CONFLICT ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN CHARACTERS IN *SHORT STORIES* BY EDGAR ALLAN POE

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Abstract: This qualitative research aims to (1) describe the types of conflicts of the main characters in short stories by Edgar Allan Poe, (2) describe the effects of conflicts of the main characters in short stories by Edgar Allan Poe. The researcher used theory by Nurgiyantoro (2002). There are two types of conflicts, internal conflict and external conflict. He divides the external conflict into social conflict and physical conflict. The data source were short stories by Edgar Allan Poe they were: (1) The Tell-Tale Heart (2017), (2) The Black Cat (2017), and (3) The Hop Frog (1849). The data in this study were in the form of main character's dialogues or utterances, and behavior in the three short stories. Techniques of data analysis done were data reduction, data display, and data conclusion drawing and verification by Miles and Huberman's theory (1984). The researcher found sixteen data from three short stories by Edgar Allan Poe, there were four data from The Tell-Tale Heart, ten data from The Black Cat, and two data from The Hop Frog, and the details are : Six data of internal conflicts, five data of social conflicts, and five data of physical conflicts. Then, the details of the results on the affects experienced by the main characters are : One datum of positive affect (enjoyment or joy, interest or excitement, and surprise or startle), and fifteen data of negative affect (anger or range, disgust, dissmell, distress or anguish, fear or terror, and shame or humiliation). The researcher expects the next researchers to study concept of conflict analysis or main character in different subjects.

Keywords: short stories, conflict analysis of the main characters.

INTRODUCTION

Short stories by Edgar Allan Poe is one of the famous literary works in American in 1843. Edgar Allan Poe was born in Boston in 1809. He was a master of the horror tale and the patron saint of the detective story, idealism creating of his literary works with psychological study.

Short story belongs to prose fiction, shorter in form than a novel. It is single directed either in theme, plot, and characters to show unity (Nurgiyantoro, 2002:9). Kenney (1966: 12) states that a story is minimum events that occur in temporal sequence that is one after another. The analysis in this study focused not only on that minimum of events but also to its conflicts. It is conected to the conflict contained in the stories. Kenney futher says (1966:19): "the conflicts with which fiction concern itself are of many kinds. A story may deal with a conflict within a single man, a conflict, between man and society, between man and nature. Edgar Allan Poe usually dealt with paranoid rooted in personal psychology, physical or mental enfeeblement, obsession, the damnation of death, feverish fantasies, the cosmos as source of horror and inspiration without bothering himself with such supernatural beings as ghost, werewolves. There was a research was by Krisnawati (2006) from English Departement Faculty of Letters, and Culture Udayana University. The research was entitled " An Analysis Conflict of The Main Character in Film Curious Case of Benjamin Button. Purpose of the study to identify who is the main character in the film "The curious case of Benjamin Button. To identify and describe kind of the conflict was faced by the conflict, and to analyze how the main character resolve the conflict. The method used in collecting data was documentation method. Technique of analyzing the data , descriptive quantitative method would be applied.

Some researches were used as previous studies before conducting this research. First was Sugiadyanas' (2011) from English Extension Program Faculty of Letters Udayana University. The research was entitled

"The Analysis of The Main Character and Conflicts in Treasure Island Novel". The purpose of the study to know the type of main character based on complexity and function, and to find out the conflicts of the main character and how he solve them. The writer just focused on intrinsic and extrinsic element especially the type of the main character based on complexity and function, and the conflicts of the main character and how he solve them.

Napitupulu (2009) from University of North Sumatera Faculty of Letters English Literature Departement Medan conducted a research entitled "An Analysis of The Main Characters Conflicts in Nathaniel Hawthorne's Novel "The Scarlet Letter". This research purposed to explain the main characters inner conflict portrayed in Nathaniel Hawthorne's Novel "The Scarlet Letter". The research explained the main character's outer conflict portrayed in Nathaniel Hawthorne's Novel "The Scarlet Letter". The method of research that was used was statistical technique and would also be considered quantitative descriptive research. The research was conducted by two ways : the first way is library research which is done by reading some references related to it, and the second way is field research which is done by analyzing the novel.

