

WOMEN ON THE NOVELS OF ASMA NADIA (GYNOCRITIC STUDY)

Puspa Indah Utami, Emzir, Ninuk Lustyantie
PGRI University of Palembang, Indonesia¹
Universitas Negeri Jakarta, Indonesia²
Universitas Negeri Jakarta, Indonesia³

utamipuspa27@gmail.com
emzir_pb@gmail.com
ninuklustyantie@unj.ac.id

Abstract

The objectives of the research were three novels of Asma Nadia which discussed the issue of women. The novels are *Surga yang tak dirindukan*, *Asslamualaikum Beijing*, *Cinta 2 Kodi*. This research used qualitative approach with content analysis method using gynocritic study. The data of this research was obtained through the reading of the novel repeatedly and intensively, identifying, recording, classifying, and testing the validity of the data through credibility, transferability, dependability, and confirmability. The issues discussed in this research related to Novel Structure and Biology of Women. The findings of this research is recommended in practice for the next researchers who will complete the study of the other side, and to the lectures who want to teach literature, especially the works of literary novels.

Keywords: Women, Novel, Gynocritic

Literary learning in Indonesia is taught only to high school and only in language and literature lessons. There is no longer opportunity for students to study literature while continuing to college except on their own initiative as part of a reading passion. And also not many students want to take the time to appreciate the literary works, so it is not surprising that the appreciation of literary works becomes exclusive for students who wrestle in the field of pure literature or language and arts education (Tindaon, 2012: 1).

The importance of literary presence in learning is explained by Rosenblatt in Rudy as follows: 1) literature promotes the need for imagination in democracy, 2) literature diverts imagination and behavior, emotional attitudes, and measures of social and personal value; 3) literature presents the possibility of different outlooks of life, the pattern of relationships, and philosophy, 4) literature helps the selection of different imaginations through the experience of studying literary works, 5) literary experience allows the reader to view his own personality and his problems objectively and solve them better, and 6) literature gives reality to adults different value systems so that they are freed from fear, guilt and uncertainty (Rudi, Hamid, Masri, Ansori, 2010: 3).

Associated with learning materials used in Indonesian Language and Literature Study Program at FKIP UPGRI Palembang, there are courses that discuss the literary works of prose type. Therefore, researchers use novels as objects in this research. In this research, the writer chose the work of Asma Nadia. The novels of Asma Nadia are one of the learning materials that can be used in achieving the goal of literature learning in college in the course of prose study which is further divided into the subject of feminism study. The story written in the novel Asma Nadia can open the knowledge that women writers can create their own style to write a literary work where they can determine the characters, themes, characters, and storyline by themselves.

To write a literary work in the form of a novel, not limited by who the author is and how the background of the author's life. Male and female writers have the same right to put their idea and ideas into a literary work. But from the two authors, it will be clear the difference from the way they express their ideas. One of the most visible differences between the two types of writing written by men and women is when they write stories by raising a woman's life story as the main character in a novel.

The presence of more and more female authors gives room to reviewers to see how female authors play a role for that purpose (Hayati, 2012: 85).

The literary work produced by women writers is different from the literary works produced by male authors, so that if not using an analysis devoted to the works of women then the interpretation is feared will not be in accordance with the intent of the woman as the author (Yuswianti, Syam, Wartiningsih, 2016: 8).

Based on the background of the above issues, this research focused on the written discourse of a novel that is limited to gynocritic problems. Gynocritics is a study whose discussion analyzes the works that portray stories of women's lives produced or written by the authors themselves (Rahman, 2005: 15). This research is divided into two sub-focus of research that is novel structure and biology of women.

METHODS

This research used qualitative approach with content analysis method using gynocritic study. Where the researchers describe in a systematic, factual, and accurate about the facts and causal relationships of the phenomena studied (Sutopo, 2002: 111).

