



The Image of Women Characters in The Novel Andini by Santy Diliana (A Feminism Approach)

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Abstract: This study aims to describe the image of the female character in the novel *Andini* by Santy Diliana which is studied from the physical and psychological aspects. This research is a type of qualitative research. The data obtained in this study are in the form of information which is used as the object of study, namely every word, sentence, and sentence of expression that supports physical and psychological aspects. Data were analyzed with qualitative analysis techniques. The results of the study show that the image of female characters is divided into two, namely the self-image of women seen from the physical and psychological aspects depicted in *Andini's* novel are adult women, women who have entered the level of maturity and experience changes in themselves, namely biologically adult women are characterized by signs -physical signs, such as experiencing menstruation, being able to get pregnant, give birth, and breastfeed their children. The image of female characters from the psychological aspect depicted in this novel is that women are imaged from their psychological state when facing problems from within their families and from outside the environment and trying to control their inner emotions in dealing with their respective problems.

Keywords: image of female figures, feminism, novel andini

INTRODUCTION

One of the fictional literary works is the novel, which is a work of fiction that expresses the existence of humanity with all its variations and twists imaginatively and creatively by using aesthetic language as its medium. The poetry, fiction or drama genres, literary works are the result of the writer's reflection on his social environment which is then expressed through beautiful language with his creative and imaginative powers. According to his creativity, taste, and intention, writers express ideas about the nature of life that is felt, lived, experienced, and thought through literary works as a medium of imaginative expression (Klarer, 2013).

Through the novel, the author offers various human and life problems as well as humanity, life and life after taking these problems seriously. This feeling is expressed again by means of imaginative fiction, but usually makes

sense and contains truth that dramatizes human relations. Also through novels, authors can convey teaching or guidance in an effort to improve morals and character in a society, especially the younger generation, young women, and young mothers who feel that they are starting to experience a decline in values due to lack of wisdom in dealing with propaganda in the digital era and the era of wide access. without limit. Remember, big fans of serious novels with the romantic genre are teenagers and young mothers (Lodge, 2015).

The novel author can express his brilliant ideas with the aim of educating and improving character and morals in an interesting and exotic story, but there is always education in every part of the story written by the author. Thus, the novel is not only the result of an artistic work of art but also a work of art which is thick with teaching but cannot be separated from a series of interesting stories from the point of view of the building, the structure of which is coherent and has an aesthetic goal so as not to cause boredom in the hearts of the audience. The unique advantage of the novel is its ability to fully present complex problems, to create a world that is as desired by the author in accordance with the educational goals he will achieve for the reader. That means reading a novel is both easier and more difficult than reading short stories. It's easier because it doesn't require us to understand complex problems in a minimal amount of time (and time). On the other hand, it is more difficult because it is in the form of writing on a large scale which contains organizational units or structures that are larger than short stories (Wolf, 2014).

Serious novels, on the other hand, must be able to provide all the possibilities, and that is the true meaning of literature. This is in accordance with the essence of truth in the story as stated earlier, namely truth in possibility. Reading serious novels, if we want to understand them properly, requires high concentration and the ability to do so. The experiences and problems of life presented in this type of novel are highlighted and disclosed to the core of the universal nature of life. Apart from providing entertainment, serious novels also implicitly aim to provide valuable experiences to readers, or at the very least, invite readers to absorb and think more seriously about the issues raised. Meanwhile, popular novels are easier to read and easier to enjoy because they are simply telling stories. They do not pretend (unfounded desires), pursue aesthetic effects, but instead provide direct entertainment from the action of the story (James, 2013).

The problems that are told are light but actual and interesting, which is seen only in the same problems: love romance (maybe also with a little or a lot of porn) with a model of life that has a luxurious atmosphere. The love story between a handsome man and a beautiful woman in general is very interesting, able to make teenage readers who are indeed going through that

sensitive period, and perhaps, be able to forget for a moment the real bitterness of life they are experiencing (Adams, 2014).

The essence of life in serious novels, one might say, persists for all time. It never goes out of style (Eagleton, 2013). Among other things, that is why, in general, serious literature remains interesting at all times, still interesting to read. We can take examples, for example, of Hamlet, Romeo and Juliet, and others by Shakespeare, Madame Bovary by Gustav Flaubert, or even older ones, for example, Dante's *La Divina Commedia* or some of the works of Homer, Sophocles, and others in Classical Greek period. These works are examples of works that are still interesting to read and talk about today. Examples of Indonesian literary works, for example, *Belenggu*, *Atheist*, *Jalan Tak Ada End*, or classic works such as the *Mahabarata* and *Ramayana*.

