition, they are weak to confront the obstacles because they think that their life has no meaning since they lose their beloved.

When we shed the light on Edgar Allan Poe's biography, we discover that Poe and his narrator are definitely the same. Thus, the second main question, which is the reasons behind the difference in man's attitudes, is revealed. According to his personal life, we find that not the alcohol is the reason behind these varieties; instead, we find that there is another cause, which is the manic-depression illness that Poe suffers from.

Psychologists define this term as an illness that embodied two phases. The patient who has such case suffers from the imbalance of mind's state. Sometimes, the patient is happy and active. His ambition to do everything in the same time is endless. However, in other times, he feels sad, upset, depressed and passive. Yet, he prefers to stay aloof from the others. Thus, Edgar Allan Poe's selected poems have different man's attitudes towards the death of a beloved. The attitude is presented from two different ways, the first way is when the men accept death as undeniable event, and cannot be reversible. Yet, they believe that death may separate their bodies, but their souls are always together in which love's ties bound them. The second way is when the men reject death. This kind of people does not believe in the after-life; instead, they think that what had been lost in life never return back.

Furthermore, we discover that manic-depression illness is deeply rooted in his childhood' trauma when his mother died leaving him approximately the age of two alone. Even though the pain that Poe bears is tough, his faith in God to help his poor soul is stronger.

As a conclusion, we think that anyone who has suffered in any way the loss of a loved one can benefit from this work about dealing with death. As we said before that if there is something is certain in life, it is that we shall all die, sooner or later.

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