

## Sociological Analysis of “Mirror Image” Novel By Sandra Novel

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### Abstract

This research aimed at finding out and developing intrinsic elements and how social life was presented in the novel *Mirror Image* by Sandra Brown. This is a qualitative research. The data of the research were taken from word, phrase, sentences in the novel and they were analyzed used triangulation method. Data source triangulation was achieved through the inclusion of two different types of data: interviews and questionnaire. The result showed were social aspect, economy aspect, politic aspect, and cultural aspect.

**Keywords:** Sociology of Literature, Social life and novel.

### INTRODUCTION

Human was a social creatures which needs each other's support in life. But issues also originate from our selves, the family, and local societies in socializing. Often the experience was in a stroke and can be used as an experience for example an author may turn it into a literary work.

Literary work was a work that takes priority over facets of beauty. Moody in *Literary Works and Character Education* said literary works have four purposes, namely 1) practicing language skills; 2) growing knowledge of human life experiences; 3) creating feelings and creations; 4) promoting character growth. Therefore it may increase from the four above functions. Literature sociology was a science that helped us understand social problems in literature. Literature sociology means the study of literary works in historical and social terms. Analysis of literature sociology was a way of knowing real-world social equality with the world in literary works, especially novels. In Literature sociology the relationship between literature and society was portrayed. Sociology of literature was a science that helps us understand literature about social problems. Sociology of literature involves researching literary works in both historical and social terms. Analysis of sociology of literature was a form of knowing social equality in real life with life in literary works, especially novels. In life, there were various kinds of social problems that can be described in literary works. Social problems usually occur because of incompatibility between existing behavior and norms. Literature pointed out that reflected dynamic facets of society. Via literature sociology aspects relevant to human life can be exposed and there was a close connection between literature and culture [1]. This is because the first was that the author produces literature, the two are writers who were members of the culture, and the three were writers who made used of the fact that exists in society, so the society reused the work. In this research, the author used literature sociology to research the novel Sandra Brown *Mirror Image*. Sandra was a great author born in Waco, but spent her childhood in Ft. Worth. At her early age, she loved books and storytelling. Sandra with her husband Michael Brown, who owns a video production company and produced the award - winning documentary film *Dust to Dust*, divide their time between their primary home in Ft. Worth and getaway in Hilton Head, South California.

This *Mirror Image* novel had been on the bestseller list in New York in June 1990 and since 1981, she has published 65 novels. Her books have been translated into 30 languages, and they presently 70 million copies of her books in print worldwide. The writer became an interesting topic in the novel *Mirror Image* because had complex problems in every step of the story, especially in social life. Her novel told about a woman's life and their problem and she cannot refuse the condition. The writer wanted reveal the social life of Avery Daniels as the protagonist. Begin at the crash of a Dallas-bound jet wasn't just tragedy to TV reporter Avery

Daniels. She was responsible for the mistake of Carole Rutledge, a glamorous, selfish woman. Avery Daniel found that plastic surgery had given her Carole's face, the famous senatorial candidate Tate Rutledge for a husband, and a powerful Texas dynasty for in-law. As she lay helpless in the hospital, she would make a discovery. Someone close to Tate planned to assassinate him. Avery desires to save Tate's life from the assassin that had become precious to her and she desires of her familiar image and her career. Besides the major theme, *Mirror Image* also told about the image of family life, woman problems, revenge, murder, etc.

This is because the first was that the author produces literature, the two were writers themselves members of the culture, and the three were writers who made use of the fact that exists in society, so the society reused the work. In this study the author used the literature sociology to study the novel *Sandra Brown Mirror Image*. Based on the reason above, the researcher intends to conduct a study about SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF "MIRROR IMAGE" NOVEL BY SANDRA BROWN.

### **Concept of Literature**

Literature is a word derived from a Latin word 'littera' which means, 'letter of the alphabet'. Literature as a field of study has many definitions. Some of these definitions tend to describe literature the value of writing as a creative word, as writings of the country, or as anything in print. However, it was wrong to limit literature to only writing materials. An effort to reduce literature to only written materials had been removed from the literature of preliterate societies that were not written down [2].

