

**THE MAJOR CHARACTERS' STRUGGLE OF LOVE IN THOMAS
HARDY'S FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD**

A THESIS

*Submitted in Partial Fulfillment to the Requirement
For the Degree of Sarjana Sastra*

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PADANG
2008**

ABSTRAK

Skripsi ini membahas bentuk dan pola bagan pelaku dalam novel Far from the Madding Crowd. Selain itu, skripsi ini juga menjelaskan struktur fungsi dari tiap pelaku yang ada dalam bagan tersebut. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menggambarkan hubungan timbal balik antar karakter yang terlihat dari bagan pelaku dan struktur fungsinya, sehingga pembaca dapat memahami dan menemukan makna yang terkandung dalam novel Far from the Madding Crowd dengan mudah, karena mengingat novel ini mempunyai cara penyajian yang rumit pada karakter-karakternya.

Penelitian ini menggunakan teori struktural, khususnya yang diajukan oleh A.J. Greimas yaitu yang terdiri dari struktur bagan pelaku dan struktur fungsi. Greimas membagi struktur bagan pelaku ke dalam 6 (enam) bagian yaitu: pengirim (sender), tujuan (object), pelaku (subject), penghalang (opponent), penolong (helper), dan penerima (receiver). Dalam skripsi ini, penulis mengidentifikasi hubungan timbal balik antar karakter melalui bagan pelaku dan struktur fungsinya serta menjelaskan hubungan serta fungsi dari tiap elemen yang ada dalam bagan pelaku tersebut.

Dari hasil analisis ini, penulis menemukan empat struktur bagan pelaku dengan Gabriel Oak, Bathsheba, Boldwood, dan Sergeant Troy sebagai subjek, serta hubungannya dalam struktur fungsi. Selain mendapatkan gambaran tentang hubungan timbal balik antar karakter, penulis juga mendapatkan beberapa tema yang spesifik dari novel Far from the Madding Crowd. Tema-tema yang didapatkan tergambar dalam setiap pola tingkah laku karakter dan interaksi antar karakter tersebut.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

Many literary works have been produced by many authors in various themes since years ago. Novel, for example, is a product of literary works that develops its theme in a complex and beautiful structure. A novel used to has different structure to the other novels as well as in the level of complexity. Therefore, the readers, sometimes, should read a novel for several times to comprehend the plot of the story and its messages. Thus, it makes the structure of a novel, an interesting thing to be analyzed especially when a reader wants to captured the theme and implied meaning of the text.

Moreover, in analyzing a novel to convey its meaning, according to Wellek and Warren (1959), there are two approaches that should be involved, intrinsic and extrinsic approach. The *intrinsic approach* which analysis is focused on the work itself. And, *extrinsic approach* focus the unalysis on the authors, society and readers.

One of the theories that develop the intrinsic approach is Structuralism. Roberts (in Writing about Literature, 1999:167) says: "Structuralism is the best in the analysis of narratives and therefore larger units such as novels, myths, and stories." The focus of structuralism is to analyze the structure of a work that will

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lead us to find the meaning of the work as a whole. Several great names related to structuralism are Todorov, Straus, Greimas, Bremond and Propp.

In this research, the writer discusses the structure of a novel based on the structuralism theory in order to get the meaning of the novel. The novel that is going to be analyzed is Far from the Madding Crowd written by Thomas Hardy. In the novel the writer finds that it has complex structure and characters. It is seen through the characters' interaction. Every character has different characteristics such as kind, responsible, irresponsible, arrogant, egoist, jealous, etc.

In this novel, Hardy as the writer uses his heroin character to explore the marriage which can cause a woman, Bathsheba, losing her identity and lifestyle. And thus, the analysis explores the novel's structure and shows the readers the relationship between Bathsheba and her suitors and also the role of the supporting characters in developing the story.

Identifying the structure of the novel and the functions of its elements, the writer entitles her research "The Major Characters' Struggle of Love in Thomas Hardy's Far from the Madding Crowd".

1.2 The Statement of the Problem

This research is about an analysis of the complex structure and the complicated characters of Far from the Madding Crowd, Thomas Hardy's novel. It is seen through the characters' interaction of the story. Every character has influence to each other. In order to convey the meaning of the novel, the writer

uses the theory of A. J. Greimas in analyzing structures of folklores which is known as *actant chart* and *functional structure*. This theory is important to describe the characters' interaction in the novel through every character's actions as the subject in getting their object. In the novel, there are four important characters, Gabriel Oak, Bathsheba, Boldwood, and Sergeant Troy, which have functional relationship that is influential to each other. They are analyzed as the subject in the actant and functional structure.

1.3 The Objective of the Study

The objective of this study is to analyze the structure of the novel Far from the Madding Crowd in describing characters' interaction by using A.J. Greimas' theory, in order to get the specific themes of the novel.

1.4 The Limitation of the Study

In this study, the analysis is focused on the following three points:

1. Finding the actant charts and functional structures of Thomas Hardy's Far from the Madding Crowd based on Greimas' theory.
2. Getting the description of characters' interaction that described in the actant chart and functional structures of Thomas Hardy's Far from the Madding Crowd.
3. Uncovering the specific theme of the novel by relating the actant charts and functional structure of Thomas Hardy's Far from the Madding Crowd.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

By applying the actant chart and functional structure in Far from the Madding Crowd, the writer discovers that the interaction between each character influences the reader very much to get some theme in the novel. The theme can be positive or negative, as seen in the four actant charts above. Some subjects take their active action in the actant, as a sender, a receiver, an opponent, and a helper. Each element has one purpose to help or to hinder the subject in getting the object. There are two subjects as the opponents in the actant of Troy. They play passive roles. Here, the opponents fail to hinder the subject's seeking. The subject can get his object easily.

From the four actant charts, the writer finds out that only one actant that does not have the receiver. There is no receiver in the actant because the subject cannot be successful to get the object. In the functional structure that determines the relationship for each actant in constructing the story, the writer finds that the interaction of each character described. There are four interactions: "Gabriel Oak and Bathsheba", "Gabriel Oak and his opponents; Boldwood and Sergeant Troy", "Boldwood and Troy", and "Bathsheba and the two suitors are Boldwood and Sergeant Troy". It has been reflected by four characters as the subjects of the actant charts, while the supporting characters were connecting the four characters to interact to each other. Every character has influence each other.

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