Poem As A Political Act; Scannel’s Worldview On Walking Wounded

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I. INTRODUCTION

Understanding a poem seems not easy since it reveals something else other than the text itself. Poem is mostly written shortly, but it actually reveals something great inside. As a language that is used by poet to express his or her ideas, poem contains beauty in every single word, line, and its stanza; it such a unique media that is written briefly based on figure of speech (Pradopo, 2005). From this understanding, investigate poem internally is needed due to the fact that poem is a structure which is arranged from any kinds of elements and poetic instrument.

On the other hand, investigation toward external structure of a poem is essentially requisite. As a matter of fact, all the literary work including poem do not present and create in empty culture or the real condition of one society. A poem is written by the poet who has a great deal with the ideas, thoughts, and the worldview at that time. Historical framework and background of the social culture can’t be ignored because they are essential elements in the creation of a literary work. In writing a work, a poet is influenced by the social, cultural even historical condition, and usually he or she creates it based on the reality of the society, or commonly called as a reflection of real social life.

One of the greatest poets of England whose poems are mostly created and influenced by his real social condition and history is Vernon Scannell. He lived when Second World War broke out. During the war, he served in the British army in the Gordon highlanders, in France and North Africa. And in 1940, Scannell enlisted in the Argyll and Sutherland highlanders. The war took him into action in the North African desert and then the Normandy invasion (http://www.warpoets.org/conflicts/ww2/scannell/html, accessed on January 2014).

Actually, the war had a profound effect on Scannell’s life. Five years spent in the army gave a negative effect on him especially in his mental. Scannell was feeling brutalized by the army life. The experience of war made him lived in the restlessness and trauma. Because of all those reasons, he decided to leave the army life. Soon after his desertion, he focuses on writing. And now, he is known as a great poet who writes memorably about war.

Experience during his wartime is vividly expressed in one of the poem as in Walking Wounded (1965). Walking Wounded talks about the misery of a soldier
who had returned from the battle. They walk on street with lethal wound in whole body. They suffered from serious injuries and pain. The experience which is clear in Walking Wounded is ability to see the victims of war especially the soldier.

This poem talks about a vivid experience of global military conflict that caused destruction in the universe. Everyone who involved in a war lived in suffering, depression and trauma. It’s really terrifying. Through a great writing inspired by the war, Walking Wounded (1965) is regarded as the best poem to come out of the Second World War, and known as the best-known book of war poetry. For Walking Wounded (1965), Scannell received special poetry award from Wilfred Owen Association in recognition of his contribution to war poem (http://www.warpoet.org/conflict/ww2/scannell/? accessed on January 2014).

Finally, this analysis focuses on how war is described in Walking Wounded (1965) and what is Scannell’s worldview toward the war through genetic structuralism theory.

II. METHOD OF RESEARCH

Genetic structuralism was the theory declared by Lucien Goldmann (1913-1970), a philosopher and sociologist of Romania-France. He believed that a literary work was a structure, and he thought that analyzing internal and external structure of literary work was quite significant to be conducted. So, in 1956 he performed his theory “Genetic Structuralism,” Ratna (2006) said that it was the structure analysis in which focused on the origin of literary work. Genetic defined as the origin of literary works which involved the author and real history that support the creation of the work. In a simple word, Jabrohim (2002) added that historical background and society gave a great influence to the creation of literary work processed.

Genetic structuralism created as a rejection to the classical structuralism that focused only on the analysis of internal structure (intrinsic elements) of literary work. Classical structuralism ignored all the things beyond the structure (extrinsic elements) such as social and historical background of the literary work. In the development of literary theory, it seemed that the classical criticism invalided to give the meaning of the literary work. If a literary work was only analyzed based on the intrinsic elements, it’s supposed to be out of the social context. Goldmann’s with the theory of genetic structuralism concerned about the social structure of a literary work because it’s always involved the society and history in the creation of the work. For him, literary work needed to be analyzed internally and externally.

