

**“THE ANALYSIS OF THE CHARACTERS IN *ARROWSMITH*
NOVEL BY SINCLAIR LEWIS”**



A Thesis

Submitted to the Faculty of Cultural Sciences Hasanuddin University

In partial fulfillment of the requirements to obtain

Sarjana Sastra in English Departement

INDRA NURCAHYADI

F211 16 529

**ENGLISH DEPARTEMENT FACULTY
OF CULTURAL SCIENCES
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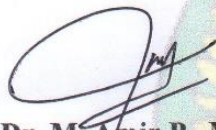
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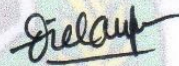
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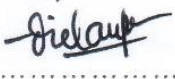



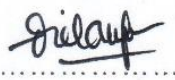
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THESIS

**“THE ANALYSIS OF THE CHARACTERS IN *ARROWSMITH* NOVEL BY
SINCLAIR LEWIS”**

BY

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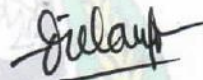
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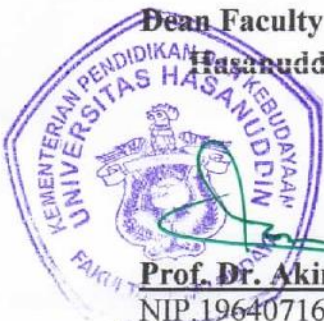
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Makassar, 11 Januari 2020



(Indra Nurcahyadi)

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ABSTRACT

INDRA NURCAHYADI. Analysis of The Characters in Novel *Arrowsmith* by Sinclair Lewis (Supervised by M. Amir P dan A. ST. Aldilah K)

The purposes of this study are (1) to find out the characteristic of five characters in *Arrowsmith* (2) To elaborate the relationship among the characters in *Arrowsmith* (3) to describe the influence of setting to the characters in *Arrowsmith*.

The method used in this study is descriptive qualitative method. The data source in this study is the novel *Arrowsmith* by Sinclair Lewis. The writer used structuralism approach to analyze the intrinsic elements of the novel, focusing more on the character analysis.

The results of analysis show that the main character in the novel, Martin, has some similarities with other characters such as Leora Tozer, Madeline Fox, Max Gottlieb and Joyce Lanyon, who are romantic, simple, hardworking and never give up. The writer also finds that other characters in the novel have an influence in the portrayal of Martin. The influence of these characters on Martin is that some characters motivate him to do something good, but some characters cause him to do something bad. Some characters have a positive influence on him, but some characters have a negative influence on him. And after analyzing the novel, the writer did not find the influence of the setting on the characters in the novel.

Keywords: *character, novel, structuralism, Arrowsmith*

ABSTRAK

INDRA NURCAHYADI. Analisis karakter pada novel *Arrowsmith* oleh Sinclair Lewis (dibimbing oleh M. Amir P dan A. ST. Aldilah K)

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah (1) untuk mengetahui karakteristik dari lima karakter dalam novel *Arrowsmith* (2) untuk menguraikan hubungan antar karakter dalam novel *Arrowsmith* (3) untuk mendeskripsikan pengaruh latar terhadap karakter dalam novel *Arrowsmith*

Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode deskriptif kualitatif. Sumber data dalam penelitian ini adalah novel *Arrowsmith* karya Sinclair Lewis. Untuk mendukung data dalam analisis, penulis menggunakan pendekatan strukturalisme untuk menganalisis struktur intrinsik novel, namun penulis hanya memfokuskan pada karakter dan latar cerita.

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa tokoh utama dalam novel yaitu Martin memiliki beberapa kesamaan dengan karakter lain seperti Leora Tozer, Madeline Fox, Max Gottlieb dan Joyce Lanyon yaitu romantis, sederhana, pekerja keras dan pantang menyerah. Penulis juga menemukan bahwa karakter lain dalam novel memiliki pengaruh dalam penggambaran tokoh Martin. Pengaruh karakter tersebut terhadap Martin adalah beberapa karakter memotivasi dirinya untuk melakukan sesuatu yang baik, namun beberapa karakter menyebabkan dia melakukan sesuatu yang buruk. Beberapa karakter memberikan pengaruh yang positif bagi dirinya, namun beberapa karakter memberikan pengaruh yang negatif bagi dirinya. Dan setelah menganalisis novel penulis tidak menemukan pengaruh latar terhadap karakter yang ada di dalam novel.

Kata Kunci: karakter, novel, strukturalisme, *Arrowsmith*

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Background

Literature reflects the factual circumstances that occurred when the works are created that express in various style and form of literary works. As the literature is derived from the factual life, it can be used to enrich people knowledge of moral, culture, social, politic, history, and others. Factual texts merely seek to inform, whereas literary texts seek to entertain or otherwise engage the reader by using creative language and imagery. It describes the human life in broad range, both in various parts of the world and in various time frames. Therefore, it helps people to grow.