We study literature because of its great value, which included the following functions:

1. Entertainment: one of the functions of literature is entertainment. The primary purpose of literature is to provide entertainment. For example, we read a novel, play, recite poems mainly for recreation.
2. Mastering of English Language: by reading literary works composed in the English language, students get familiar with new words and master the structure of the English language.
3. Emotional Relief expressing our thought or our emotion as we often do through literary works or reading literature books, we release our emotions. This is because a literary work leaves us at the end of aesthetic experience with a relaxed mind, by providing our emotions with focus.
4. Social Control: Literature serves as a weapon of social control. The literary artist (novelist and poet) is like a police inspector to society. He fines the moment things start going wrong. The morality of a society is measured through his work. Also through work of literature wrong doing of society is exposed to all and sundry.
5. Literature also functions as a means of direct experience: Some literary work has a setting (background) of a foreign land we may not have been to for example, *The Merchant of Venice* written by Shakespeare has Venice, Belmont as well as Jewish and Christian traditions as its background. In the same vein, *The Joys of Motherhood*, written by Buchi Emechata has Ibusa, Lagos together with the Igbo culture as its background. Thus, by reading such works, we get to know about the people and places reflected without having been to these lands.
6. Literature Mirror life: by this, we mean that literature is a mimetic art. It imitates. The events, situation and characters we find in the literature shows the real life situation, as we get amused by actions in literary works or condemn activities of some characters, we equally laugh at ourselves or condemn ourselves.
7. Literature is a reservoir of culture: when we read literary works written by people from other cultural areas, we get to know about those cultures. Sometimes we learn more about our own culture by reading works by authors from our cultural area. This is because most of the literary works we read embody the culture of a group of people. Simply put, literature is a store in which culture is stocked or preserved.
8. Literature serves as a historical document or social document: A literary work would be used by historians as a social document to reconstruct the history of past society. This is because, a literary work conveys or reflects the time it was written as well as the virtues and the prejudices of the time. The idea is that, every writer is influenced by the happenings of the time he is writing. Some novels, poems, and plays are reactions to political happenings at the time they were written.
9. Finally, Literature is also a means of education and enlightenment: It teaches new things and new

ways of doing things. In so doing, it broadens our knowledge and builds our skills. Also, it informs us about the happenings around us.

There are two elements of literature, they are intrinsic elements and extrinsic elements. The intrinsic element has five parts that build a novel or story from inside. These parts are directly affecting the story and also will determine how the story will be composed. The intrinsic element is concerned with novel value that directly forms and build the story. The five parts of the intrinsic elements of the novel are specified as follows;

### **Character**

These are the people we read about in literary work. In a literary work, a writer describes actions or ideas as well as describes the characters affected by the actions or ideas. The character can be described in three dimensions namely: in physical appearance ( tall , short, face, thin, gender and age ), in psychic values ( hobby, mentality, ambition ) and social status ( occupation, religion, nationality, and profession ).

### **Setting**

It is the place in which a character's story takes place. There is some kind of setting based on Martin and Hill's theory as cited in Susanto, they are: the setting of place, the setting of time, and the setting of society. Furthermore, Simaibangpoint out that the backgrounds can on the location of the place suggest the occurrence of the events recounted in a work of fiction. Elements may be used where the places with a certain name and initials are found. Then, the background of time associated with the problem of "when" of events recounted in a work of fiction problem. The word "when" is normally associated with the factual item, the time to do or be associated with historical events. Next, the social background suggested on matters relating to the conduct of social life of the community in a place that is told. The setting usually directs to the definition of place, the connection of time and the social environment where the event happens.

Kennedy divided setting into three types; they are setting of place, setting of time, and setting of social. The first one is setting of place. It sets the place as the main object. "The Idea of setting includes the physical environment of a story; a house, a street, a city, a landscape, a region" (Kennedy). The second one is setting of time. Hereby, when this movie is told becomes the issue. "Besides place, setting may crucially involve the time of the story-hour, year, or century. Last, it is setting of society or social settings which shows the projection of the society where the characters exist. It embraces the situation of society, social classes, custom, accent, and lifestyle of the characters.

### **Plot**

The Plot told what happens to the characters. It is the story-line of a literary work. A plot is created around a series of events that occur within a specific period. No general rules are guiding the order in which the events are arranged. However, a good plot has a beginning, middle, and an end. That is to say, the plot guides us from a character with a problem somewhere through a character confronting the problem, through somewhere to the character overcoming or being overcome by the problem to a point.

