

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides the background of the study, research questions that will be the guidance of the study, how the study is carried out, and how the data are analyzed and presented.

1.1 Background

Literature is a creation of humankind that has aesthetic and artistic sides. In the past, the form of literature is usually conveyed orally, such as Epic stories. In the further progress, literature is made in written form and then it is visualized as in drama. Later, Epic stories, written literature and drama are known as genre of literature. Klarer (1998: 9) explains the parts of three major literary genres, these are **fiction** that consists of novel and short story, **drama** that consists of comedy and tragedy, and **poetry** that consists of narrative poetry and lyric poetry. These three genres of literature are applicable until now.

Short story as a part of literary works is interesting to be analyzed. Although it has a quite short plot, small number of characters and a few places and time as setting, the story can be fully developed. In literary society, there are many short stories that have been analyzed. Typically, the analysis is related to intrinsic elements of the short story. Usually, the result of this analysis is messages in form of facts in current situation, social critiques toward reality and moral values that should be exist in people's mind in present time.

Intrinsic elements of a short story are theme, plot, character, setting, and point of view. However, According to Klarer (1998: 15), the most important elements on the short stories are: plot (what happens?), characters (who acts?), narrative perspective (who sees what?), and setting (where and when do the events take place). These intrinsic elements are the most important elements that will define the content of a story. Besides, these elements will also makes the readers comprehend the content of the story in one sitting without interruption. The story will flow from one place and time to another, in which the character lives and plays the role. In this discussion, however, there are two of those important elements that will be highlighted, these are characters and its characterization, and setting.

As stated by Klarer earlier, one of the most important elements is setting. Setting becomes significant in a short story since time and place give much contribution to the sequence of event in the short story. When a character does an act, it should be clear where and when the character does it. The depiction of setting is strongly related to the plot. If the time and place not clearly performed, there would be missing link in the short story and it will make the reader confused. Setting will also define character and characterization. For example, as in J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter*, when Harry lived in his uncle's house at Privet Drive (1st setting), it is show that Harry is a closemouthed and cannot socialized with the surrounding well. In the story, his uncle always gives Harry mental pressure and he is remoted from the people around him so they may think that Harry is a weirdie. His attitude changes when he comes to his school, Hogwarts

(2nd setting), he becomes friendly, and people like him. From two models of setting above, it is shown that setting can influence the character and characterization. In other case, setting is made in such way that it can attract reader's attention. As in Habiburrahman El Shirazy's *Ayat-Ayat Cinta*, the setting is in Cairo, Egypt. In the novel, the author tells the details of places where the act takes place. The author tells about the commonplace rent house, the hot climate, a great mosque, subway, even the route when he goes to a certain place. He explains how he gets to his university and returns to the rent house in detail. The depiction of setting as Habiburrahman does in his novel make the reader feels that they really exist in that place and watch the characters closely. It also makes some readers want to visit the place in the novel.

Regarding the importance of setting, there are some theories that observe setting as the focus of the research and one of the theories that pays much attention to the setting is Ecocriticism. This theory analyzes the physical environment from a story and how physical environment influences a story.

Glotfelty (1996) as cited in Barry (2002: 248) states "simply defined, Ecocriticism is the study of the relationship between literature and the physical environment". In other word, Ecocriticism analyzes how physical environment effect literary works. Environmental issues that become the main focus in this critics is based on human consciousness that environment should be preserved and one of the way to preserve it is by making literary work as a tool to convey the understanding about environmental preservation. Historian Donald Worster

suggests about the role of scholar as cited in ASLE, Related Conferences and

Abstract:

We are facing a global crisis today, not because of how ecosystem functions but rather because of how our ethical system functions. Getting through the crisis requires understanding our impact on nature as precisely as possible, but even more, it requires understanding those ethical systems and using that understanding to reform them. Historian, along with literary scholar, anthropologist, and philosophers, cannot do the reforming, of course, but they can help with the understanding.