Novel is one type of literary works used by the author to describe, express, and criticize the social reality that occurs around it. The relationship between one person and another, between women and men in society are also presented in a novel that is represented in the characters, the characters in the story with the community. Various types of conflicts were also created by author in the novel.

Character is important elements in a story, character is qualities and features that make a person, groups of people, and places different from others. It means that the character is personality invested with distinctive attributes and qualities. Character was imaginative people who took part in the action in the story and makes

the story seem true to life. It means that characters is a player in a story that represents a people to make story lively.

Arrowsmith, is a novel by Sinclair Lewis which tells about a smart, scientifically minded man named Martin Arrowsmith, who studied in University of Winnemac but then he is suspended. In the university, he meet a woman named Madeline Fox and become engaged, but then, he has affair with another woman named Leora Tozer and also become engaged with her. Finally, he invites Madeline and Leora to have lunch and talk about engagement, but then Madeline becomes angry of what he done and leaves him alone. Then, Martin decides to love Leora deeply and truly, one moment in the medical school, Martin insults his mentor, Max Gottlieb and then he is suspended from the medical school. He takes up life as an ordinary worker, then marries Leora with her family supporting him based on the promise that he would take up private practice as she only doctor in Wheatsylvania. North Dakota. Frustrated of the private practice, he moves to Iowa and becomes a public health official there and secretly involved in a romantic situation with a young daughter of the public health director. Arrowsmith discovers a bacteriophage which causes bubonic plague on a Caribbean Island. His wife, Leora wants to go to Caribbean with him. She struggle to help victims of plague. But, she died after being struck by the plague. While on the island, he involved in a romantic relationship with a wealthy socialite and later married her. When he returns from the island, people treat him as a hero for what he has done in the island. Then, he gets promotion within the lab and then offered the directorship of the entire institute. He abandons his new wife and son to work in the Vermont as an independent

scientist. When his new wife offers to move to Vermont to be close with him, he rejects her and tells her that she can just go away.

Based on the story above, the writer is interested to analyze the characteristics of five characters, there are Martin Arrowsmith, Leora Tozer, Max Gottlieb, Joyce Lanyon, and Madeline Fox. Especially Martin as a main character because in the story. Martin prioritizes humanity rather than earning money in his research as a doctor, but after reaching his prosperity Martin forgot his original principle of prioritizing humanity.

B. Scope of The Problems

From the background's explanation, this study focuses on five characters to be analyzed. They are Martin Arrowsmith, Leora Tozer, Max Gottlieb, Joyce Lanyon, and Madeline Fox. These five characters are assumed to influence the characters of *Arrowsmith*.

C. Research Questions

Based on the background above, the writer's analysis is formulated in the following research questions :

1. What kind of the characteristics of the characters in the novel *Arrowsmith* ?
2. How are the relationships among the characters in *Arrowsmith* ?
3. What are the influences of setting to the characters in *Arrowsmith* ?

D. Objectives of The Writings

Related to the research questions, the writer decides objectives of the research as follows:

1. To find out the characteristic of five characters in *Arrowsmith*.
2. To elaborate the relationship among the characters in *Arrowsmith*.
3. To describe the influence of setting to the characters in *Arrowsmith*.

E. Significance of The Study

This study is expected to enable the readers to understand that characters is an important element in a literary work, especially in a novel. Character in a literary work is created by the writer to convey ideas and feelings about something that happens in this world and the characters has the power to dominate the whole story in a literary work. The writer suggest to readers so they can further investigate this story based on its intrinsic elements such as setting, theme, and plot.

F. Sequence of The Chapter

This research consists of five chapters. Chapter one is the introduction that consists of background scope of problems, research questions, objectives of the writings, and sequence of the chapters. Chapter two consists of literature review which provides review of some previous studies structural approach which consists of definition of structural theory, brief history of structuralism approach and the way of applying structural approach. Chapter three is method of research which is methods of collecting data, and method of analyzing data. Chapter four is analysis

of characters and the analysis of setting. And the last chapter is chapter five that consists of conclusion and suggestion.

CHAPTER II

LITERARY REVIEW

A. Previous Study

This chapter consists of previous study related to this thesis, and structuralism approach as the approach used by the analysis of this study.

Previous study is used to know about the other thesis and to know about the thesis that related to this thesis. Some data can be obtained from the relevant or nearing with the research conducted previously. Based on observations made by the writers in various sources, there are several other writers who have discussed the issue and the same approach from what the writer analyzes. The writer finds some theses related with this thesis. They are Muawanah (2010), Andi Aisyah Islam (2008), and Utami Pappa' Tangkeallo (2011). There are three theses having similarity and differently to this study.