Based on that, the researcher conducted this research based on some research problems and objectives. The research problem were what are the types of conflicts of the main characters in short stories by Edgar Allan Poe? what are the effects of conflicts of the main characters in short stories by Edgar Allan Poe ? moreover, the objectives of this research were to explain the types of conflicts of the main characters in short stories by Edgar Allan Poe and explain the effects of conflicts of the main characters in short stories by Edgar Allan Poe.

The analysis focused on the three short stories by Edgar Allan Poe entitled "The Tell-Tale Heart, The Black Cat, and The Hop Frog, and focused conflicts of the main characters.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Conflict

Conflict is a problem occurs in the character. According Wellek and Warren, in Nurgiyantoro, (2002: 122), The conflict is something dramatic, referring to a fight between the two forces are balanced and implies the existence and action of an action in return.

Internal conflict is the conflict that occurs in the heart or the soul of a chaacter or the other characters in the story. Internal conflict will happen when a person has his or her own dillemma and he or she does not know what to do. External conflict is the conflict which occurs between a character to something

outside him or herself, or maybe with surroundings, like nature or human environment. Physical conflict is a conflict that causes the clash between the characters of the natural environment. Conflicts occur when a character, or other characters, find themselves at odds with forces of nature. Social conflict are conflicts caused by social contact between people, or problems which arising from human relationships.

Affect

Affect is the experienced feeling or emotion, either positive or negative.

According to Tomkins (1911-1991), there are nine affects, for each affect accompanied by its biological expression.

1. **Enjoyment or joy:** It is a much more intense form than enjoyment. Brain activity decrease rapidly when someone fells enjoyment-joy (smiles, widening the lips).
2. **Interest or excitement:** It often accompanies, looking or listening to something interesting (eyebrows down, eyes tracking, eyes looking, closer listening).
3. **Surprise or startle:** Surprise is a brief mental and physiological state, a startle response experienced by animals and humans as the result of an unexpected event. Surprise can

have any valence; that is, it can be neutral or moderate, pleasant, unpleasant, positive, or negative (eyebrows up, eyes blinking).

4. **Anger or range:** It is an intense emotional response (frowning, a clenched jaw, a red face).

5. **Disgust:** It is an emotional response of revulsion to something considered distasteful, or unpleasant (the lower lip raised and protruded, head forward and down).

6. **Dissmell:** It is triggered by foul odors (upper lip raised, head pulled back).

7. **Distress-Anguish:** It is an emotion (extreme worry, shed a tear, sadness, mental suffering and related to misery, dread, felt regret, despair, weak and depression).

8. **Fear:** It is a feeling induced by perceived danger or threat that occurs in certain types of organisms, which causes a change in metabolic and organ functions and ultimately a change in behavior (a frozen stare, a pale face, coldness, sweat, erect hair, limp).

9. **Shame or humiliation:** It is a painful, social emotion. Shame or humiliation is the abasement of pride, which creates mortification or leads to a state of being humbled or reduced to lowliness or submission (eyes lowered, the head down and averted, blushing).

Character

According to Nurgiyantoro (2002: 165), characters are displayed in the story, or players in the story fiction, in the form of humans, animals, trees, or other beings. According to Nurgiyantoro (2002:176), the main character is a character which is concerned as a priority in the story. The main character is the preferred character in a story. Protagonist character is a character who is admired by the readers. Antagonist character also is called a character which is into the cause of the conflict. A dynamic character is one who goes through some sort of change; they show characteristic defelopment. Static character is a character who

essentially does not change from beginning to end.

Flat character is the character who shows only one aspect of characteristic, flat character does not have the properties and behavior that can give a surprise effect for the readers. Round character is anyone who has a complex personality. Round characters more resemble real human life, as well as having a variety of possible attitudes and action it is also often give a surprise. Minor character is often called as peripheral character. Minor character can be called as supporting character because it is less important than the main character.