In qualitative research the data presents is in the form of recording documents that decompose in the form of words, sentences, not in numbers (Bogdan & Taylor dalam Moleong, 2010: 4). The data in this research is the study of gynocriticism in the novels of Asma Nadia in the form of novel structure and biology of women. The data sources of this research are the novels of Asma Nadia consisting of three novels entitled "*Surga yang tak dirindukan*", "*Assalamualaikum Beijing*", and "Cinta 2 Kodi". Techniques of collection the data used in this research are interactive and non-interactive. The data analysis procedure used in this research is content analysis. The examination of the validity of the data in this research plan is intended to obtain data that is credibility, transferability, dependability,

and confirmability (Sugiyono, 2008: 376-377).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The novels by Asma Nadia who became the object of this research are novels in which discuss the problem of women entitled "*Surga yang tak dirindukan*", "*Assalamualaikum Beijing*", and "*Cinta 2 Kodi*". The problem in this research is how the structure in the novels by Asma Nadia and how the writing of women and women biology. The first novel studied entitled "*Surga yang tak dirindukan*" contains about presenting two stories of women's problems. First, it tells of polygamy seen from the side of first wife and second wife. Second, tells the story of a Chinese descendant who was the victim of the scorn of her friends until she was sexually abused.

The second novel entitled "*Assalamualaikum Beijing*". In the novel tells about the love affair experienced by Asmara. The day before the wedding that will be held, Asma must get the bitter fact that her lover, Dewa have an affair with his co-worker Anita. Although Dewa begs the marriage to continue, Asma already broken heart. Moreover, the relationship once performed by Dewa leads to the fetus, Anita pregnant. With sadness, Asma accepted a job offer in Beijing. This opportunity Asma gets from the help of Sekar and Ridwan, her husband. In Beijing on one of the trips, Asma meets Zhongwen, a handsome man who introduces her to the love legend of Ashima, the beautiful daughter of Yunan. Goodness and attention from Zhongwen, make Astma slowly open the heart. Although it was giddy when Dewa followed him to Beijing. Before the relationship continues, Asma is diagnosed with APS, a syndrome that makes his life threatened and can meet death every time.

The third novel "*Cinta 2 Kodi*" tells about a female character named Kartika, a muslimah entrepreneur struggling to save her family and home life for her hopes, dreams and love for her husband and children. The courage to start a child clothing business - something that she has not understood at all, and the courage to accept the bitter truth that the husband who had been the role model and the backbone of the family decided to become the father of the household and follow his mother last request to marry again with the woman of her mother's choice. Her struggle not only maintains family survival, but also returns family love to him.

The overall research data then grouped based on problems in research, then the data are analyzed one by one based on the novel sequence. The following is presented data of research findings of three novels by Asma Nadia.

1. Novel Structure

a. Novel structure in "*Surga yang tak dirindukan*"

1) Themes

Based on the study findings, the themes raised in the novel outline the religious aspect. A more specific theme in the novel is about the life of polygamy.

2) Plot/Groove

The plot in the novel is a mixed groove (progressive-regressive), the story in this plot is mixed, because sometimes it is telling events progressively then later in the form of regressive and subsequently.

3) Characterization

Story character are people who are featured in a work of narrative or drama which the reader is interpreted to have a certain moral and tendency as expressed in speech and what is done in action. Each character has different characteristics such as the figures of Arini and Mei Rose. Arini's character described as a strong wife and mother, patient, strong in accepting the temptation and love the family. While the figure of Mei Rose described as a woman full of problems in life. Women who have private closed.

4) Setting/Background

Background time in Medan, 1965. Background places occur in several places which include Al Ghifari Mosque, Arini house, campus, Mei Rose office, shelter, building, hospital, home of Mei Rose.

5) Point of view

The point of view used is the third persona's point of view by mentioning the "name" and persona first view of the "I" style.

b. Novel Structure in "Assalamualaikum Beijing"

1) Themes

Based on the findings of the study, the theme raised in the novel is the theme of the major that becomes the basic meaning of the story is patience in accepting all kinds of trials of life, while minor themes/ additional themes that support the major theme, namely betrayal of love, disease, Triangle, and faith. The beauty value of the theme in this novel is categorized into the heavy theme because in the novel it discusses two problems at once namely human problems with human and human problems with the Creator.

2) Plot/Groove

Plot in this novel is a mixed groove (progressive-regressive), since it is occasionally recounting events progressively and then in regressive and subsequent forms.

3) Characterization

Story character are people who are featured in a work of narrative or drama which the reader is interpreted to have a certain moral and tendency as expressed in speech and what is done in action. Each character has different characteristics and characteristics such as the characters of Asmara, Mama, Sekar and Anita.

Asmara figures portrayed as a woman who in betrayed but still patient to face life, responsible, always grateful and kind. Mama figures in depicting the figure of a loyal and loving woman. Sekar figure is described as a helpful person, a very good friend and always helps friends and encourages. While the figure

Anita described as a figure that has despair.