Jabrohim (2002) said that “Karya sastra lahir ditengah-tengah masyarakat sebagai hasil imajinasi pengarang serta refleksinya terhadap gejala-gejala sosial disekitarnya.” It means that the author, society, and history have a great deal with the literary production. As we concerned that the author is a part of society and usually he creates his work based on the creativity of imagination that’s much influenced by social factors in the society. The author will create his/her own worldview about what he/she is writing. In genetic structuralism theory, the core of analysis is finding out the worldview of the author. So, it can be summarized that genetic structuralism is going to reveal the Worldview which is gained by investigating both intrinsic and extrinsic elements of literary work (Ratna, 2006).

Explaining about the simple steps of using genetic structuralism, Jabrohim (2002) said:


From the understanding above, we can summarize that there are only three steps in analyzing a literary work with genetic structuralism. First is the analysis of intrinsic elements. Second is analysis of social life of the author. And the last is analysis of the history in which becomes the background in his literary production. Those of all are investigated to reveal the worldview of the author as core analysis of genetic structuralism.

The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative. Research methodology focuses on reading text intensively, analyzing text base on its internal structure to know how war is described in the poem of Scannell. After knowing the description of the war through investigation of the internal structure of the poems, they are connected with the biographical investigation and historical event relate to the creation of the poem. This is supported by the theory of Lucien Goldmann about genetic structuralism which is connected both internal and external structure of literary work to reveal the worldview of the author toward war.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

A. Analysis of the Poems

Basically poetry as one of literary work is
imaginative process; it is created based on the imagination of the poet. But, most poems are created as a result of a deep thinking of the poet that is influenced by the condition or event in which he/she is observed, thought, and experienced. And usually, a poem is created based on unforgettable experience of his/herself or the experience of the people around him (in a society). The idea which essentially comes from the event or the condition or another people experience is covered by the poet through a simple and beautiful language. These of all could make the poem interesting and meaningful.

The poem of Vernon Scannell “Walking Wounded is shaped and created based on his real time experience (http://www.poetryarchive.org/poetryarchive/singl.epoem.do?poemld=453, accessed on April, 2008). He uses a simple and beautiful word to describe his experience (war time during the Second World War). In understanding the poem of Scannell, the analysis could be: first, the internal structure which is found in the poem such as figure of speech and imagery. It is a way to see of how war is described through the uses of intrinsic elements in this poem. Then, the external structures involve the socio condition and history in which become the background in his literary production. Both analyses could be significant steps to reveal the worldview of the poet.

**Walking Wounded (1965)**

*in the rusty hedges pale of mist hung*

*The gruel of mud and leaves in the mauled lane*

*Smelled sweet, like blood. Birds had died or flown,*

*Their green and silent attics sprouting now*

*With branches of leafed steel, hiding round eyes*

*And ripe grenades ready to drop and burst...*

*Then into sight the ambulances came,*

*Stumbling and churning past the broken farm,*

*The amputated sign-post and smashed trees,*

*Slow wagonloads of bandaged cries, square trucks*

*That rolled on ominous wheels,*

*Made mythopoeic by their mortal freight*

*And crimson crosses on the dirty white...*

*The mist still hung in snags from dripping thorns;*

*Absent-minded guns still sighed and thumped.*

*And then they came, the walking wounded,*

*Straggling the road like convicts loosely chained,*

*Dragging at ankles exhaustion and despair...*

*Remembering after eighteen years,*

*In the heart's throat a sour sadness stirs;*

*Imagination pauses and returns*

*To see them walking still, but multiplied*

*In thousands now. And when heroic corpses*

*Turn slowly in their decorated sleep*

*And every ambulance has disappeared,*

*The walking wounded still trudge down that lane,*

*And when recalled they must bear arms again.*

**B. Intrinsic Analysis**

The description of war in Vernon Scannell’s poems can be known by the analysis of intrinsic elements in which he uses figure of speech and imagery in such way to make a vivid description about how war is described in his poem. Personification, simile, imagery, and symbol are the exist elements in poem “walking wounded.”

1. **Personification**

Laurence (1969) stated that personification consists in giving the attributes of a human being to an animal, an object, or an idea. In a book of Rachmat Djoko Pradopo (2005) explained “personifikasi adalah kiasan yang mempersamakan benda dengan manusia, benda-benda mati dibuat dapat berbuat, berfikir dan sebagainya seperti manusia.”

Personification in this poem occurs when the speaker attributes non-living object “morning” with human action (walk and cry).