(The Wealth of Nature: Environmental History and the Ecological Imagination [New York, Oxford UP, 1993] 27)

In this statement, Donald Worster assumes that historian, literary scholar, anthropologists, and philosopher can stimulate people to be more sensitive with the environment by giving more explicit description about the nature and do not hesitate to tell people that the nature is in danger.

Regarding the urge of people's sensitivity in environment, Ecocriticism is considered to be very important to change their mind frame as a literary theory.

What makes Ecocriticism different from other literary theory is explained in Barry (2002: 252)

Perhaps the most fundamental point to make here is that Ecocritics reject the notion (common to most of the other theories in this book) that everything is socially and or linguistically constructed. For the ecocritics, nature really exist, out there beyond ourselves, not needing to be ironised as a concept by enclosure within knowing inverted commas, but actually present as an entity which affects us, and which we can affect, perhaps fatally, if we mistreat it.

According to statement above, it is clear that the difference between Ecocriticism and other literary theory in analyzing a literary work is to see that nature does not exist suddenly. Nature is formed through a long process.

Therefore, the existence of nature must be well organized by people. In literary work, nature cannot only be a complement to beautify the literary work, nature should also be a valuable part of story. On account of this, through Ecocriticism, nature will be considered as a big part of a literary work. It analyzes how nature forms plot and character, so that the meaning will occur in the theme.

There are many literary works that celebrate nature, the life force and the wilderness, such as Henry David Thoreau's *Walden*, William Shakespeare's *The Winter Tale*, and Ralph Waldo Emerson's *Nature*. There is also literary work that actually does not describe physical environment but is strongly related to nature's gift, such as, Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Birth Mark*. In this story, a scientist intends to vanish his wife's birth mark. In the *Birth Mark*, the story is about the scientist's effort in vanishing this birth mark that should be paid with his wife's life. This story shows when science against nature can result in an extinction. According to the story, it is concluded that Ecocriticism does not only analyze nature as physical environment, but also analyzes life as a part of nature.

Based on the explanation about Ecocriticism above, this paper will analyze three short stories *Dilarang Bercanda dengan Kenangan*, *Lebaran Penghabisan* and *Boyong* from *Ada Seseorang di Kepala yang Bukan Aku* by Akmal Nasery Basral. The analysis of these three short stories will use **Ecocriticism** as a lens to analyze **environmental issues** and the role of physical **setting** in forming the character and characterization. Setting that is analyzed here mainly physical environments that form the characters and characterizations. Physical environment

influences character and characterization strongly because in that environment the character lives and forms it is characterization.

As mentioned before, this research paper will analyze these short stories from *Ada Seseorang di Kepala yang Bukan Aku*. The first story, *Dilarang Bercanda dengan Kenangan* has a unique story of where there is a twist in the end of story. The first setting in this story is in Aceh when Tsunami attacked, and London, the time when Lady Diana died. The second story, *Lebaran Penghabisan* is interesting to be analyzed since the core of the story occurs at the place where hot mud overflows. This occurrence that happens in this story is the same as a tragedy in Indonesia when hot mud of Lapindo Brantas flooded in Sidoarjo some time ago. And the third story *Boyon* is a story that tells about the name of the character that is considered awkward in the society. This story also tells how the character must struggle to carry that name in his entire life. However, that name is a gift from his parents that is impossible to be changed.

For those reasons, the three stories are interesting to be analyzed and by using Ecocriticism, the writer hopes that this research paper can broaden the writer's and reader's way of thinking about environment and literature.

I.2 Statements of Problem

The research conducted by the writer is designed to answer the following questions.

1. What role does the physical setting play in “Dilarang Bercanda dengan Kenangan”, “Lebaran Penghabisan” and “Boyon”?

2. What environmental issues are shown in “Dilarang Bercanda dengan Kenangan”, “Lebaran Penghabisan” and “Boyon”?

To prevent a misleading information concerning the statements of problems, the term role and issues will be explained as follow. Role is defined as function of the setting in forming the stories. Furthermore, issue is defined as occurrence that related to environment. In overall, the role of setting and environmental issues that appear will be used to criticize the environmental aspect in the stories.

