

The application of Riffaterre's semiotic model in the reading of poetry

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Riffaterre is one of researchers in the semiotics of poetry. Developing his structuralist ideas, Riffaterre devoted his later career to the reception theory and is known as a hermeneutic structuralist. Using Riffaterre's model in reading poetry illuminates important notes about the creation of poetic texts as well as its recreation by the reader. Hence, this article is based on a reading of poem by Shamloo. Analysis of this poem indicates that it is a result of an expansion of a matrix and its significance is consequently dependent on this matrix. This matrix, which signifies the transference of human being from this world to the other world, is firstly divided into three distinct topics, i.e. transference, this world, and the other world. Each topic is then expanded through such techniques as accumulation, descriptive systems, and textual space. This research, also, reveals that poetry, in the process of reading, transcends from a mimetic level to a semiotic level where the significance of the poem could be understood.

Key words: Semiotics of Poetry, Matrix, Accumulation, Descriptive Systems, Textual Space, Mimetic Level.

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