4) Setting/Background

Background of the place in this novel are the Halte, Anita house, the great wall, tiananmen square & the forbidden city, Asmara room, Niujie Mosque, hospital, Zhongwen house, Asmara house, Borobudur Temple. Social background contained in the novel, namely a tourguide, Mother, patient, nurse, friend, maid, bus passengers, mosque imam.

5) Point of view

The point of view used is the third persona's point of view by saying "name".

c. Novel structure in *"Cinta 2 Kodi"*

1) Themes

Theme raised in the novel is about tough women who struggle in building businesses and families.

2) Plot/Groove

Plot in the novel is a back flash plot because it highlights the circumstances of the characters and events experienced, and then only the early stages of the story are told.

3) Characterization

(a) Aryani is described as a patient woman. Always grateful and positive-minded.

(b) Kartika is described as a woman who has the character of having a harsh desire and firmly adhering to principles in her life.

4) Setting/Background

Background place namely Bandung, boarding house, Jakarta, train, Kartika house, abortion clinic, brother land, Bojong Gede and mosque.

5) Point of view

The point of view used is the third persona's point of view by mentioning the "name" and persona first view of the "I" style.

2. Women in the Novel of Asma Nadia viewed from Women's Biology

a. Women's image

Based on the study findings in the novels *"Surga yang tak dirindukan"*, *"Assalamualaikum Beijing"*, and *"Cinta 2 Kodi"* there are physical image and psychic image found on the female characters in the novels.

b. Women and Gender Injustice

1) Based on research findings in the novel of *"Surga yang tak dirindukan"*, there

are gender inequalities that are psychic violence on the character Arini, physical and psychic violence on the character Mei Rose.

- 2) Based on research findings in the novel of *"Assalamualaikum Beijing"*, there are gender inequalities that are subordinate on the character Sekar who can't think rationally, stereotypes on the character Anita with her beautiful face and sexy body considered as seductive woman, and psychic violence on the characters Arini and Anita.
- 3) Based on research findings in the novel of *"Cinta 2 Kodl"*, there are gender inequalities in the form of marginalization on the character Aryani who always being humbled by her husband, subordination on the character Kartika which distinguished the level of education in the family, psychic violence on the character Aryani and Kartika, and workload experienced by Aryani.

CONCLUSION

The results of this research are expected to provide information and experience on how to analyze novels through gynocritic studies. In line with this, based on the findings of the research that has been carried out can be concluded that *first*, structural analysis in the three novels of Asma Nadia can be concluded that the elements that build the novel shows a unified unity. *Second*, the image of women shown in the three novels is women with simple physical images, *muslimah* and with prominent psychic images, strong women, courageous, not easily give up to fate. *Third*, the form of gender injustice experienced by women in three novels of Asma Nadia can be summarized as marginalized, stereotypes or negative labeling, physical and psychic violence, subordinate and work load.

REFERENCES

- Abdian Tindaon. *"Pembelajaran Sastra Sebagai Salah Satu Wujud Implementasi Pendidikan Berkarakter"*. (Jurnal Basastra vol 1 no 1 , 2012).
- Moleong Lexy. J. *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*. Bandung: Remaja Rosdakarya, 2000.
- Rahman, Noorhayati Ab. *Teori Ginokritik dalam Kritikan Sastera: Suatu Pengenalan*. Jurnal Pengajian Melayu, Jilid 15, 2005.
- Rita Inderawati Rudy, Erlina Hamid, Ali Masri, dan Ansori, *"Apresiasi Cerpen Sekar dan Gadisnya dan Persepsi Mahasiswa Fakultas Hukum Universitas Sriwijaya terhadap Pentingnya Sastra dalam Mengembangkan Karakter"* (Palembang: JPBS FKIP Universitas Sriwijaya, 2010), h.3.
- Sugiyono, *Metodologi Penelitian Pendidikan, Pendekatan Kualitatif, Kuantitatif, R&D* Bandung: Alfabeta, 2008.
- Sutopo. *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*, Surakarta: UNS Press, 2002.
- Yenni Hayati, *"Dunia Perempuan dalam Karya Sastra Perempuan Indonesia Kajian Feminisme"*. (Humanus Vol.XI No. 1, 2012). h. 85.
- Yola Yuswianti, Christanto Syam, Agus Wartiningih. *"Analisis Ginokritik Novel Partikel Karya Dewi'Dee' Lestari"*. (Jurnal Pendidikan dan Pembelajaran vol 5, no 8 2016).