

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter provides the description about the way of the study is carried out and how the data is collected and analyzed.

3. 1 Research Method

In conducting the research, this paper employs descriptive method and qualitative approach in analyzing the three short stories. Simply defines, descriptive method is a method that describes facts in the research subject. Sowell and Casey (Maskar, 2008:37) stated that “descriptive method is a method that uses existing situation to collect the data in order to measure the variables and interpret the result appropriately without any manipulation of the variables themselves”. It means by using this method the three short stories are analyzed by collecting the existing data, such as setting and character. After that, it will be described in terms of its need and in order to find out the facts in it.

In line with this, qualitative approach is used to uncover the occurrence in the short stories. As summarized in Arikunto (2006:16), Qualitative approach is a method that put the natural setting in the first place, which means that the researcher does not set up the research object. Since hypothesis does not exist in the beginning, the result of the research does not have to be adapted with the hypothesis. It can occur in the middle or at the end of the research since the researcher must follow the development of the research object. The researcher

tends to find some answers from the question “why”. It explains that the researcher sees the research object entirely and gets involved directly in the research object to see the fact from *inside* point of view.

In addition, there is a reason why qualitative approach is suitable to analyze a literary work. It is because one of the philosophies in qualitative research is culture. Setting in literary work, more or less, shows people’s cultural behavior in one period of time. While culture in qualitative approach is seen as a product of human’s cultivation that is shaped into action or things, language, symbol etc. consequently, if a researcher wants to get an accurate data, it is necessary to study the respondent’s/ the research object’s background. (Arikunto, 2006:15).

In conclusion, the method and approach that are used in analyzing three short stories, *Dilarang Bercanda Dengan Kenangan*, *Lebaran Penghabisan* and *Boyon* are descriptive method and qualitative approach. Qualitative approach is used in analyzing the short stories without any hypothesis at the beginning of the research, and the researcher intends to find the answer for “why” questions as the researcher follows the story thoroughly. The result of the story will be described in detail in the findings and conclusions.

3.2 Research Subject

This research uses purposive sampling in determining the research subject. According to Patton (Alwasilah, 003: 146), purposive sampling is a step that makes human, setting, and certain occurrence (whether the occurrence is unique, special, different, weird, or peculiar) appear to give some important information to

the reader. Purposive sampling is chosen because the result of the research does not tend to generalize one case with another. It is a special case which is analyzed with special treatment, so that the result or the interpretation will be different from other cases.

The three short stories, *Dilarang Bercanda Dengan Kenangan*, *Lebaran Penghabisan* and *Boyon* are selected because most of their content are related to the theory that will be used which concerns to the natural environment. As stated before concerning purposive sampling, these three short stories are analyzed and the result whether places or characters portrays symbols or meaning is only valid in these three short stories. However, it can be an example on other research.

3. 2. 1 About the short story

As stated before this study presents an analysis of three short stories from *Ada Seseorang di Kepalaku yang Bukan Aku* anthology, written by Akmal Nasery Basral. In this book, Akmal involved some occurrence that is strongly related to natural environment.

In detail, the titles and the inspiring books of the short stories would be presented below:

Basral (2006) in *Ada Seseorang di Kepalaku yang Bukan Aku* said that there is nothing new about these three short stories. It involves several inspiring sources, such as self-experience, environmental observation, news, and some textual sources –fiction and non-fiction, that leaves the trail of imagination. *Dilarang Bercanda dengan Kenangan* is inspired by Richard Linklater's *Before*

Sunset & Before Sunrise it was published in *Jurnal Nasional*, 31 Juli 2006. *Lebaran Penghabisan* is inspired by AA Navis's *Tamu yang Datang di Hari Lebaran*, it was published in *Republika*, 22 Oktober 2006. The last one is *Boyon* is inspired by *Nagabonar*, Budi Dharma's *Olenka*, Sean Connery's *James Bond movies*, and Aman Datuk Mojoindo's *Si Doel Anak Sekolahan*, it was published in *Koran Tempo* 28 Mei 2006. According to Budi Dharma (Basral, 2006: 237), Akmal has tried to use the formula in writing literary works so well, he explain further that in this anthology that Akmal has combine the action and reaction so it is balance between content and form.

To distinguish the research subject mentioned before, here are the synopsis of the three short stories that are analyzed. *Dilarang Bercanda dengan Kenangan* is a story of love among a man, named Johan and a woman, named Khaleeda. They fell in love in London and met again in Aceh. There is a twist in the end of story that makes this story interesting since Johan finally shocked to hear Khaleeda's story. The character of the story changes as the character live in some different places. The first setting in this story is in Aceh when Tsunami attacked, and London, the time when Lady Diana died and in some cities in England. *Lebaran Penghabisan* is a story about tragedy, occuring at the place where hot mud overflowed. The occurrence is the same as occurrence in Indonesia when hot mud of Lapindo Brantas flooded in Sidoarjo sometime ago. The main character is Afrizal who is a low-salaried worker. However, he should facilitate his wife's desire for *mudik lebaran* to her hometown and visited her mother's grave. Although he had tried to fullfil what she wanted, God said the different, since

they, however, could not do what they really wanted because of the natural disaster. *Boyon* is a story that tells about the character's name that is considered awkward in the society. This story also told how the character must struggle to carry that name in his entire life. However, that name is a gift from his parents that was impossible to be changed. The place and time of where Boyon lived is, more or less, create the character of Boyon. He is a mischievous boy, it can be seen as he had his own will when he was a kid. He eager to do what he want including take a revenge from his teacher of reading Al-Qur'an by releasing frogs and eels to the mosque of where the teacher of reading Al-Qur'an was praying. It is what makes the characterization of Boyon interesting in the story. However, he lived in a supporting place to encourage him to do the acts. For example, he lives in the place of where eels and frogs can be easily found. In his teen of age, he became trendy, because the condition supported it. The condition that supports this is that he has friends who are also has the same, or nearly, same attitude, so Boyon feels free to follow his will of being trendy. What makes this story interesting to be analyzed is the different attitudes of the same character as he moved from the village to town.

3. 2. 2 About the writer

As an additional information, here is the background of the writer. Akmal Nasery Basral was born in Jakarta, 1968. He is a sociologist, graduated from Universitas Indonesia. Nowadays, he works as a journalist in Tempo magazine and his writing, more or less, is influenced by his daily work, where he must be

aware of his surrounding. He is father of three daughters and now he lives in Jakarta. Last but not least, here is his e-mail address: anb99@yahoo.com.

3.3 Data Source

This research is conducted by using qualitative approach and descriptive method. As explained before, the approach and method is used to uncover the facts in the short stories.

In line with this, in carrying out the research, the writer intends to analyze the short stories as follows: firstly, the writer decides to identify the settings and characters in the short stories in depth analysis. Secondly, the writer identifies which setting shows physical environment and which setting relates to social life. This identification will be further analyzed within Ecocriticism perspective as a tool underlying this research. Thirdly, the wirer identifies the relation between settings and characters in the short stories and presents it in the findings and further discussed in the next section.

To sum up, at the time of data analysis which requires thorough and critical reading of the three short stories, facts are analyzed and interrelated in order to find the general ideas of nature and social life. These are shaped by the interaction among characters and the ideologies that underlies the ecoreality. Result of the analysis will be presented followed by discussion.