*The amputated morning moved grey flanks and groaned in the rusty hedges pale of mist hung*  
(Walking Wounded: line 1-2)

Here, in the stanza, tells that morning (which in this case is an abstract object) is given the attribute as a human being. Morning is describes as if it can do a movement or walk and groan or cry. As all we know, cry, move, and groan, those are the characteristics belong to human. But in the line above, the speaker tells that morning can move grey or groaned.

From the description of the morning (move gray and cry), the writer can actually catch that the situation in the morning is an unpleasant thing for the soldiers. They should fight in war everyday and see the destruction every time. They should sacrifice their life for the sake of their country. Actually the war is giving nothing for people but suffering and sadness. The soldiers are exhausted and wounded, it can be imagined how terrible their life are. That’s why the speaker tells the morning move grey and groaned. It is caused by the day that should be faced by the soldiers is an unpleasant thing and dangerous. Early morning, they may see their friends kill and injured. And the death may come into him. A fully personification appears in the next stanza:

*the mist still hung in snags from dripping thorns; absent-minded guns still sighed and thumped*  
(Walking Wounded: line 15-16)

The gun is an object; it is a kind of weapon that usually used for firing bullet or shot. In the stanza, gun is given a characteristic as human “sighed and thumped.” both characteristics belong to human.
Clearly, the speaker uses personification in this line. Here, speaker tries to personify the gun with the characteristic of human. *Sighed* and *thumped* may personifies that guns will always exist “sighed” and firing the bullet or short hardly as long as the soldiers survive and alive. The soldiers are always taking the guns on his arms during the war, that’s why speaker says the gun still sighed and thumped or short hardly.

2. Simile

Laurence (1969) stated that Simile is comparison between things essentially unlike, it uses comparison word or phrase such as like, as, etc.

*the gruel of mud and leaves in the mauled lane*
*smelled sweet, like blood*

(Walking Wounded: line 3-4)

A comparison word “like” in the stanza shows a simile. It is used to compare two things that essentially unlike. The smell of the mud and leaves is compared with the smell of blood. The writer interprets that the poem’s lines are telling about the Warfield condition, soldiers who involve in war are wounded or injured. The smell of mud and leave are compared with the smell of blood because the wounded soldiers pouring out of much blood. Hundreds even thousands soldiers are injured event died in war; as a result, the Warfield is filled up with blood that pouring out of the soldiers, and it sharply smelled.

Mud itself is wet earth that is soft and sticky. And blood is the red liquid that flows through the bodies of human. At glance, it such doesn’t have the similarity, but in deeper thought, it has its similarity that both of them are liquid and putrid taste. The writer interprets that blood that pouring out of wounded soldiers becomes dominant smell in Warfield.

*and then they came, the walking wounded, straggling the road like convict loosely chained, dragging at ankle exhaustion and despair*

(Walking Wounded: line 17-19)

Sign-post “like” in the stanza is a comparison word to identify the simile. The comparison is addressed to the soldiers when they are walking and straggling on the road in exhausted condition, then they are compared with the tired and despair convicts or prisoners that chained loosely and dragging at the ankles.

Actually, their journey toward a war is exhausted and wounded. They are sacrificing their soul to fight in war. They live in suffering and despair, but they can’t withdraw from the responsibility of being soldiers. So in the stanza, the soldier who is struggling on the road is described as prisoners that chained at the ankles because they are cannot escape from military life. They don’t have any choices but keep fighting in war. They must be ready to fight even though the life in war is like the life in prison and the life as soldiers is a life as prisoners.

3. Symbol

Symbol is used by the speaker in order to expand and deepen the meaning of the piece. Usually, the author select a specific objects, places, or things to function as symbol in his/her work. Scannell use two symbols in this poem: ambulance and bird. Ambulance is symbolized the sickness or death, and bird is symbolized the airplane as the air force in military.

*and ripe grenade ready to drop and burst then into sight the ambulance came, stumbling and churning past the broken farm* (Walking Wounded: line 7-9)

Ambulance is a vehicle with special equipment used for taking sick or injured people to a hospital (Hornby,2000). In the stanza, the speaker tells about the condition in the Warfield where the ripe grenade is dropped. In a few minutes, everything destroyed, home damaged and people injured even died.

