

THE ANALYSIS OF FIVE CODES IN THE RETURN OF THE
NATIVE BY THOMAS HARDY

A THESIS

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ABSTRAK

Dalam skripsi ini penulis membahas sebuah novel karya Thomas Hardy yang berjudul *The Return of the Native*. Penulis melihat karena didalamnya terdapat kode-kode yang tersembunyi di balik aksi-aksi, kata-kata dan penggambaran karakter-karakternya. Kode-kode tersebut dianalisa untuk mendapatkan maknanya karena arti dari karya-karya tersebut disamarkan didalamnya.

Dalam membahas karya tersebut, penulis menggunakan teori semiotik 'Lima kode', dikembangkan oleh Roland Barthes. Teori tersebut mengkategorikan kode yang terdapat dalam sebuah karya sastra kedalam lima kelompok yaitu; kode aksi, kode teka teki, kode budaya, kode konotasi, dan kode simbol. Pada akhirnya akan di temukan apakah karya tersebut layak dianggap sebagai karya sastra yang menurut Barthes *readerly* (hanya untuk dibaca saja) atau *writerly* (karya tersebut mengundang pembaca untuk menganalisa makna-makna yang tersembunyi didalamnya)

Setelah menganalisa novel ini, penulis dapat mengambil kesimpulan bahwa lima kode yang diajukan oleh Roland Barthes memiliki pengaruh terhadap pendeskripsian sang tokoh dalam novel. Dari hasil analisa tersebut disimpulkan bahwa novel karya sastra yang dibuat oleh Thomas Hardy layak dianggap sebagai karya sastra '*writerly*'. Dimana dari hasil analisa 'lima kode' pada karya ditemukan banyak kode yang mengundang pembaca untuk menganalisanya lebih jauh terutama pada kode aksi, karena kode-kode tersebut menyimpan makna-makna dari karya tersebut.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. The Background of the Study

It has been commonly known that some of the literary works used to deliver the idea of the author to its readers. In this case the author makes the literary works as the reflection of his mind, emotion and all of his desire. Some of literary works are the imaginary from the author himself. The author makes the story by his/her own imagination as mentioned by Endraswara in his book Metodologi Penelitian Sastra; "Karya sastra merupakan refleksi pemikiran, perasaan, dan keinginan pengarang lewat bahasa", (2003:63). It means that literary works reflect the author's idea and has its own meaning. However, the meaning of literary works are the vernitery various. It depends on the way how the readers interpret the literary works.

Literary works have some categories which can be analyzed. Some of them have codes or symbols which represent the events or the characters in the literary works. One of the literary works which uses code is novel. Some of the authors use the symbols in order to make the character has a strong characterization. By using the codes, the character has a unique personality and it will make the literary work has power. All the uniqueness will make an interesting point for the readers.

Some of codes are used by the author to represent the situation around him. The codes refer to the social condition and economic in creative process.

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Sometimes the author uses the codes to represent his experiences in the novel. But generally, the codes are used to make the characters become stronger.

Sometimes, some literary works are some difficult to understand. The readers get obstacles in interpreting literary work since they have various meanings that can not be ignored. It is difficult for the readers to understand the story because they can not get the meaning of a certain code directly. Sometimes the meanings stay behind the given situation of the events that occur in the novel. Therefore, the readers have to analyze a novel deeply in order to get its vivid meaning.

The Return of the Native is a great novel which contains many actions. This novel is more aesthetical and generally curious. Thomas Hardy, a famous novelist in Britain in nineteenth century, believes that man's thoughts in life have codes which are carried over into his writing. This writer chose this novel since it is one of the Thomas Hardy's works which had been published for sixth times. This novel has many characters and shows a complex story by placing the characters in a number of different situations. Hardy was a unique novelist because he created the setting of his story by himself and named it Wessex which was referred to south-central of England. Hardy takes Egdon Heath, part of the country of Wessex, as the setting of the novel since most of the plot of his The Return of the Native is located there.

One of the theories which appropriate to analyze the implicit meaning of the codes in a novel or other literary works is semiotic theory. But semiotic is

rather difficult to be understood and complicated in its application. It causes English Department's students of Andalas University rarely apply this theory into their literary criticism.

Based on that case, the writer is challenged to apply semiotic theory in his research so that he can explore and exceed the difficulties of this complicated theory. In order to do it the writer analyzes The Return of the Native by Thomas Hardy by using the semiotic theory. The writer, in fact, find out this novel has elements that can be analyzed by using semiotic theory such as theme, plot and etc. They are codes which are implied behind the story of this novel. Thereby, writer entitles this research "**The Analysis of Five Codes in The Return of the Native by Thomas Hardy**"

1.2. The Statement of the Problem.

"Semiotic is the study of the sign-system by which meaningful communication or literary discourse occurs" (Tom and Perkins; 2000:111). The readers have to learn how to interpret the signs in order to get the meaning behind them. The problem of this analysis is finding the meanings in The Return of the Native by Thomas Hardy. This novel contains five codes which have implied the meaning in this novel.

They are proairetic code, hermeneutic code, cultural code, semic code, and symbolic code. Because those codes are implied, the writer tends to analyze them

by using the Roland Barthes's theory. According to the theory mentioned before, it divides semiotics into five codes in order to get the meaning of this novel.

1.3. The Objective the Study

The writer conducts this research in order to find the meaning of five codes in Thomas Hardy's The Return of the Native by exploring and understanding the codes. In addition, the writer explores and exceeds the difficulties and complicated of semiotic theory in order to get more understanding about this theory through this analysis.

1.4. The Limitation of the Problem.

In analyzing The Return of the Native by Thomas Hardy, the writer concerns on the five codes that are implied behind the dialogue, images and actions as found in the novel.

In order to limit the research, the writer focuses on these two problems:

1. To identify the five codes in The Return of the Native
2. To find out whether this novel is 'writerly' or 'readerly'

1.5. The Method of the Research.

In conducting the analysis, the writer follows some steps. They are collecting the data, analyzing the data, and presenting the data.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

After analyzing The Return of the Native, the writer finds several codes in proairetic aspects that mostly focus on Clym Yeobright's experiences. The proairetic codes give the readers explanation about what happen to the main character during his life and the ambition to get his dreams. From the action codes the writer knows the connotative of the main character which are ambitious, intelligent and cultured. The hermeneutic code explains to the readers about the native and makes clear the meaning of The Return of the Native. The symbolic code gives the explanation about the contradictory and tradition about the character in this novel. Proairetic and symbolic also support the theme of this story, The Unhappiness of All Human Life. The writer concludes the meaning of this novel is most of the characters of this story try to control the future. They arrange their own happiness and also the other's happiness. The writer decides this analysis is interesting to be analyzed by proairetic analysis because this code also influences the plot especially the actions of Clym Yeobright whose arrive from Paris until he become a school master at the end of this story. Cultural code explains about the knowledge of the culture in the society. It also gives references about the custom or tradition in England.

Finally, the writer concludes this novel as *writerly* literary works. Because, the texts take the readers to interpret the story in order to get their meanings. This novel is difficult to understand because its meanings are hidden behind the actions.

words, and images in the story. Without analyzing the works deeply, the meaning will not be reached. Thus, the readers have to analyze this novel with appropriate theory which on this case Barthes's semiotic theory on five codes.

By using semiotic theory the writer believes that the readers can understand the codes in the story. This novel is difficult to understand if the readers cannot analyze it deeply. Five codes help the readers to get more understanding and interpretation about what the author means.

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