

## Chapter IV

### CONCLUSION

After analyzing the three poems by Edgar Allan Poe, "Sonnet to my Mother," "Annabel Lee," and "For Annie," I find out that the analysis answer the question in the statement of the problem. First, the speakers in those three poems show their optimistic attitude toward death. The attitude shows from the way the speakers accept death as something natural and undeniable in human life. As for the separations that set apart the speakers and their lovers, all of the speakers believe that death may separate their bodies, but death cannot separate their souls, which are unified by love.

The speaker in the first poem, "Sonnet to My Mother," experiences the death of his beloved wife, Virginia. In his effort to show his eternal love to Virginia the speaker shows his appraisal and devotion to Death by addresses Death as "mother." (4). The speaker believes that Death is more prominent than his own mother: since Death has proven its profound love to Virginia, his beloved wife. By showing his appraisal and devotion to Death, actually the speaker wants to illustrate his overwhelming love to Virginia. Through the whole poem, the speaker wants to reveal that due to his great love to Virginia, he finds out that Death is the savior of *Virginia's* spirit.

In the second poem, "Annabel Lee," the speaker loses his lover when they were still very young and their love is pure. In his anger: of losing someone he loves, the speaker accuses the angels of their jealousy concerning the speaker's and Annabel Lee's strong love. He believes that because their love is so pure and strong, the angels in Heaven become very jealous and therefore separate him and Annabel Lee by killing her with achilling wind. However, the speaker believes that although they are separated by death, death cannot separate their love since their love is so strong.

In the third poem, "For Annie," the speaker is someone who is in the dead state. The speaker in this poem believes, although he is aware of his dead state, that he is not dead yet. The speaker is dead in the medical sense only, but he *is* **alive** since he can feel Annie's love to him. When the speaker is still alive, he has no chance to feel Annie's love because his life **is** tortured by a hellish pain from his illness. After his death, the speaker feels alive because then he can feel Annie's love although he is now dead and remembers how their love used to be. Being optimistic in accepting death, the speaker is in a peaceful condition in his somnolent situation.

In addition, the **optimistic** attitude that is different from the typical attitude which is related to fear and loneliness is achieved by the speakers in those poems as the manifestation of Poe's attitude, is the result of Poe's biography and personal experience that initiate his longing for peace. Through the three poems, Poe's optimistic attitude is revealed, while his biography reveals Poe's reason in having different attitude from the typical attitude.

After analyzing those three poems, I conclude that the speakers' optimistic attitude toward death has encouraged them to be stronger in their life. Because of

reunited again with their beloved. Although they know that they cannot change the situation, they are able to face it in a better way. According to Poe, the better way is when he can find his lost love and therefore he feels peaceful. Thus, since he secretly longs *for* death (the Encyclopedia Americana 625), he also yearns for peace, a situation that he hardly experience.