So, in other words, the plot should start with a fundamental list of ingredients, such as orientation, complication and resolution. Orientation is about the opening paragraph where the characters of the story are introduced, while the complication is where the problems in the story developed and then the resolution is where the problems in the story are solved [3]

### **Theme**

The theme was a central idea about life by the author to dramatize the story. It was the main idea, the problem, message or something that represents everything from the novel. The theme controls the author's selection consciously or unconsciously that expose character, plot, setting, conflict, point of view and style. The theme was the main conversation which

serves as a basis of the story and the core of the main issue as the soul or foundation of the composition.

### **Subject matter.**

Subject matter suggests the way a story was told. It is the way and views of the author used as a means for presenting the characters, action, background and events that make up the story in a work of fiction to the reader. Today, the importance of perspective in works of fiction is no longer challenged. Viewpoint is considered as one of the important elements of fiction and is decisive. The deviation angle of view is not just a matter of the first or third person, but rather a selection of characters who "he" or "I".

Pointed out that There are three points of view, they are: the first person point of view, the third person point of view, and a mixed point of view. From the first person point of view, there are divided into two kinds: The protagonist-narrator and the witness-narrator, meanwhile there are two kinds in the third person point of view: omniscient and limited omniscient [4].

The extrinsic element was also known as the external factors that influence the literary work. It usually becomes a causal explanation for the same description, analysis, and evaluation of a literary work. Thus, critics may use external factors as an approach to make criticisms toward any literature.

Literature was everything written and printed. In this sense, it can be understood that literature is not limited to writings that have a high aesthetic value, but can be understood broadly. Literary work as sociology can be interpreted that the characteristics of a particular society can be seen in a literary work. Damono, pointed out that literature is an evaluative response to life, as a kind of the mirror, literature reflects life after evaluating and correcting it.

### **Concept Sociology of Literature**

In general, the sociology of literature can be defined as the study of the relationship between literary work and society. How the social context influences the author in building his imagination and the implications of his work on social life broadly. Sociology is from Latin and Greek, namely "socius and logos", socius which means friend, friendship or community, while logos is science. Pickering, and Hoepfer, said that literature is originated from a uniquely human experience and all that is understood and expressed. That the author's imagination gives rise to literary works. Not only a collection of real events, but literature can also be from the imagination of the author who can create his world [5]

From the definition above, the researcher can conclude that literature is a result of thoughts, experiences, imaginations from someone who is contained in the form of beautiful words. That beauty will affect our five senses. When we read literature such as a novel, we will feel what the writer describes even though we have never felt it. As if we can see with our eyes, hear with our ears, so that we can be someone else when reading it. The sociology of literature is a study that focuses on the relationship between literary work and social structure. As literature and social structure exist, literature sociology can understand social circumstances such as the author's economic, political, and imagination where they arise and decide a literary work. In addition to the study of social structures, the sociology of literature also studies social processes, including social changes. In this study, the author used the theory of the sociology of literature. The novel that she chooses is Mirror Image by Sandra Brown that tells about social phenomena which occur in human life.

Saraswati pointed out that Sociology of literature is an interdisciplinary (interdisciplinary) science between sociology and literature. Initially, in the context of both sociology and literature, sociology of literature was a discipline that was somewhat neglected. There is a possible reason because the object of research is considered unique and exclusive. Apart from that, from a hierarchical perspective, it is also because the sociology of literature is a relatively new discipline, different from the sociology of education which was well known earlier.

From the definition above, the researcher can conclude that the sociology of literature is unique and can be developed from time to time, suit the habits, culture, history and mindset of the person who studies it.

Sociological theories that can support sociological analysis are theories that can explain the nature of social facts, literature as a communication system, especially with regard to extrinsic aspects, such as: social groups, social class, social stratification, social institutions, social systems, social interactions, social conflicts, social awareness, mobility social, and so on [6].

From definition above the researcher can conclude that the sociology of literature is nature of social fact, especially social aspect, culture and related to society and the problems of daily life.

