

**CHARACTERISATION AND POWER RELATION
IN *DEATH OF A SALESMAN* BY ARTHUR MILLER**

A THESIS

**Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for Master's Degree in
Linguistics**



by

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Sebuah Tesis yang diajukan untuk memenuhi salah satu syarat memperoleh gelar
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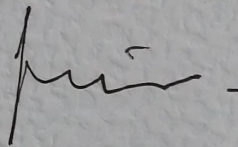
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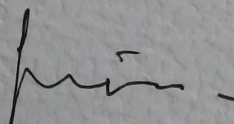
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ABSTRACT

Play is so much alive in America after the American Revolution. Playwrights create their works with their own styles. Arthur Miller is one of the most famous playwrights at that time. He has a lot of famous works. One of his best-known plays is entitled *Death of a Salesman* (1949). The play wins the Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award for Best Play. The play consists of Act One, Act Two, and Requiem. This study focuses on Act One because it is believed that there are a lot of information about the character at the beginning of the play. The play talks about a family consists of Willy, Linda, Biff and Happy Loman. This study focuses on the characterisation of the main character, Willy Loman. Willy Loman is a salesman who has tried to commit suicide for many times. Culpeper's characterisation model has been chosen to reveal the impressions of Willy Loman. There are three cues according to Culpeper (2014)—explicit, implicit, and authorial cues. This study finds that Miller uses most of the cues. There are nineteenth impressions that are formed by Miller. Furthermore, this study also seeks the power relation between Willy and Biff Loman as they are significant characters in the play. Short (as cited in Burke, 2014) introduces twelve questions to reveal the power relation. This study finds that Willy is more powerful than Biff. This study believes that this will enrich characterisation analysis and conversation analysis as there may be not many linguistic researches that use the theories. Moreover, this study will also show the readers what kind of character that the playwright, Arthur Miller, portrays. Furthermore, this study may give suggestions to readers and playwrights about characterisation.

Keywords: Stylistics, Characterisation, Power Relation, Arthur Miller

ABSTRAK

Drama sangat hidup di Amerika setelah Revolusi Amerika. Penulis drama membuat karya mereka dengan gaya mereka sendiri. Arthur Miller adalah salah satu penulis drama paling terkenal saat itu. Dia memiliki banyak karya terkenal. Salah satu dramanya yang paling terkenal berjudul *Death of a Salesman* (1949). Drama ini memenangkan Penghargaan *Pulitzer* dan *Tony Award for Best Play*. Drama ini terdiri dari *Act One*, *Act Two*, dan *Requiem*. Penelitian ini berfokus pada *Act One* karena diyakini bahwa ada banyak informasi tentang karakter di awal drama. Drama ini berbicara tentang sebuah keluarga yang terdiri dari Willy, Linda, Biff dan Happy Loman. Penelitian ini berfokus pada karakterisasi karakter utama, Willy Loman. Willy Loman adalah seorang *salesman* yang telah berkali-kali mencoba bunuh diri. Karakterisasi yang dijelaskan Culpeper telah dipilih untuk mengungkapkan kesan tentang Willy Loman. Ada tiga *cues* menurut Culpeper (2014)—*explicit*, *implicit*, dan *authorial cues*. Penelitian ini menemukan bahwa Miller menggunakan hampir semua *cues*. Ada sembilan belas kesan yang dibentuk Miller. Selain itu, penelitian ini juga mencari *power relation* antara Willy dan Biff Loman karena mereka adalah karakter penting dalam drama. Short (seperti dikutip dalam Burke, 2014) memperkenalkan dua belas pertanyaan untuk mengungkapkan *power relation*. Penelitian ini menemukan bahwa Willy lebih *powerful* daripada Biff. Penelitian ini percaya bahwa penelitian ini akan memperkaya analisis karakterisasi dan analisis percakapan karena mungkin tidak banyak penelitian linguistik yang menggunakan teori-teori tersebut. Selain itu, penelitian ini juga akan menunjukkan kepada pembaca karakter seperti apa yang digambarkan oleh penulis drama, Arthur Miller. Penelitian ini juga dapat memberikan saran kepada pembaca dan penulis drama tentang karakterisasi.

Kata kunci: Stilistika, Karakterisasi, Power Relation, Arthur Miller

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