Ambulance in this line has its function as a symbol because the speaker uses or selects a specific object, and the object has its meaning which has a great deal with a sick, injured, or died people. Simply, the ambulance is one of the vehicles that are needed when the war breaks out. It is taking the victim of war to be hospitalized or recovered. So, ambulance that is used by Scannell in his poem is the symbol of sickness or death.

*in thousand now, and when heroic corpses turn slowly in their decorated sleep and every ambulances has disappeared*

(Walking Wounded: line 24-26)

In the lines above, clear that the ambulance is the symbol of death, the lines explain about died people (victim of war). Then the ambulance takes them away.

The second symbol appears in the stanza below:

*birds had died or flown their green and silent attic sprouting now with branches of leafed steel, hiding round eyes and ripe grenades ready to drop and burst* (Walking Wounded: line 4-7)

Symbol can roughly defined as something that means more than what it is (Laurence, 1969). Speaker uses the bird doesn’t really mean the bird as well, instead he uses the bird to symbolize the airplane as the air force. The stanza tells about the bird (plane) with the wings made from steel. It is used by the soldiers then flies to the air to do...
invasion and dropped the grenade.

Bird is a creature that is covered with the feathers and has two wings and legs, and most bird can fly (Laurence, 1969). The bird in this line is symbolized the airplane that is used by soldiers as the air force. A comparison between bird and airplane is that each bird and plane has two wings and can fly.

In military, the Air force has a significant role. It is a part of a country’s armed forces that fight using aircraft (airplane). For example, England creates many airplanes for its air force in the nine century such as Super marine Spitfire (A very reliable plane of British Airforce in which become one of the classic works in the Second World War. The plane with 605 kilometer per hour of speed is also active in maneuver and slope upward. In the period of 1939-1945, the plane is one of the best aircraft in the Second World War), Shot Stirling(Four machines bomber plane of the British air force which functioned as a cargo plane and maritime patrol), and Dehaviland Mosquito(The plane which is flown with 700 kilometer per hour of speed, the body is made from wood that it is hard to be detected by radar. It is trusted in the operation of secrecy infiltration and guerrilla war. Mosquito is the mosquito which brings out the heavy disaster for Germany). Those are used to invade Germany during the Second World War (Darma, 2007).

It’s clear enough that the role of bird “airplane” as the air force is one of the basic power in war beside army and navy. In many countries, air force is used as the main power in the offensive against foe. Vividly, the speaker uses “bird” as a symbol of the air force. He is symbolized the bird as the airplane of the air force in military.

4. Visual Imagery

As the poem is performed the condition of the Warfield, the image of the condition is clearly viewed in the whole poem. Visual imagery becomes the dominant image in the poem since the text represents something that can be seen in the mind’s eyes.

a mammoth morning moved grey flanks
and groaned in the rusty hedges pale of mist hung

(Walking Wounded: Line 1-2)

Early morning describes colored grey and the pale cloud hangs in the sky. It gives an effect that the situation in the morning is an unpleasant thing. The days that should be faced by the soldiers are not easy. Their suffering, sadness, and those short of things that caused by war is described by the speaker through the situation in the morning which is colored grey with the pale cloud in the sky. Clearly, the text is presented the visual image since the readers could imagine of how the morning is described in the text and imagine the sadness and suffering of the soldiers in war.

the gruel of mud and leaves in the mauled lane
smelled sweet like blood

(Walking Wounded: line 3-4)

The line is the visual imagery since the reader can visualize the image in mind. The earth in the Warfield is filling up with the blood and it such the mud of blood. Here, the reader can imagine the condition of Warfield (earth with blood) through imagery that is presented in the text.

and ripe grenade ready to drop and burst
then into sight the ambulance came,
stumbling and churning past the broken farm

(Walking Wounded: line 7-9)

The line above is also presented the visual image. The reader can visualize and imagine what kind of vehicle that is used to take the victim away from the Warfield. The ambulances come to take the victims away of the Warfield, and actually ambulance is a special vehicle with special equipment. It has the medical equipment to help the injured soldiers and also has the siren. Actually it may come into the reader’s imagination; they could imagine the ambulance in the text.

slow waggonloads of bandages cries,

square trucks that rolled on ominous wheels, vehicle

made mythopoeic by their mortal freight

(Walking Wounded: line 11-13)

More and more visual imagery appears in the poem. The text above could visualize kinds of vehicle that is used in the war; the wagon and trucks. The wagon (a freight car with four wheels for carrying heavy load) is described loading the victims of war in which they are all wounded with the bandage of their body, they are crying due to the horrible hurt. The wagon is driven slowly due to the heavy load. Then the truck in square shape is taking the people (soldiers) in which they are placed in the back of the truck. These of all come into the mind’s eye of the reader and the vehicle is clearly visualized in the text.

