Robert Stanton's Structuralism in Andrea Hirata's Novel the Dreamer and Paulo Coelho's Novel the Alchemist

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Abstract

This study aims to describe the comparison between the facts of the story based on the structural analysis of Robert Stanton in Andrea Hirata's novel Sang Pe dreamer and Paulo Coelho's Sang Alchemist novel. This research is a qualitative descriptive study. In collecting data, this research uses a documentation study method by using reading and note-taking techniques. The data obtained were analyzed using structuralism theory according to Robert Stanton's fictional theory, then concluded with a comparative literature approach. The results of this study indicate that there are differences and similarities in the facts of the story contained in Andrea Hirata's novel The Dreamer and Paulo Coelho's Sang Pe dreamer. The similarity is that the facts of the story contained in the two novels are equally related to reveal the same theme of the story. The difference between the two novels is the concept of characterization, plot, and setting. This difference is strongly influenced by the authors' backgrounds and very different cultures.

Keywords: Comparative Literature, Story Facts, Structuralism

Introduction

One form of study of novel literature that is quite universal and old, exists to compare one novel with another is comparative literature study. This study is a field of academic study that is very interesting and has a slightly more complicated challenge than literary studies in general. Comparative literature requires researchers to look at two or more material objects at once. Comparative literature is a study that emphasizes the relationship between literary works of different cultures but have parallels both in terms of form and content. Comparative literature is an optional approach that should be used to understand more deeply about two or more literary works which essentially have differences in culture, language and country, but there are similarities in aspects of content and form (Felski & Friedman, 2013).

Damono (2015) revealed that comparative literature is an approach to literature that does not produce its own theory. It is also said that in the research objectives, the comparative literature approach must include other theories according to the needs, objects and objectives of the research. Comparative literature covers the study or study of cross-cultural texts involving interdisciplinary sciences that focus on patterns or relationships that exist across literary works, including across space and time (Arens, 2005; Cao, 2014). Thus, the study of two or more literary novels in the realm of comparative literature needs to use theories. In this case, to dig deeper into the structure of the novel, the theory of structuralism is used.

Stanton (2019) in his theory of structuralism fiction, suggests that in a work of fiction, such as a novel, there is an intrinsic content that greatly influences the power of the story. Stanton divides the intrinsic elements into two main parts, namely the facts of the story and the means of literature. A story fact or factual structure is a simple path whose details are regular and form a pattern that conveys a theme. The fact elements of the story become an integral part of the story. The classification of story facts according to Stanton include plot, character or character, setting and theme. Another element contained in a work of fiction is literary means. Literary

tools can be interpreted as methods used by writers or authors to select and arrange story details in order to achieve something meaningful (Sandelowski, 1991). This kind of method is necessary because with the existence of literary tools such as title, point of view, style and tone, symbolism, and irony, readers can see various facts through the author's point of view, and are able to understand the meaning of the facts of the story.

With regard to the concept of literary works, forms and studies of literary works that have been stated, on this occasion, the author will conduct a comparative study of two literary novels that emerged from different cultures and countries. There are two material objects that are interesting to look deeper into, namely The Dreamer, a novel by Hirata (2021) and The Alchemist, a translated novel by Coelho (2022). These two novels are literary works of different generations, but the level of parallels between the two can already be seen in the titles of the novels. Between the Dreamer and the Alchemist is assumed to have a similar theme as a form of influence from one novel to another.

The novel The Dreamer by Andrea Hirata is the second book in the trilogy "Laskar Pelangi" which was first published in 2006 by Bentang Publishers, Yogyakarta. As of 2021, this novel has been printed 48 times. This novel, as the title suggests, is able to stimulate the reader to participate in the struggles of life to reach their goals. The Dreamer tells the story of village children who have the courage and strong determination to achieve their dreams (Daré, 2021). The story in this novel is a reflection of social life about stories of friendship, education and economic polemics in Indonesia.

