Characterization and Three Dimensional of Main Character in *I Am Legend* Novel

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Abstrak

Sastra merupakan salah satu unsur yang memiliki karya seni dan imajinasi yang tinggi. Novel merupakan sebuah narasi fiksi yang biasanya mengeksplorasi karakter, alur, tema, dan latar dalam format yang lebih panjang daripada cerita pendek. Novel dapat bervariasi dalam hal panjang dan genre, mencakup berbagai macam gaya dan subjek. Di sini peneliti memilih untuk menganalisis Tokoh Utama dalam novel "I Am Legend". Data penelitian ini diambil dari novel berjudul I Am Legend. Data dikumpulkan melalui metode observasi dengan membaca, dan mencatat. Kemudian dikategorikan berdasarkan teori yang ada. Data yang telah dikumpulkan dan diklasifikasikan kemudian dianalisis secara kualitatif dan deskriptif berdasarkan teori sastra yang dikemukakan oleh Lajos Egri (1987) dan Kenney (1966). Analisis berlanjut pada bagian kedua mengenai pengembangan karakter menurut Kenny. Hasil analisis menunjukkan bahwa pengarang secara menyeluruh menggunakan metode menurut teori ini, seperti metode destruktif, metode dramatis, metode karakter pada karakter, metode kontekstual, dan metode pencampuran. Namun, penggunaan metode yang paling terbatas adalah karakter pada karakter karena pengarang tidak banyak menyebutkan karakter yang terlibat langsung dengan Robert. Oleh karena itu, Robert digambarkan sebagai tokoh yang hidup dan bertahan hidup sendirian di rumahnya.

Kata kunci : *Karakterisasi, Tiga Dimensi, Novel I Am Legend*

Abstract

Literature is an element that has high artistic and imaginative works. Novel is a fictional narrative that typically explores characters, plots, themes, and settings in a longer format than a short story. Novels can vary in length and genre, encompassing a wide range of styles and subjects. Here the researcher chose to analyze the Main Character in the novel "I Am Legend". The data of this research is taken from the novel entitled I Am Legend. The data was collected through observation method by reading, and taking notes. Then categorized based on existing theories. The data that has been collected and classified is then analyzed qualitatively and descriptively based on literary theories proposed by Lajos Egri (1987) and Kenney (1966). The analysis continues in the second part regarding character development according to Kenny. The results of the analysis show that the author thoroughly uses methods according to this theory, such as the destructive method, dramatic method, character on character method, contextual method, and mixing method. However, the use of the most limited method is character on character because the author does not mention many characters who are directly involved with Robert. Therefore, Robert is depicted as a character who lives and survives alone in his house.

Keywords: *Characterization, Three Dimensional, I Am Legend Novel*

INTRODUCTION

Literature is a combination of events that occur in human life and are poured into various media and can be universally enjoyed by various levels of society. literature has become part of various aspects of human life, because literary works are the result of thoughts and events that occur in human life. Literature is a universal literal work that is like a record of our lives, as it is a collection of events and realities of social life. It is impossible to distinguish humans from literature because literature is the medium through which all our thoughts can be articulated. Literature is the

writing that is valued as a work of art, especially fiction, drama, and poetry Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (1995). In its development, literature has a role as entertainment and gives pleasure and is able to influence human emotions. one of the popular forms of literary works is the novel. And the novel is a literary work that continues to develop over the years.

The main aspects of building a story in a novel are divided into two, namely intrinsic elements and extrinsic elements. According to Downie (2011), intrinsic elements in literary works can usually be found in the story itself. as for the aspects that become intrinsic elements in a novel, namely: character, plot, setting, moral values, scenes, and others. as for the extrinsic elements of a literary work according to Weren & Wellek (1956), are elements of literary works that can be found outside the literary work, but implicitly affect the nature of the literary work. The components of extrinsic elements include aspects of physiology, psychology, sociology, and biography.

Characterization of characters is something that makes a literary work interesting. According to Baldick (1991), Characterization is the aspect in which authors include details about their characters. Characterization in a novel may be conveyed explicitly through direct depiction by the author or implicitly through actions, dialogue or thoughts. In this thesis, a novel entitled "I Am Legend" by Richard Matheson has chosen to be analyzed. It is a Post-apocalyptic Novel. The story of this novel is set in the time after the apocalypse which is filled with zombies. This novel shows the struggle for survival of Dr. Robert Neville as well as his struggle to obtain a vaccine for this plague. in the middle of the story, he lost his beloved dog who accompanied him all this time. At the end of the story, we are shown that Dr. Robert Neville has succeeded in finding the vaccine.