I. 3 Aim of study

There are many aspects from the three short stories that can be studied in detail, however, this research paper tends to focus on two aspects. The two aspects are to analyze the role of physical setting play in the short stories and to find out the environmental issues that emerges in the short stories.

I. 4 Importance of the Problem

There are many literary works that have been analyzed in various perspectives. As in the perspective of gender, feminism can be used as a tool of analysis, structure by its structuralism and social life that commonly investigated by literary sociology. Some research mentioned above give contribution in adding people's understanding in literary works. Thus, the analysis of the three short stories by Ecocriticism is chosen to adjoin people's awareness in literary work. In addition, the writer believes that the euphoria in saving the environment that

arises nowadays is worthwhile to be supported. Through this study, hopefully, literature can be a lens to appreciate the environment, so that people will preserve it.

1.5 Scope of the Study

The study is Ecocritical analysis of *Dilarang Bercanda dengan Kenangan, Lebaran Penghabisan* and *Boyon*, short stories from “*Ada Seseorang Dikepalaku yang Bukan Aku*”, and this research will focus on the role of physical settings in building characterization and the appearance of current environmental issues in the stories.

I. 6 Methodology

This research uses qualitative method. According to Ratna (2006: 47) the most important characteristics in qualitative method are:

1. giving the main attention to the meaning and message, which are agree with the essence of the object that is a cultural study
2. putting the process as the prime focus better than the result of the research, so the meaning can dynamically changed
3. that there is no space between the researcher and the research's object, the researcher is the main instrument, so there will be a direct interaction among the researcher and the research's object
4. that the characteristic of the research design and framework are temporal since the nature of the research is continuous.
5. that the characteristic of the research is natural, which occurs in their social context and culture.

From these characters concluded that qualitative method gives much attention to meaning and message in cultural study, process is more important

than the result, so the meaning is always change, and the character of the research is natural, in line with social and cultural context.

According to the characteristics stated before, the result of this research paper will give a description about social data that related one another, for that reason, it will describe social issues and the role of setting in the short stories.

I. 7 Data Source

In carrying out the research, the writer intends to follows the procedures stated below:

1. Identifying the setting and characters in the three short stories, “Jangan Bercanda Dengan Kenangan”, “Lebaran Penghabisan” and “Boyon” in depth analysis
2. Determining which setting that shows physical environment and setting that related to social life.
3. Determining the relation between setting and character that shown in “Jangan Bercanda Dengan Kenangan”, “Lebaran Penghabisan” and “Boyon” by using Ecocriticism as a tool to analyze the data.

1.8 Clarification of Terms

Portrait : a description or impression of something (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary).

Human : of or characteristic of people, contrasted with God, animals or machines (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary)

Culture : the customs, arts, social institutions, etc. of a particular group or nation (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary). In this research

paper, culture will be defined as human attitude regarding environmental occurrence.

Nature : the whole universe and every created, not artificial, thing (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary). Nature in this research paper is defined as physical and social environment that exist in the short stories

Ecocritical : this term is adjective form of Ecocriticism. Ecocriticism is the study of the relationship between literature and the physical environment
Glotfelty (1994)

Analysis : the study of something by examining its parts and their relationship.
(Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary)

Short story : Brief fictional prose narrative to be distinguished from longer, more expansive narrative forms such as the novel, epic, saga, and romance.
(Merriam-Webster's Encyclopedia of literature (1995: 1028))

1.9 Organization of the Paper

This paper is divided into five chapters. The first chapter is introduction that introduces the general issues of the paper. It contains background, statement of problems, aims of study, Importance of the Problem, limitation of the study, methodology, data collection and data analysis and organization of paper. The second chapter is theoretical foundation that shows the relevant findings with the problem that is analyzed. It contains review of theories, findings and aspects that has not been studied in the previous study. The third chapter is research

methodology. It explains the methodology that is used to analyze the problems. This chapter contains definition/clarification, formulation of problems, and procedure of data collection. The fourth chapter describes the data that has been collected. It contains data collection, data analysis, and findings. The fifth chapter consists of two parts, conclusion and suggestion.