Woman is a term for the human gender that is different from men. The image of a female character is a spiritual mental image and everyday behavior expressed by women. The word image of women is taken from the images generated by thoughts, hearing, sight, touch, words about women. The image of a female character in her social life in relation to other humans can be specific or general, depending on the form of that relationship. Women's relations in society start from relations with people, between people, to relations with the general public. Included in the person-to-person relationship is the relationship between women and men in society (Jacobus, 2012).

The image of a female character in her social attitude is formed due to personal and cultural experience. Women reject traditional stereotypes that corner them into a place of being unhappy. A woman's personal experience influences her appreciation and response to social stimuli, including towards the opposite sex. This response became one of the reasons for the formation of women's attitudes in the social aspect. Basically, the image of a female character is something that is closely related to the norms and systems that apply in a broad group of people. The female character's self-image is manifested as an individual who has the ability to develop and build herself. Based on her own choice pattern, women are responsible for their own potential as individual beings. The self-image of female characters shows that what is seen as a woman's behavior depends on how the physical and psychological aspects are associated with the values prevailing in society (Shevelov, 2015).

Feminism is a women's ideology or movement that demands emancipation or equal rights and justice for men and women (Mellor, 2013). Feminism comes from Latin which means feminine or woman. This term began to be used in the 1890s, referring to the theory of equality of men and women and the movement to obtain women's rights based on equality of women and

men. Starting from the assumption that women experience discrimination and efforts to stop this discrimination. Feminism fights for two things that women generally do not have, namely their equality with men and autonomy to determine what is good for them. In many ways, women are subordinated. The number of Indonesian female authors is still very small. Of that very few, rarely productive and produce great work. According to him, busy family is often an obstacle. As soon as he steps out of the fence of convention and tradition, people's reproaches will rain down on him.

The impact of women's submission to the fences of convention and tradition at that time caused the number of literary works by women authors to be small (Showalter, 2012). Seeing the facts that have occurred as a result of these conventions and traditions, there has been an impulse among Indonesian women writers to propose a woman as the main character. It seems that the characterization of women can become a mouthpiece for women authors in shouting for emancipation and protesting against the rigid traditions that bound them, against the arbitrariness of men. Wherever women turn out to be interesting to talk about. Woman is a figure that has two sides. On the one hand, women are beauties. On the other hand, he is considered weak. Strangely, her weakness is used as an excuse by bad men to exploit her beauty. In fact, there are also those who think that women are despicable, second-class human beings who, although beautiful, are not recognized as normal human beings.

Tragically, there are also philosophers who think that women were created by God only to be with men. Women are the sex defined by their lack of certain qualities and women are imperfect men. The reality in society today is that they still do not understand that since the late 1960s (in the Western world) the world has started campaigning for the feminist movement with several important factors influencing it. Apart from the empirical world, discrimination against women can also occur in the literary world (Todd, 2018).

In this case, literary works as an imaginative world are the growth of women's subordination. The world of literature is ruled by men. That is, literary works seem to be aimed at male readers. Even if there is a female reader, she is forced to read as a man. It can take the form of pornography and violence against women. Thus, forced marriages and violence against women in novels are indications of negative perceptions of women, or at least because of the definition of women using male standards or the qualities possessed by men. This relates to the usual concept of gender, namely the misconception about gender and gender. Gender is the characterization of men and women based on socio-cultural construction. However, because of this misconception, gender is often seen as God's unchangeable nature (Snodgrass, 2014).

Based on the explanation above, the researcher is interested in analyzing the female character in the novel *Andini* by Santy Diliana, who is one of the Indonesian female authors. Two in the view of men, through a feminist approach. Where the feminist approach is very important and useful to study, remembering, women are God's creatures which are very interesting to study, both in their personal lives, desires and desires, personal possessions, struggles for life, to the philosophy of life that makes the strong character live the reality his life is sometimes not in accordance with what he aspires since childhood. The title in this study is "THE IMAGE OF WOMEN CHARACTERS IN THE NOVEL *ANDINI* BY SANTY DILIANA (A FEMINISM APPROACH)".

METHOD

This research is a type of literature research with a qualitative approach, so it is not related to place. The method used in this study is a qualitative method, with a Content Analysis approach. Through this method, researchers can collect data, compile, classify, describe, and conclude data and emphasize more on the feminist approach, the building elements of the novel, so that researchers can find out what things are experienced by the female characters in the novel *Andini* by Santy Diliana, both things that are superior and subordinate to the figure.

The data collection technique used was literature study with qualitative methods. Because with this technique, researchers will obtain theoretical information related to research problems, namely about the image of female characters, feminism, and the building elements of the novel as a research provision. The theory obtained will be used to describe the image of a female character, a building element of the novel, in Santy Diliana's novel *Andini*.