The novel I am legend will be chosen to make a deeper analysis about the method of characterization and three-dimensional aspects. This research uses the novel with the title I Am Legend as the object of research because previous studies show that there is no discussion of characterization for the main character in this novel using the three-dimensional theory.

The data source will be taken from a novel entitled I AM Legend. I Am Legend is a 1954 horror novel by Richard Matheson. this novel was published by the Walker and Company printing company in 1954. with a total of 160 pages in the 1954 edition print. this novel reaped quite good success and was made into four different movie titles namely I am Legend (2007), The Last Man on Earth (1964), The Omega Man (1971), I Am Omega (2007). This novel played a role in popularizing zombie stories and the concept of disease as the cause of the apocalypse. This novel was instrumental in popularizing the zombie story and the concept of disease as the cause of the apocalypse. This novel has a very amazing storyline because there are various unexpected events that can make many readers addicted to knowing the continuation of the story on every page of the novel, and can make readers feel various emotions in the novel through its writing.

METHOD

This research will use qualitative research methods using library research techniques. The use of this library research technique is because the object of this research is a novel which later the main character will be analyzed for characterization so that this research will use library research as a data collection technique for this type of qualitative research.

Method of Characterization

Kenney (1966), stated there are five methods can be used in analysing the character in story, those are

1. Discursive method

   Discursive method is the method whereby the author presents the character in the story explicitly through narrative statements. The author tells the readers about the character and even mentions the disapproval and approval of the character. Economics and simplicity are the advantages of this method. The author will quickly finish the job of characterization and be able to do other things. The disadvantage is relatively mechanical and discourages the reader from imitating it. It means, more specifically, that the reader is not encouraged to react to and make up their own mind about the characters directly because this method makes the reader must react to and make up the reader minds about the real people they meet.

2. Dramatic method
    Dramatic method is the way of displaying rather than telling. In the dramatic method, the author allows the character to reveal himself to us through his own words and actions. The advantages of the dramatic method could have been obvious. If the dramatic method is compared to the discursive method, it is more like life and invites readers to participate actively in the theory. This method has its disadvantages, that is it while the dramatic method encourages the active participation of the reader, it also increases the possibility of the reader's misjudging of the character.
3. Character on character
    Character on other characters means one-character talks or describes about another character in a story. However, the reader must remember that this type of information which received is not reliable necessarily, because what A said about B may probably tell us more about A than B in the story.
4. Contextual method
    From the point of view of the contextual method, the device to suggest the character may be the verbal context that surrounds the character. Specifically, it could be explained that a character is constantly defined in terms appropriate to a beast of prey; the reader may conclude that the author is trying to tell him or her something.
5. Mixing method
    Mixing method means the application of all methods in accordance with the level of efficiency to be achieved. A reader will rarely find a work if it is a fiction in which only one of the methods outlined above is used. Indeed, the contextual method can be used effectively mostly in combination with other methods. In evaluating the author's characterization methods, the reader must keep in mind that the author's methods are appropriate for the overall design of the story.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Below is the result of the method characterization will be carried out using the method of characterization by Kenny (1998) which consists of the discursive method, dramatic method, character on character, contextual method and mixing method.

Mixing Method

This method means applying of all methods or more than one method in accordance with the degrees of effectiveness to be achieved. The reader will rarely find a work if the fiction in which merely one of the methods outlined above is employed Indeed, the contextual method could be used effectively in combination with other methods. In evaluating characterization methods of author, the reader must keep in mind about the appropriates of the author's methods to the overall design of the story.

Data 1

"When I first heard that they were ordered to your house, I was going to go there and warn you. But then I knew that if you were still there, nothing would make you go. Then I was going to try to help you escape after they brought you in. But they told me you'd been shot and I knew that escape was impossible too." A smile flitted over her lips."I'm glad you're not afraid," she said. "You're very brave." Her voice grew soft. "Robert." They were silent and he felt her hand tighten on his." (Page 94)

This data clearly illustrates the author's use of the mixing method to explain Robert's character. The brave Robert is depicted using the character on character method by Ruth's dialogue. Meanwhile, this is also supported by Robert's action, who remained at home even though a herd of zombies surrounded him and finally ended up waiting for his execution. This depiction uses the dramatic method. So both of them combine the character on character method with the dramatic method.