The novel Sang Alchemist by Paulo Coelho is a translated literary work published by PT. Grmedia Pusaka Utama in 2013. Until 2022, The Alchemist has undergone 33 reprints by the publisher of Gramedia. This novel was first published in 1988 in Brazil under the title The Alchemist. The novel The Alchemist is Coelho's best-known work and is one of the best-selling books and has been translated into many languages around the world. This novel tells of a shepherd's journey in search of treasure where the treasure appears in his dream. The simplicity in terms of storytelling language but this novel contains symbolic links that can encourage readers to pursue their dreams.

The specialty of these two novels is that they both tell the story of the struggle to reach a dream (New, 2019). The two great writers in the world's literary treasures seem to have similar views and illustrate events in their novels. The writer's interest in doing this research is not solely influenced by the two big names of the writers, but objectively the writer sees the content of the literary works written by the two writers in question. Both of these novels have a psychological game that is equally prominent, with a storyline game that always moves the reader. Also, the emotional content as a moral message that is full of meaning is contained in it.

From this description, the writer is interested in conducting a study in comparative literature on "Robert Stanton's Structuralism in Andrea Hirata's Novel Sang Pe dreamer and Paulo Coelho's Sang Alchemist Novel." Thus, the formulation of the problem in this study is how to compare the facts of the story based on the structuralism analysis of Robert Stanton in Andrea Hirata's novel Sang Pe dreamer and the novel Sang Alchemist by Paulo Coelho (2022). In this case, the main focus of research on the two novels is on the facts of the story according to Robert Stanton's structuralism. The use of Robert Stanton's fictional structuralism theory in this study is because Robert Stanton's theory is more complete than other theories. This research is good to do after the initial observations made by the researcher, that similar researchers to the two novels have never been done seriously.

Methods

This research is a type of qualitative research that is used to investigate the comparison between Andrea Hirata's novel Sang Pe dreamer and Paulo Coelho's Sang Alchemist novel. This research with comparative literature studies and Robert Stanton's structuralism fiction theory aims to describe the comparison of the facts of the story contained in Andrea Hirata's novel Sang Pe dreamer and Paulo Coelho's Sang Alchemist novel.

The data in this study are words, phrases, sentences, and paragraphs which are elements of story fact data, namely plot, character, and setting. The data sources in this study consist of primary and secondary sources. The primary source is the text of the novel Sang Pe dreamer by Andrea Hirata in the 48th edition, published by Bentang Publishers in September 2021 and the novel Sang Alchemist by Paulo Coelho in the 33rd edition, published by Gramedia in February 2022. Furthermore, secondary sources are information provided by the author. obtained from outside the text of Andrea Hirata's novel The Dreamer and the novel Sang Alchemist by Paulo Coelho related to this research, namely in the form of excerpts from books, articles, and other literature providing information related to research.

This qualitative descriptive research emphasizes that a researcher acts as the research instrument itself (Sugiyono, 2015). In this study, the researcher himself will be the main research instrument. As the main instrument, the researcher will formulate the concept from planning to reporting the results. In carrying out the research, the researcher also uses a supporting instrument in the form of a table designed based on the needs of the research achievement. The supporting instrument in the form of a data corpus table will be used to record data from the texts of Andrea Hirata's novel the Dreamer and the novel Sang Alchemist by Paulo Coelho.

As for this research, qualitatively the following data collection steps will be taken: (a) Documentation Study Techniques; (b) Reading Techniques; and (c) Record Techniques. After the data is collected, then the data analysis is carried out using the structural analysis method. Structural analysis in this study was conducted by identifying, studying, and describing the structural elements in fiction based on Robert Stanton's fictional theory in the form of story facts, which consist of characters, plots, and settings in Andrea Hirata's novel Sang Pe dreamer and Sang Perindu novel. Alchemist by Paulo Coelho.

Furthermore, to test the validity of the data in this study includes two things, namely the validity test and the reliability test. The validity test (data accuracy) used in this study is semantic validity. Semantic validity is a measurement of symbolic meaning associated with the context of literary works and concepts or analytical constructs (Endraswara, 2003). In other words, semantic validity is interpreting data according to its context

Results and Discussion

Comparison of Story Facts Between Andrea Hirata's Novel The Dreamer and Paulo Coelho's The Alchemist Novel

Character

Characters or characters are individuals who experience events or occur in various events in the story. The depiction of a character with other characters is influenced by the way and style of an author. With regard to the characterizations in the novel The Dreamer and the novel Sang Alchemist, there is a significant comparison. This is very possible because the two novels basically have different cultural backgrounds. However, upon closer examination of these two novels, both The Dreamer and the Alchemist, both raise the theme of the struggle of human children in achieving their dreams or ideals.