METHODOLOGY

The data in this research were in the form of main character's dialogues or utterances, and behavior in the short story The Tell-Tale Heart, The Black Cat, and The Hop Frog by Edgar Allan Poe. This research used the qualitative method analysis. It describes the conflicts analysis of the main characters by Edgar Allan Poe short stories. The research instrument in this research was the researcher herself by reading, and understanding each word by word, and sentence by sentence in short stories by Edgar Allan Poe. The data were collected in two steps, they were by reading the three short stories by Edgar Allan Poe entitled The Tell-Tale Heart,The Black Cat,and The Hop Frog and making some notes about the data by finding out the conflict of the main characters in short stories by Edgar Allan Poe.

Miles and Huberman (1984:174) reveal three steps to analyze the data such as data reduction, data display, and data conclusion drawing and verification. Data reduction is the process of selecting, focusing, simplifying, abstracting, and transforming the data that appear in the real transcriptions. Data display is an organized assembly of information that permits conclusion drawing. Data conclusion drawing/verificationis the beginning of data collection, the qualitative analized was beginning to decide the data.

After the data are collected, there are some stages to analyze the

data. According to Miles and Huberman, (1984) there are three steps to analyze the data such as data reduction, data display, and data conclusion drawing and verification.Data reduction is the process of selecting, focusing, simplifying, abstracting, and transforming the data that appear in the real transcriptions.Data display is data display is an organized assembly of information that permits conclusion drawing.Data conclusion drawing/verificationis the beginning of data collection, the qualitative analysis is the beginning to describe the data.

1. Data Reduction

In this steps the researcher chose the relevant words and sentences of the mean in short stories by Edgar Allan Poe. The researcher focused on the behavior of the main charaters, and utterances on the dialogues of the main characters.

2. Data Display

The researcher classified the types of conflicts, and effects of conflicts.

3. Data Conclusion Drawing and Verification

After displaying the data, the researcher drew conclusions based on the results of the analysis of each of the data. The researcher answered the questions of the research problem about types of conflicts, and effects of conflicts.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Findings

In this research the researcher found sixteen data from the three short stories. The details are : Six internal conflicts, five social conflicts, and five physical conflicts.

Then, the details of the results on the affects experienced by the main characters are : One datum of positive affect and fifteen data of negative affect.

Example of Data Findings

Datum 1

Character 'I' lived together in one house with an old man. However character 'I' had fear of the old man's eye, because he had the eye of a vulture. Character 'I' experienced

internal conflict, he versus the own mind.

It is impossible to say how first the idea entered my brain; but once conceived, it haunted me day and night. Object there was none. Passion there was none. I loved the old man. He had never wronged me. He had never given me insult. For his gold I had no desire. I think it was his eye! yes, it was this! He had the eye of a vulture --a pale blue eye, with a film over it.Whenever it fell upon me, my blood ran cold; and so by degrees --very gradually --I made up my mind to take the life of the old man, and thus rid myself of the eye forever.

Analysis

From the conversation, character 'I' he really loved the old man, because the old man was always good to him and he had never wronged character 'I'. The old man had never given insult to character 'I'. However because of his eye, he had eye like the eye of a vulture a pale blue eye, with a film over it, character 'I' experienced dilemma between loving or taking the life of the old man.

The effect is character 'I' felt anxious, and afraid, so that by very gradually he decided to take the life of the old man. So that, character 'I'

could be free from the old man's eye gaze forever.

Datum 2

Character 'I' killed the old man at night. He dragged the old man to the floor, and pulled the heavy bed to the old man, and finally the old man died. In the following quotation, character 'I' and the old man experienced social conflict.

With a loud yell, I threw open the lantern and leaped into the room. He shrieked once --once only. In an instant I dragged him to the floor, and pulled the heavy bed over him. I then smiled gaily, to find the deed so far done. But, for many minutes, the heart beat on with a muffled sound. This, however, did not vex me; it would not be heard through the wall. At length it ceased. The old man was dead.