The first is Muawanah (2010) analyzed fiction with the little of characters in "*Betrayal*", *A Play by Harold Pinter*. The writer analyzed fundamental principle, the differences between what people say and what they mean. The result is both menace and humor, creating unusually powerful piece of contemporary there. In this play, they whisper that trusting someone else fully is impossible or perhaps even more frightening, that trusting ourselves is, too. It exactly is meant by betrayed is unusually formed anywhere in various levels society.

The second is Islam (2008). She analyzed the characters in *Tennessee William's The Glass Managerie*. The relationship between the characters, Tom and

Amanda is not good. They always get in to conflict, while Tom and Laura are in good relationship. The moral messages that can be understood are life is very valuable, so that we have to think optimistic and positive.

The last previous study of this research is Tangkeallo (2011). Her research entitled *Analysis of Character in Louisa May Alcott's Little Women*, The analysis of this thesis is focused on the intrinsic elements. Besides, uses structuralism approach the writer also applied descriptive analysis method. This analysis concludes that the Josephines's character has changed to be a better person after she faced many problem and knew how to handle them which existed in her family life.

B. Struktural Approach

In analyzing novel, the writer uses structural approach. According to Abrams, in approaching a literary work. "*structuralist criticism stands free from poet, audience, and its environment. It describes the literary work as a self-sufficient object*" (Abrams. 1981 : 87). Abrams means by the self-sufficient object is a system which consists of inseparable interrelation elements. An element determines the identity of the others and vice versa. Furthermore, in structuralist criticism, a literary product should be analyzed and judged by intrinsic criteria such as complexity, coherence, equilibrium, integrity and the interrelationship of its component elements. From the explanation above, the writer analysis of study that actually the idea of structuralism is the idea of system. The individual works, the literary genres, and the whole of literature are also related systems.

Structuralism approach has been known since the time of Greece by Aristotle with concept of wholeness, unity, complexity, and coherence (Teeuw, 1998: 121-134). However, literary structuralism is growing rapidly especially in the revolutionary atmosphere of the 1920s. This approach was created between 1915 and 1930 by the Russian Formalists. The Formalists began to elaborate their ideas before the Russian Revolution broke out in 1917 (Sturrock, 2003: 99).

In relation to structuralism approach, Aminuddin (1987: 52) said that the literature is a verbal structure which has its own autonomy apart from other elements outside it. The basic assumption is literary text is seen as a complete work and has its inner coherence. As a wholeness, every part of element displays authentic role. In addition, the elements have their complete meaning from the entire of the text. A literary work according to the structuralism is totality constructed coherently by its various elements (builders). On one part, the structure of literary works can be interpreted as composition, affirmation and the description of all the materials and part of the component which are in turn together forming a beautiful roundness (Abrams in Nurgiyantoro, 2000: 71).

On the other hand, the structure of the literary works also springs on understanding of inter-elemental relation (intrinsic) that are mutual mutual determine, influence each other that together form one unified whole. By itself, isolated from the whole, the material, the elements, or the parts are not important, even meaningless. Each section will become meaningful and important after being in connection with the parts others, and how it contributes to the overall discourse (Nurgiyantoro, 2000: 36).

Based on the explanation above of structuralism approach, the writer understands that structuralism approach is intrinsic approach, which is to an approach in the science of literature that works by analyzing the structural elements that build literary works from within, as well as looking for relationships or linkages of the elements with one another in order to achieve unanimity of meaning.

The writer only focuses on intrinsic elements in this analysis. Furthermore, the writer describes the intrinsic elements of novel *Arrowsmith* by Sinclair Lewis such as in the character, plot, setting, and theme.

Novel is one of literary works that describes human beings activities which presented through a group of characters as Gordon explains “*novel is a process narrative, which is based firmly on the events of contemporary life and it tells the story about the life experiences of human being a that author could see, hear, feel, experience and imagine*” (Gordon, 1961:2). This quotation shows that novel is a narrative form of a story that not merely created from the author imagination, but also the scenes of the actual life which person see, hear, feel, and experienced. A novel usually contains some conflicts. These conflicts may come from many sources, such as characters, environment and even from personality of character.

Those intrinsic elements are character, plot, setting and theme. However the study focuses on the characters and setting. The writer believes that through these aspect, the writer can elaborate the characters and setting to perform the meaning or the idea of the novel.

1. Character

Character is people who appeared in narrative prose or novel and it is interpreted by the readers as a person who has moral quality and certain tendency such as being expressed in what they say and what they do (Abrams, 1988: 76).