In the Dreamer, there are the figures of Ikal and Arai who almost fill all the events in the story. These two characters can also be considered as the main characters of the story. However, based on the intensity of the role in all the events of the story, it is Ikal who becomes the main character because Ikal is the only character who is fully related to the overall content of the story. At the beginning of the story, the characters Ikal and Arai are described as high school students. Furthermore, the author uses a backward plot to describe the causal events experienced by the characters, including stories since they were in elementary school. Until the end of the story, it is known that Ikal and Arai are teenagers who are finishing their studies as students abroad.

Furthermore, in the novel The Alchemist, we find the figure of "the boy" named Santiago as the main character. The figure of Santiago in the novel Sang Alchemist is also a teenager, just like the characters of Ikal and Arai. Santiago, who in the novel is more often referred to as "the boy" is a former student of the seminary (one of the special Christian high school level, where his students are prepared to become Pastors), chose to leave the seminary to live an adventure, becoming a sheep herder, who besides being close to his flock, he is also close to books.

The youthful spirit and desire to explore that are both displayed by this main character become a resemblance that is difficult to deny. Each of the main characters after believing in the power of their dreams, finally determined to explore to the corners of the world. Ikal and Arai in their position as high school students received a positive influence from the figure of Guru Balia to continue to pursue their dreams. In addition, they are also naturally affected by the conditions of poverty in their hometown. As the main character, Ikal also received great influence from the figures of Arai and Solomon. These two figures really finally made Ikal a true dreamer. On the other hand, the character Santiago in the novel The Alchemist experiences the same thing. However, Santiago is affected by his own dreams which he experiences several times while sleeping at night. At first Santiago felt something strange about the dream he was experiencing. Then he decides to interpret his dream to a fortune teller, who in the novel is played by the character of a Gypsy Woman. Next, Santiago is met with other characters, all of whom are affinity and at the same time harbingers of the path of his dream.

As previously described, the main characters in the two novels are also assisted by the presence of various supporting roles or additional characters. In the Dreamer, found the figures of Jimbron, Sulaiman, Mother, Guru Mustar, Guru Balia, Zakiah Nurmala, Weh, and Famke Sommers. While in the novel Sang Alchemist there are also other supporting characters, namely Gypsy Woman, Melchizedekh, Santiago's father, Crystal Seller, Englishman, Camel Guide, The Alchemist, and Fatima. These characters give a distinct impression of the comparison of characteristics and characterizations in the two novels.

The basic difference regarding the characters and characterizations found in the two novels is that the presence of supporting characters in the novel Sang Alchemist is a coherent relationship to support the main character in achieving his dreams, namely during his journey to the Pyramids of Egypt. All characters are presented as if they are a sign for the main character to find the answer "yes" or "no" in continuing the journey to find treasure. While in the novel Sang Pe dreamer, the presence of supporting characters does not really lead to the main character's inner conflict. There are only a few characters as previously mentioned who really become supporting characters that influence the theme of the story.

Plot

The plot in the novel The Dreamer and the Alchemist is known to use a forward plot, and the author adds a little flash back to the stories. The plots of the two novels also have a fairly clear resemblance. Regarding the plot according to Robert Stanton's division, there are three parts that are intertwined with one another, namely subplot, conflict, and climax. In the novel The Dreamer and the Alchemist, these three parts of the plot are the main keys to the development of the story. The subplots of these two novels have illustrative similarities. In Sang Dreamer,

10

the story begins with the lives of the characters Ikal and Arai in the early days of high school. Together with Jimbron's character, they went through a period full of mischief until they met the figure of Guru Balia. It was from Guru Balia that the leaders of Ikal and Arai planted their dreams of getting scholarships abroad. As for the novel Sang Alchemist, the story begins with the character "the boy" namely Santiago who is busy carrying out his routine as a sheep herder. Every day he befriended his sheep, seeking the fertile fields of Andalusia. This story continues until Santiago is resting with his sheep in an old church. It is in this place that Santiago finally experiences his strange dreams about the treasure in the Egyptian Pyramids.