The steps used in data collection were as follows: (1) Reading and understanding the novel *Andini* by Santy Diliana with its feminist theory, (2) Scanning and selecting chapters that are thick with the image of female and feminist characters, (3) Determining and marks the analysis of novel elements, chapters which highlight the image of female characters in *Andini*'s novel by Santy Diliana, and (4) describes the analysis in applying data to text.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Image of Female Character from Physical Aspect

From the physical aspect of women, this is not seen from the shape of the face or the shape of the woman's body, but whether the woman can get pregnant, give birth, and breastfeed. In her life, *Andini*'s character is not only described as a beautiful woman, but quite attractive to many people. However, the physical aspect that is meant is not the beauty and beauty of the body but

women who can get pregnant, experience suffering during pregnancy, childbirth and breastfeeding.

Andini's character is told to give birth to a baby boy from her marriage to Gilang. At first Andini didn't realize that she was pregnant, which was marked by being sensitive to smelling fishy-smelling food made from fish. She often felt nauseous and vomited, along with that her body was weak, she even fainted at the port when she was doing an internship at her husband's office. This caused anxiety to Andini's husband and father. They suggested that Andini be invited to see a doctor, but Andini refused. The news of Andini's declining health also reached her mother-in-law and sister-in-law, Mbak Mbak Mayang. On the advice of Ms. Mayang, finally Andini wants to undergo a more accurate pregnancy test in the laboratory. After it was proven that they were pregnant, as evidenced by a quantitative hCG beta test, test pack, and ultrasound, Andini and Gilang felt happy.

The image of women in the physical aspect that is revealed in this novel is that of an adult woman, a woman who has entered the stage of maturity and has experienced a change in herself, that is, biologically an adult woman is characterized by physical signs such as having menstruation, being able to get pregnant, giving birth, and breastfeeding her children. The conclusion that is found in women's self-image from the physical aspect that is depicted in the novel is maturity and changes in itself, that is, biologically an adult woman is characterized by physical signs such as having menstruation, being able to get pregnant, giving birth, and breastfeeding her children.

The Image of Female Figures from a Psychological Aspect

Psychologically, the character Andini is a woman with a strong sense of instinct. Within the limits of this psychological aspect, women and men are born with different biopsychology, and that difference is constitutional, this affects the differences in the development of the personality of women and men. psychological aspects of women cannot be separated from what is called feminist. The principle of femininity is a tendency that exists in women. These principles include relatedness, receptivity, love, nurturing various life potentials, communal orientation, and maintaining interpersonal relationships. The psychological aspect shows that women have thoughts for development, are inspired, and have feelings to feel inside or outside of themselves.

In line with the statement above, the character Andini, seen from a psychological aspect, can be imaged as a woman who obeys the orders of her parents. Because of her obedience to her father, Andini's character is willing to accept an arranged marriage with Gilang even though it is based on mutual

dislike. He doesn't even know whether his household will last with Gilang or not, all he does is make his father happy with the match.

Based on the analysis of the novel, the character Andini seen from the psychological aspect can be imaged as a woman who experiences the psychology of her husband. Andini often gets bullied from Gilang, her husband. The bullying can be in the form of Gilang's words which always corner Andini, belittle, and even consider Andini not comparable to the woman he loves and hopes for as Gilang's ideal wife.

According to the analysis of the novel, it can be seen that the character Andini, seen from a psychological aspect, can be imaged as a woman who thinks that to get the best solution for what she is experiencing, living a household with Gilang is not an easy thing for her. She has tried the best for her household, by being an obedient wife to her husband, cooking food for her husband, washing clothes, understanding her husband's attitude, she did all of this in order to win over Gilang's heart so that she could leave the past when she was with Rana, and be able to live the household as it should be with him. According to Andini's prejudice, her husband has not been able to forget Rana just like that even though he is already married to her.

The conclusion found in the image of women from the psychological aspect depicted in this novel is that women are imaged from their psychological state when facing problems within (the family) and from outside (the environment) and trying to control their inner emotions in dealing with their respective problems.

CONCLUSION

According to the finding and discussion, women's self-image from the physical aspect that is depicted in the novel is maturity and changes in itself, that is, biologically an adult woman is characterized by physical signs such as having menstruation, being able to get pregnant, giving birth, and breastfeeding her children. On other hand, the image of women from the psychological aspect depicted in this novel is that women are imaged from their psychological state when facing problems within (the family) and from outside (the environment) and trying to control their inner emotions in dealing with their respective problems.

There are some suggestions for future research. For future researchers, they can carry out further research that is more specific and more perfect, both related to this research, and related to other problems in the research object of the novel Andini by Santy Diliiana, because there are aspects that can be examined besides the image of the female character. Meanwhile, for readers, this research is expected to increase readers' appreciation of literary works because research conducted using literary objects, as research, can often be of

benefit to readers. In addition, it is hoped that this research can be a reference material for readers who will examine literary works with the same approach.

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