5. Olfactory Imagery

Olfactory imagery is the image that represents smell in the text. In this stanza, the image appears through smell of mud and leaves in the Warfield which is smelled like blood.

the gruel of mud and leaves in the mauled lane
smelled sweet like blood
The text represents the sense of smell. The smell of mud and leaves that are compared with the smell of blood is clearly an image of smell. As the text represent the condition of the Warfield where blood is viewed everywhere, through the stanza, the blood is strongly smelled. Blood is the dominant smell in the Warfield since the injured or killed soldiers are pouring out the blood from their body. While reading the text, the smell of blood exists in mind. Blood has its special smell, it is putrid. The blood is strongly smelled in the Warfield, and the texts lead the reader to imagine what the smell is.

6. Organic imagery

It is an internal sensation such as hunger, thirst, fatigue, or nausea (Laurence, 1969).

The organic imagery appears in the text when the speaker says that life as soldier is exhausted.

and then they came, the walking wounded, snagging the road like convict loosely chained, dragging at ankle exhaustion and despair  
(Walking Wounded: line 17-19)

The text tells about the exhaustion that the soldier experienced. We can imagine of how exhausted they are when the war take him into the action. They are tired, exhausted, and despair.

7. Theme

The theme of the poem is “the war brings great devastation in the universe.” Through imagery and figure of speech, the poem describes how terrible and cruel the war is. It has destroyed the creature since the bomb exploded, and the grenade dropped. How it hurts and makes soldiers live in suffering, exhaustion, and despair when they are returning from the war.

and ripe grenade ready to drop and burst then into sight the ambulance came, stumbling and churning past the broken farm  
(Walking Wounded: line 7-9)

When the grenade is exploded, the entire thing is destroyed and thousands people injured even killed in war. Then, the ambulances come to take the wounded soldiers away of the Warfield. They are taken to be hospitalized and to be recovered. How cruel and sadist the war is described in the poem. It’s devastated everything. Homes and buildings destroyed, many people injured even killed in war.

and then they came, the walking wounded, snagging the road like convict loosely chained, dragging at ankle exhaustion and despair  
(Walking Wounded: line 17-19)

The soldiers are exhausted and wounded till compared as the prisoners who dragged at their ankle and chained at their hands. The poem describes the soldiers who live in suffering and live in extreme pain, misery, and despair due to the violence of war. The war has extremely devastate the world involve devastate the soldier’s life. The war is not only destroyed the world but also destroy humanity.

Through the explication and a deep analysis of intrinsic elements of the poem, the writer has known about how the war is actually going. It is absolutely giving nothing but suffering for everyone who involved in the war. People are killed and get a lethal wounded. It makes the people live in the restrain, exhaustion, and despair (Walking Wounded: Line 17-19).

1. Biographical Analysis

Vernon Scannell is a British poet and a former soldier of British army. During the breaks out of the Second World War, he served in the British army in the Gordon highlanders, in France and North Africa. And in 1940, Scannell enlisted in the Argyll and Sutherland highlanders. The war took him into action in the North African desert and then the Normandy invasion, and was seriously wounded near Cean in France(http://www.warpoets.org/conflicts/ww2/scannell.html, accessed on April 2008).

Actually, the war had a profound effect on him; five years spent in the army gave a negative effect on him especially in his mental. He felt horrifying in life. The experience of war made him lived in the restlessness and trauma. Besides war made any destructions in the world, it was also destructed the humanity. Human treated as if they were non-living thing who didn’t have a feeling. Scannell was feeling brutalized by the army life. Being a soldier needs a strong bravery. It’s not easy to undergo the life in military. Life in war is absolutely horrible. Fighting almost every day, the bombs exploded, and grenade dropped and burst. It is usual to watch friends or family being killed in the battle or at home. The condition for him was really bad.