Furthermore, the two novelists began to introduce conflicts in the story. It is known that the main conflict in both novels is when each main character realizes their dreams and life goals. Of course, this main conflict is also formed from other conflicts, or according to Robert Stanton called "power conflicts." The conflicts of power contained in the two novels are varied. In The Dreamer, the main character Ikal gets a big influence from the characters Arai and Solomon. The meeting of the main character with these two characters is enough to provide a picture of the conflict of forces that leads the reader to find the main conflict of the novel. As for the Alchemist, there are conflicts of power that are quite dominant. This conflict is present in tandem with the presence of supporting characters. Thus, the main character in the novel The Alchemist gets tremendous inner turmoil in his search for treasure in the Egyptian Pyramids, according to the dreams he experiences and his encounters with additional characters.

After the formation of subplots and conflicts in both novels, the most likely thing to happen is the climax. The climax that occurs in the two novels gives the reader its own answer to the questions while reading the novels. In The Dreamer, the novel's climax occurs when the characters Ikal and Arai succeed in getting a foreign scholarship that they have been fighting for for a long time. In addition, for other power conflicts, there is also a climax at the end of the story, where they manage to go on an adventure to find a place called Olovyananya. These two characters, Ikal and Arai, managed to show themselves to the readers that they have proven the power of dreams. They are true dreamers. Furthermore, in the novel Sang Aklemis, the main character finally manages to find his treasure. The treasure that appeared in his dream he had managed to find with a struggle that was not easy. Santiago's struggle in searching for his treasure is actually a symbol, where in the midst of his struggle he has become "the alchemist" himself.

Background

Both the Dreamer and the Alchemist both have stories that start from the setting of a village or rural area. These two novels describe the life of the village community which is identical to each profession. In Sang Dreamer, the setting takes place in Kampung Ketumbi, Sumatra, where the majority of the population works as tin miners. Whereas in The Alchemist, the setting begins in the mountainous region of Andalusia, Spain, with the majority of the population being cattle herders. With regard to the setting of the place, these two novels tell the stories of the "journey" of the main characters so that various places are found that are raised by the author in the novel.

Setting of place or decoration in the novel Sang Pe dreamer and Sang Alchemist has a great influence on the development of the story. Inside the Dreamer, various decorations are found, from depictions of villages, cities, and certain places, both domestically (Indonesia) to depictions of decorations abroad (Europe). As for the novel The Alchemist, there is also a depiction of rural and urban decorations that intertwine from the place of origin of Santiago (Andalusia, Spain) to his journey to Africa, then to Egypt.

In addition to the background decoration that shows the places where the events in the novel took place, the time setting is also present, adding to the atmosphere of the image which is quite deep. The depiction of the time setting of these two novels also has a fairly clear difference. In

11

the Dreamer, almost all-time markers are clearly described by the author about the time of morning, noon, night, or other certain times. While in the novel Sang Alchemist, the depiction of the time setting by the author is full of metaphorical symbols.

Conclusion

This research with the theme of comparative literature provides a real picture of the existence of a literary work. In this case, both the novel The Dreamer and the Alchemist both present the concept of structuralism based on Robert Stanton's fictional theory. There are important points, including elements of story facts. The structure contained in the novel The Dreamer and the Alchemist consists of building elements, such as; characters, plot, and setting, showing a reciprocal relationship between one element and another for each novel. The story facts or factual structures in both novels each have their own concept within the same theme. The basic difference in the structural comparison between the two novels lies in the author's background and the cultural background shown in the novel's story. This research also succeeded in revealing the level of originality of the two novels. Based on the analysis conducted, it was found that both Andrea Hirata and Paulo Coelho both prioritize originality in their work. There is an element of resemblance, both from the same theme, as well as some very similar sentence dialogues, it is possible that the novel Sang Dreamer has been influenced by the novel Sang Alchemist. However, the originality of the two novels is still thick with the various situations and cultural conditions of the authors.

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