Other things are also shown to describe Robert's depressed attitude in the novel

Data 2

"He was too unnerved to do any more that day or for days to come. He stayed home and drank to forget and let the bodies pile up on the lawn and let the outside of the house fall into disrepair. For days he sat in the chair with his liquor and thought about the woman. And, no matter how hard he tried not to, no matter how much he drank, he kept thinking about Virginia. He kept seeing himself entering the crypt, lifting the coffin lid.He thought he was coming down with something, so palsied and nerveless was his shivering, so cold and ill did he feel." (Page 36)

In this scene, Robert continues to experience sadness every time he visits his dead wife. The author provides a character description through a destructive method in the form of a direct narrative regarding how Robert behaves and also combines it with a dramatic method. The dramatic methood here is related to Robert's attitude of continuing to drink in order to forget Virginia, and living alone at home as if he has no passion for life.

Data 3

"All right, boy," he said. "All right."The dog shrank back as Neville stuck the blanket underneath the bench and then stood up. Neville went over to the door and remained there a minute looking back. If only I could do something, he thought helplessly. But I can't even get close to him.Well, he decided grimly, if the dog didn't accept him soon, he'd have to try a little chloroform. Then he could at least work on the dog, fix its paw and try somehow to cure it." (Page 59).

This concern can be seen from Robert's behavior in healing the wound on the dog's paw. Fragments of dialogue and narration in the novel illustrate that the author also uses dramatic and discursive methods simultaneously. where Robert's caring behavior towards a dog is also accompanied by a descriptive narrative by the author.

Data 4

"He stood against the wall clubbing slowly and weekly at the plaster, tears streaming down his bearded cheeks, his bleeding hand pulsing with pain. Everything was gone, everything. "Virginia," he sobbed like a lost, frightened child. "Virginia. Virginia."(Page 24)

The flowing tears and deep sadness show that Robert has not completely let go of Virginia's departure and ends up drowning in sadness throughout his life. This sentence also comes from a description of Robert's own behavior, but the researcher also uses a discursive method through his narrative. a narrative that describes how fragile and weak Robert became after losing Virginia.

Data 5

"Next came mounting, a process much more difficult, he soon discovered. No matter how he tried, he couldn't seem to keep dust particles out of the mount. When he looked at them in the microscope, it looked as if he were examining boulders.It was especially difficult because of the dust storms, which still occurred on an average of once every four days. He was ultimately obliged to build a shelter over the bench. He also learned to be systematic while experimenting with the mounts. " (Page 46).

In this experience, the author tries to describe Robert's figure through a dramatic method with behavior that is very enthusiastic and diligent in finding a cure for these zombies. Then, narratively, the writer also describe how ambitious and intellectual he was in dedicating himself to healing.

Data 6

"Later, in the living room, they sat looking at the mural, sipping port, and listening to Schubert's Fourth Symphony."I wouldn't have believed it," she said, seeming to cheer up. "I never thought I'd be listening to music again. Drinking wine."She looked around the room."You've certainly done a wonderful job," (Page 74)

Other characters such as Ruth clearly describe how Robert tries to live his life in the midst of his loneliness at home by pursuing his hobbies such as listening to music and murals. However,

the author also uses a narrative method in the form of a discursive method to illustrate that the figure is trying to entertain himself through the mural art that Robert created.

Data 7

"When he was finished stringing the garlic cloves, he went outside and nailed them over the window boarding, taking down the old strings, which had lost most of their potent smell. He had to go through this process twice a week. Until he found something better, it was his first line of defense. Defense? he often thought. For what?" (Page 4)

This means that Robert tried to install protection in his house using the garlic he put on the door. so it can also be interpreted that he was one of the humans who survived at that time. The use of the discursive method also occurs through the narrative that Robert Oini has the characteristic of preparing everything for survival, including installing onions on doors and so on. Through the contextual method, the author hints at Robert's nature of having long-term thinking and full of ideas to overcome the worst situation of the zombie outbreak.

CONCLUSION

The analysis continues in the second part regarding character development according to Kenny. The results of the analysis show that the author thoroughly uses methods according to this theory, such as the destructive method, dramatic method, character on character method, contextual method, and mixing method. However, the use of the most limited method is character on character because the author does not mention many characters who are directly involved with Robert. Therefore, Robert is depicted as a character who lives and survives alone in his house.

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