After five years served in the army, he deserted. Subsequently, Scannell settled down to writing either novels or poems. Walking Wounded was created and shaped based on his war time experience when he takes some invasion during the war breaks out. His involvement in the Second World War in which causes more than 60.000 people killed and perhaps 100.000 seriously injured is strongly reflected in his poem. The condition of the Warfield that he is described tends to be broken when the bomb explodes and the grenade dropped and burst

and ripe grenade ready to drop and burst then into sight the ambulance came, stumbling and churning past the broken farm  
(Walking Wounded: line 7-9)
The condition of war was really terrible. The soldiers live in suffering and sadness due to the cruel of war. In the book of band of brothers said “merekamenderita karena depresi berat dan mempunyai bekas luka-luka yang jelas. kebanyakan dari mereka tampak kurang makan, pakaiin campung-camping. Pendidikan mereka terhenti karena depresi, atau peperangan (Stephen, 2007)” from the statement above, we can say that life as a soldier is something horrific. It is probably one of the most unpleasant experiences. But the soldiers keep fighting in war and recover from their depression because of thinking positively and defend their fatherland. A soldier just having to go through what they had to do.

In the description about war in his poems, it can be imagining of how the war has made the destruction to the human body. The war has really taken its toll on human. It makes the total death. Those are all the fact that’s revealed from the war.

2. Socio-Historical Analysis

Historical background analysis is quite significant step in analyzing a literary work. As a literary work does not present and create in empty culture or the real condition of one society, it is needed to analyze about what happen in the society when a work is created. Through his works, usually a poet raises the history as a background of his literary production. All the literary work may create as a reflection of real social condition that is happening in the society.

The poem of Vernon Scannell Walking Wounded is performed the condition of world in 1940s when the military global conflict happens. A majority of the world’s nations, including all of the great powers such as Germany, United States, Britain, Japan involved in this war. Those conflicts have led the war become serious. And the war itself started when Hitler sent his armies to invade Poland on September 1, 1939 (Adolph Hitler was the most infamous political ruler of the twentieth century. Hitler rose from obscurity to become the leader of Germany in the 1930s and 1940s triggering World War II because of his foreign policy. He was responsible of out breaking of the Second World War. Hitler was known as one of the most evil people in history). Britain and France demanded that he withdraw, but Hitler refused, even he blamed the British for all the trouble because they have encouraged Poland to resist. So, on September 3, 1939, Britain and French declared war on Germany (Moon and Cline, 1964: 641). The war in which involved all the great nations in the world was called as the Second World War.

As British declared war on Germany, It’s a fact that British need many soldiers in the army to support the war. In the British government, the Army normally has a recruitment target of around 25,000 soldiers per year. The minimum recruitment age is 16 years, although soldiers may not serve on operations below 18 years. The normal term of engagement is 22 years, and once enlisted soldiers are not normally permitted to leave until they have served at least 4 years (http://www.wikipedia/soldier_second_world_war.html. Accessed on October 2008). In the Second World War, many people involve in war, and most civilian become soldier to take part in fighting in war. The reasons of their involvement with the army may be caused by the high unemployment, economic shrinking, and up of the living cost at the time. If we look back on the reason of the causes of the Second World War, one of them is caused by the economic crisis when every country does competition to dominate the other wealth country. By the reasons, most civilian join with the army and become volunteer (Brunn and Mamatey (1967).

The leader of British is Churchill at that time, one time in his speeches he expressed: "The whole of warring nations are not only soldiers, but the entire population, men, women, and children. The fronts are everywhere. The trenches are dug in the town and the street. Every village is fortified. Every road is barred. The workmen are soldiers with different weapons but the same courage.”

The understanding of the speech can be known that the existence of the soldiers has really given the advantages for the country. The soldier here doesn’t mean the soldiers as the military troops, but the general soldiers are the whole citizen. They are taking part as soldier during the war.

In the event of Second World War, British makes the civilian population experienced total war because about 60,000 people are killed and perhaps 100,000 seriously injured. Hundreds of thousands of people were made homeless and had to be housed in emergency centers-cinemas-theaters, school, or whatever was convenient(Brunn and Mamatey, 1967). The victim of war is reflected in Scannell’s poems when the grenade dropped and burst. As a matter of fact, hundreds event thousands people killed and injured due to the war.