Character is a creature or a thing that appears and involved in a work. The other definition of character explained by Gill, "*A character is someone in a literary who has some sort of identify (need to be strong one), an identity which is made up by appearance conversation action, name a possibly thoughts going on the need*" (Gill, 1995: 129).

Character is not always a human. Character is usually form of animal, plant, inanimate, object even fictional creature arrive from the human imagination that its own attitude and behavior.

Another comment about character remarked by Perrine (1988:68)

An author may present his character either directly or indirectly. In direct presentation, he tells us straight out, by exposition or analysis, what a character is like, or has someone else in the story tell us what he is like. In indirect presentation, the author shows us the character in action, we infer what he is like from what he thinks or says or does. (Perrine, 1988:68)

Based on the role of characters, it can be divided into two roles, major and minor characters. Major character is a character who plays an important role or character who often appears in the play that give some commentaries from the author or playwright, events in a story may change the reader's point of view or attitudes toward the character. For instance, the readers feel hate, feel happy, or feel

sympathetic to the character. While a minor character is a character who has function as a supporting character, or to support the major character.

The character may be protagonist or antagonist, major and minor characters, round or flat, static or dynamic. Gill (1995:129) says that A character is someone in a literary work who has some sort of identify (is needn't be strong one), an identity which is made up by appearance conversation action, name and possibly thoughts going on the need.

Another about kinds of character by Sumardjo and Saini (1991:14) as states below :

“In class of important figures (Major), there are those that are important and those that are not important are listed as supporting figures (Minor). There are those who are put as protagonists, namely characters who take the initiative first and therefore serve as plot movers The protagonist opponent is the antagonist acting like the protagonist as a barrier in the issue”. (Sumardjo and Saini, 1991 : 14)

From the explanation above, people also know that some characters have function as protagonist. Those whose, function as the main activator of a story are also regarded as good, nice, kind, hero, etc. while antagonist is an opposite of protagonist. Usually, it is unkind, cruel, bad, and always block the protagonist's action or becomes trouble maker for the protagonist.

Besides, some characters in the story do not change. It means that they remain as the some kind of characters are called flat or passive characters which are acted upon by the events of the story. They are usually static or on changing or we can say that they have no real depth or complexity. Conversely, the other ones are round or active, which have large parts and usually undergo certain changes as a

results of the action. They are considered dynamic instead of being static, since they have fully developed complex personalities that may defy an average analysis or description.

Another kinds of character are named complex characters and simple experience, a complex spritual obsession in his or her appereance. On the contrary, if a character doesn't have many problems, it is called a simple character. A complex character is usually indicated as a minor character.

Both characters have influences to the story. The main character is important because it is displayed continuously so that the main character dominating most of the story. Because the main character is most widely displayed in touch with other character, it greatly determines the overall development of the plot, and so do the supporting characters.

2. Setting

Nurgiyantoro (2000:230) states that the setting elements are divided into three main elements, namely setting of places, setting of time, and setting of social. Some aspects of the settings are as follows :

Setting of place directly explains the location where the event occurred in a story and must be equipped with a clear characteristic. As Wellek and Warren (1956:131) said that the way readers interpret the scene of an event depends on the information provided by the author every place or location must have clear characteristics in order to provide a concrete perception to the reader Based on the explanation, the setting of place can explain in a room, building, city, or village.

Setting of time is the setting related to when the events in the story occur either in the form of calendars, mention of historical events, depiction of the situation at night, morning afternoon, or evening. Examples of time settings are: in the morning, in the afternoon, in the evening, in ancient times, at that time and so on.

Setting of social is a background that explains the social status of the character, or social behavior that occurs in the surrounding environment. For example: the character is described as a simple family child and lives in a village whose residents are known to be gossipers and show off their wealth.

Setting is one of the intrinsic elements that described the time, place and atmosphere of the story. The setting of a narrative or dramatic work is the general locale, historical time, and social circumstances in which its action occurs; the setting of an episode or scene within a work is the particular physical location in which it takes place (Abrams, 1988:172). Setting also explained the history, weather, and status. Setting can also be in the form of particular time (days, month and years), weather, or one historical period (Stanton, 2007:35). It is probably real, fiction, or both real and fiction. Sumardjo states that there are four aspects that build the setting, as follows :

- a. Geographic location, topography and decoration of the phisycal place.
- b. The means of subsistence/job or daily activities that are showed by the character.
- c. The time and the place when the story happened, such as history, the culture climate condition/the season at that time, etc.
- d. The environment or general situation from the character, for instance religion, mental emotion and social. (Sumardjo, 1984:15)

The explanation above, indicated that setting of a story described time, location where the story takes, mood and main background of the story. Setting also explained the history, weather, status, and social circumstances in which its action occurs.