

The Images of Career Women in Thomas Hardy's

The Trumpet Major

A Thesis

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ABSTRAK

Skripsi yang berjudul *The Images of Career Women in Thomas Hardy's The Trumpet Major* ini bertujuan menunjukkan sikap dan gambaran/streetip perempuan terhadap kekuasaan laki-laki yang menjadi kebiasaan masyarakat patriarkal.

Analisa ini merupakan analisa intrinsik dimana pembahasan karya Hardy *The Trumpet Major* hanya dibatasi pada karya itu sendiri. Analisa ini diawali dengan analisa karakter, plot, latar, dan tema cerita. Dalam analisa hubungan dan peran laki-laki dan perempuan penulis menggunakan teori objektif dan pendekatan feminis dengan mengaplikasikan teori 'woman as reader' oleh Elaine Showalter, dimana wanita sebagai pembaca karya sastra dari pengarang laki-laki. Penulis juga mengaplikasikan teori 'the stereotyped of women' oleh Josephine Donovan, dimana wanita itu akan menjadi objek jika dia tidak memiliki kesadaran pada dirinya. Penulisan skripsi ini menggunakan novel *The trumpet Major* itu sendiri sebagai sumber utama dan sumber-sumber lainnya berasal dari buku-buku, artikel, internet, dan sumber lain yang menunjang analisa penulis. Untuk pengumpulan data penulis menggunakan metode kualitatif dan untuk pelaporan hasilnya menggunakan metode deskriptif.

Setelah menganalisa novel ini, penulis menyimpulkan bahwa dari tiga tokoh utama yang dianalisa, yaitu Anne Garland, nyonya Garland, dan Mathilda Johnson mempunyai citra sebagai perempuan mandiri, berani, pintar, kuat, dan feminis, sehingga mereka lebih dihargai dan dianggap memiliki nilai dalam lingkungan masyarakat serta mampu menepis nilai-nilai tradisonal seperti yang dianut perempuan lain dilingkungannya.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Research

The effort to oppose the domination of patriarchal system had appeared since long time ago. It rose since women were regarded as the inferior and men are superior. It caused women became the victim of patriarchal system.

Feminism is a kind of effort to qualify all of things that women do as well as men do. There are many inequalities where feminist realizes that the society is dominated by men. Djajanegara (2000:5) stated that "Salah satu ciri tradisional pada zaman itu adalah nilai-nilai yang dicetuskan Ratu Victoria yang mengharuskan wanita menjaga kesalihan serta kemurnian mereka, bersikap pasif dan menyerah, rajin mengurus keluarga dan rumah tangga atau memelihara domestisitas." One of traditional characteristics in that time is the values which are stated by Queen Victoria. Women are required to keep their piety and purity, being passive and surrendering, taking care of family and household or keeping domesticity (the writer's translation). Thus, it is a real thing that feminism was born to fight the patriarchal system in all aspect of life. It also appears as a denial to the reality that women stereotypes and images are dominated by men in literature. Some of literary works are published long before the era of feminism, also has feminist ideas like Thomas Hardy's work. Hardy's works have descriptions and critiques of the problems of women in society.

Feminist literary criticism is used to analyze how the position of women as seen in literary work. Especially in this literary work, the writer wants to take this novel to be analyzed by using female point of view. Here, the writer wants to apply feminist literary criticism in a novel entitled "*The Trumpet Major*" by Thomas Hardy.

The Trumpet Major is Hardy's great novel which is written in the Napoleonic war to commemorate the seventy fifth anniversary of the battle of Trafalgar. It is remarkable for the number of real people, and events, which appear in the story. For example the visit paid by Captain Hardy to the King in Weymouth took place on 3rd September 1805, almost exactly as described in the book. Hardy's way in describing this story is different where it makes this novel interesting to be analyzed. No one has created more attractive women of a certain class, women whom a man would have been more likely to love or to regret loving. He is somewhat careful over the reputation of his heroines; gradually he allows them more liberty, with a franker treatment of instinct and its consequences. His view of women is more French than English; it is subtle, a little cruel, not as tolerant as it seems, thoroughly a man's point of view, and not, as with Meredith, man's and woman's at once. He sees all irresponsible for good and evil in a woman's character, all that is untrustworthy in her brain and will, all is alluring in her variability. He shows her apology, but always with a reserve of private judgment. His knowledge of woman confirms him in a suspension of judgment; his knowledge of nature brings him nearer to the unchanging and

consoling element in the world. In all of his works Hardy concerns to the principle of life and invisibly realized in humanity as sex.

There are some important things that the writer sees in *The Trumpet Major*. First, there are some female characters in this novel where they show a big role where they are career women who want to achieve better position in the society. Second, this novel is written by a male author. The third reason is that the novel *The Trumpet Major* is written as a work which is resulted by patriarchal culture whereby male authority oppresses women through its social, political, and economic institutions (Humm: 1992). This is also supported by Sariyati (: 5) in *Permasalahan Wanita Dalam Novel N.H. Dini "Analisis Kritik Sastra Feminis"* that according to Marriane states "Permasalahan itu berkaitan dengan sikap dan pandangan kaum pria tentang kemampuan dan ketergantungan wanita secara sosial, ekonomis, and psikologis dalam suatu perkawinan, kebutuhan dicintai dan mencintai." The last reason for the writer is to find out the images of women where there are some female characters in Hardy's novels represent women as submissive, angelic housewives or rebellious and independent dreamers. Based on female's point of view, the writer can give different way to interpret and show the critics based on feminist critique. Most of the female characters are feminist. It means that they show some attitudes that describe *The Images of Career Women* who are independent and survive in big role.

All the explanations above motivates the writer in analyzing women's characters and how their relation toward feminist point of view. The writer believes that this analysis is very important to be conducted. So, the writer is

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interested in raising the title "*Images of Career Women in Thomas Hardy's The Trumpet Major.*"

1.2 The Identification of the Problem

This research focuses on female characters who describes the images of career women in facing life under the tradition and rule that is made by patriarchal system. The problem of this research is about women's attitude in controlling themselves over men who have big influence in that story. It relates women's relationship with men who are conditioned as people who have more power than women. They easily choose women who to be their wife. But it is the problems where there are women want to show that rule can be changed if there is courage to deny it.

The relationship between men and women whom Hardy portrays in *The Trumpet Major* is raised by female characters, especially a main female character named Anne Garland.

1.3 The Objective of the Study

This study is aimed at exposing the images of career women under the great influence of patriarchal system in Thomas Hardy's *The Trumpet Major*. It is also purposed to show that women can break the rule and have images where usually they are owned by men.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

Hardy portrays some images of the main female characters where they are described as an Independent, brave, active, and strong. These four images are able to prove them as women who face the culture of patriarchy. The writer concludes that women's domination builds images of themselves as women that have different character with others traditional women.

The first one is independent women. Here, women can do anything as well as they want. They can survive without men's influences in their life because they are able to do it by them. The second one is brave women, where they can break the rule of traditional women who surrender. They do anything that she thinks true briefly, although it has risks for their life. The third one is an active woman. It can be seen in Anne character. Here, she is described as a heroine. It can be said that because she reflects that woman who is smart and educated, it directly portrays her as a woman who is not passive and just stay at home and being a good wife for her husband. The last, women are strong. It has been described by Hardy especially in Anne character where it is proved that she is a strong woman under the pressure of men who love her.

The way Hardy presented his female characters; Anne Garland, Mr. Garland, and Miss. Johnson prove that he is pro-feminist. By showing the characteristics as women who have consciousness and self-determined in facing men. They can attach their position as well as men.

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