Analysis

From the conversation above, social conflict occurred between character 'I' and the old man. Character 'I' with a loud yell, threw open the lantern and leaped into the badroom. The old man shrieked once, once only. In an instant character 'I' dragged him to the floor, and pulled

the heavy bed over him, the old man was dead.

The affect is character 'I' smiled gaily, because he felt his job was done, and character 'I' felt that, he has been free forever from the old man's eye who had always terrorized him.

Datum 3

One night after doing a crime. Character 'I', his house was on fire. The conflict that occurs in this quote is the conflict between character 'I' with natural environment, character 'I' versus fire.

On the night of the day on which this cruel deed was done, I was aroused from sleep by the cry of fire. The curtains of my bed were in flames. The whole house was blazing. It was with great difficulty that my wife, a servant, and myself, made our escape from the conflagration. The destruction was complete. My entire worldly wealth was swallowed up, and I resigned myself thenceforward to despair, I am above the weakness.

Analysis

After character 'I' did a crime, character 'I' his house was burned by fire. The damage caused by fire was very bad, all his wealth was burned down. The effect was character 'I'

was in despair, and he became very week over the incident.

Discussion

According to Reed (2004) that the existence of women are evaluated from their body. Furthermore, it seems that men put a negative label to women through their words as a part of gender discrimination which is called stereotyping. Gender stereotyping is predicated with negative meanings that usually are given to women that create injustice (Widyatun, 2016). In the last episode the male character gesture expressed that eventhough only by looking at a woman, a man could decide all that he wanted to do. It will create an understanding to people that men always become superior and women as subordinate of men in the society (Widyatun, 2016). From the analyze of all the data the researcher found some kinds of discrimination. Men gave a negative label to woman through and also men appreciated women from bodies and sex rather than their qualities and abilities.

The researcher found 2 kinds of gender discrimination are

stereotyping and subordination. Men think that women can be the object of their sexual satisfaction. Men are very confident to express and decide what will be happen to women. Men are so free to say the thing, although it is considered taboo in the society. According to Tannen in Loemongga (2015), men are more confident to deliver their ideas, opinions and expression to women. The same with the opinion of Widyatun (2016) that gender subordination refers to a believe that one gender is higher and important than others. In this case men always become superior and women as subordinate of men in the society.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Conclusion

The researcher found sixteen data from three short stories by Edgar Allan Poe, there were four data from The Tell-Tale Heart, ten data from The Black Cat, and two data from The Hop Frog, and the details are : Six data of internal conflicts, five data of social conflicts, and five data of physical conflicts. Then, the details of the results on the affects experienced by the main characters are : One datum of positive affect (enjoyment or joy, interest or excitement, and surprise or startle), and fifteen data of negative affect (anger or range, disgust, dissmell, distress or anguish, fear or terror, and shame or humiliation).

The researcher found some similarities from three short stories, such as the selfish characteristic of narrator. From The Tell-Tale Heart's narrator, it cause him kill the old man. The selfish characteristic of The Black Cat also cause him kill his wife and his black cat. That characteristic is also the way to avoid him become a murder. In the The Hop Frog short story, the narrator also has selfish characteristic that make him kill the king and the seven ministers.

Edgar Allan Poe wrote these short stories because he wants to invites the readers to peels layer by layer of humanity characteristic.

Suggestion

In this thesis there are still many shortcomings related to the life of the main character in the short stories The Tell-Tale Heart, The Black Cat and The Hop Frog. Thus the researcher hope that the readers give criticisms and suggestions to improve this research, so that it becomes better.

Finally, the researcher hope that this research can increase our knowledge about the conflicts experienced by the main characters and we can get the good side of the main character, kill the people are not the only way that can solve the problem on our life. Therefore, do not kill if you have a problem because it will not solve the problem.

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