That there are three major principles in the sociology of literature, namely a) Sociology of Authors, b) Sociology of Literature works, c) Sociology of the Readers [7].

a. Sociology of Authors Sociology of the authors, claims for social status, social ideology, and others about the author as the creator and imagination of fictional literary works. They consist of specialized authors and literary organizations, related to the economic base literary creation, social background, position and belief of author established by various authors in activities external the literary works. Since every author a member of society, he could be studied as a social creature. The Author biographies are the primary source, but this study could also extend to the setting where the author lived and come. It can display information about social background, family background, and the economic position of the authors.

b. Sociology of Literature Works is problematic about a literary work itself and describing the purpose or the message that will be delivered. It also shows that the sociology of literature has a collection of variants, with the focus of the study were different.

c. Sociology of the Readers Sociology of the reader is one representative study in the sociology of literature that focuses on consideration in the connection among the literature with readers. The study area includes difficulties readers and literary works of social impact, as well as the extent to which the literary work is resolute dependent on our social setting, modification, and social progress.

### **Principles the Sociology of Literature**

In this case, as has been explained, Rahayu, pointed out that the sociology of literature had three major principles as follows: [8]

#### **Sociology of the Authors.**

Pointed out that sociology of the authors is the study of literature focusing on the authors as the creator of literary works. In sociology, such a thing is considered a social entity whose existence is bound by social status in society [9].

Sociology the area that becomes the study of the sociology of the author includes the author's social status and social ideology, the socio-cultural background of the author, the social position of the author in the community, the intended reading community, literary livelihood and professionalism in authorship.

#### **Novel**

A novel is a literary work, in which there is a series of stories about the life of a character and the people around him by accentuating the nature and character of each character in the novel. Usually, stories in novels begin with the most important events by the characters that changed the destiny of their lives. The novel was also about the story of someone's life. The inspiration of writing a novel also can be through a true story. While short stories that generally revolved around the character's momentary behavior when he faces an event at a time. The novel's author was called a novelist. Rostamaji defined that novel is a literary work that has two elements namely intrinsic elements and extrinsic elements, where both are interrelated because they have an effect on each other in a literary work. Intrinsic elements consist of point

of view, character, setting, plot, theme. While the extrinsic element was from the background of the author and society.

## **METHOD**

This study was qualitative research. Qualitative research was research studied that investigate the quality of relationships, activities, or materials that frequently referred to as qualitative research [10]. Qualitative design research procedures that created descriptions in the form of written or oral words from people who are observed . The major source of the data was the novel entitled *Mirror Image* written by Sandra Brown in 1990. The novel itself has 50 chapters and 442 pages.

Pointed out that in seeking understanding, qualitative research tends not to cut pages of stories and other data with numerical symbols. The researcher tried to analyze the data, as near as possible to the original form as at the time of recording, with all the richness of her character that was full of nuances [11].

Furthermore (Shkendije) Qualitative description was not just a combination of words, but a combination of words to display a story, a meaningful description. Qualitative research seeks to understand in-depth the world of its participants and the meaning behind their words and stories. Qualitative research assumes that the phenomena in human life and experiences are best displayed by stories and in a narrative way.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

Thus, all the intrinsic element that discussed about characters, setting, plot, theme and subject matter. And the researcher focused analysis on social life of the sociology. They were included Social aspect, economy aspect, politic aspect, cultural aspect. The researcher found all them in *Mirror Image* novel By Sandra Brown. The researcher tried to found all them accurate data and made sure that the data was true and valid. The researcher used the novel from source the data and with triangulation method.

Denzin and Patton identified four types of triangulation: (a) method triangulation, (b) investigator triangulation, (c) theory triangulation, and (d) data source triangulation.

In qualitative research, it is important to address all possible threats regarding the trustworthiness and credibility of the investigation, such as providing, an inaccurate or incomplete description; implementing invalid interpretations or not considering appropriate theoretical framework to explain the data. In order to insure credibility, the researcher had implied the following criteria: member check, and triangulation,

In order to enhance the study's credibility, two forms of data triangulation were utilized (Carter et al;Robson): in the types of data used (data source triangulation) and in the analysis process of the study (observer triangulation). Data source triangulation was achieved through the inclusion of two different types of data: interviews and questionnaire.

Because the researcher used the triangulation which refers to the validity data, so the researcher tried to find some relevant interviewees to make the same perception between the researcher analysis with the interviewees analysis that had competence and understood about *Mirror Image* novel from the point of view as a readers. And using a questionnaire to retrieve the required data.

## **CONCLUSION**

The result showed were social aspect, economy aspect, politic aspect, and cultural aspect.

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