The Second World War has caused devastation in the world. In fact, the total estimated human loss of life caused by World War II was roughly 72 million people, making it the deadliest and most destructive war in human history. The civilian toll was around
and every ambulances has disappeared
turn slowly in their decorated sleep
in thousand now, and when heroic corpses
million prisoners of war in captivity (Lowwe, 1998).

47 million, including 20 million deaths due to war-related famine and disease. The military toll was about 25 million, including the deaths of about 4 million prisoners of war in captivity (Lowwe, 1998).
in thousand now, and when heroic corpses
turn slowly in their decorated sleep
and every ambulances has disappeared
(Walking Wounded: line 24-26)

Through his poems, the history of the Second World War is reflected clearly in each stanza. The devastation that is made by war has caused people especially soldiers live in suffering and despair.

and then they came, the walking wounded,
ragging the road like convict loosely chained,
dragging at ankle exhaustion and despair
(Walking Wounded: line 17-19)

3. Scannell’s Worldview

In writing his works, a poet is always having the worldview about what he is written. In Walking Wounded, Scannell absolutely has a worldview toward war that he is described in his poems. Worldview cannot be viewed without the investigation of the historical background when a poet creates his poem. As mentioned before, the Second World War is the history that has given him a great influence to write the poems. In his works, he tries to express the idea of the soldier’s life through his poems. The experience during the war time has stimulated him to write the poem memorably about war.

Based on the description of war in his poem “Walking Wounded”, the writer has revealed the worldview of the author by analyzing of the intrinsic element, the poet’s social life, and the history of the Second World War as a historical background of his poems. Scannell’s worldview is that war giving nothing for humanity but devastation. The war gives no advantages for human. Even it has devastated everything in the universe. It’s not only destroyed homes, buildings, but also destroyed humanity. Whatever, the war only gives suffering for human. In his poem, he expresses what he feels and what he experienced during the war. (See: Walking Wounded: Line 7-9).

Through simple and beautiful language, Scannell attempts to express his world vision toward war. The war he’s described is really destructive. The war has brought much destruction in the universe. Hundreds even thousands people killed and injured, homes and the other buildings destroyed. The war destroys humanity when the human soul is not any longer appreciated. (See: Walking Wounded: line 24-26).

From those all explanation and description of Scannell’s war poems, it can be said that the war is absolutely destructive. It destroys everything in the universe either buildings or human. The destruction caused by war is identified as a vivid worldview of Scannell toward war.

IV. CONCLUSION

Walking Wounded was created and influenced by the war in which Scannel’s was totally involved during the breaks out of the Second World War. By the investigation of intrinsic elements such as figure of speech (simile, metaphor, paradox, symbol), and imagery (visual, auditory, olfactory), that are found in the text and the reflection of history of the Second World War as the background in the creation of his works, the writer finally reveals his vivid worldview toward war which is destroy everything include humanity. Furthermore, it can be concluded that poem written by Scannel is his political activism in sharing his worldview to the universe. Revelation of the worldview of the poet toward the war enlarges the opportunity to change the worldview of every human in the world especially on how important the humanity is and how important is it to keep the world peace.

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Internet:


BIOGRAPHY OF THE AUTHORS

Ida Rosida is a lecturer in English and Literature Department Faculty of Adab and Humanities, Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University Jakarta. She took her magister degree at University of Indonesia in 2010 and graduated in 2013. She is an editor of Insaniyat; Journal of Islam and Humanities published by the Faculty of Adab and Humanity, Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University Jakarta, and editor for Bulletin FAH. Her articles had been published such as Hasrat Komoditas di Ruang Urban Jakarta: Sebuah Kajian Budaya in 2015, and The Identity Construction of Jordanian Muslim Woman Reflected in Willow Trees Don’t Weep Novel (2014) by Fadia Faqir in 2016. Now, she is writing the sequence of the investigation of Willow Trees Don’t Weep Novel by Fadia Faqir using the concept of feminist literary criticism. She is intended to submit the article to accredited national journal. Besides, she is finishing her work concerning to the relation between class and gender as reflected in English Short Story created by Carolyn Cooke. She is now involved in a collective research focused on cultural studies held by Pusat Penelitian dan Pengembangan UIN Jakarta.

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