

**ANALYSIS OF CHARACTER EDUCATION OF MAIN CHARACTERS IN THE
NOVEL DEAR NATHAN BY ERISCA FEBRIANI**

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Abstract:

This research is based on the fact that character education is important. Novels as a literary medium are good for teaching character education because they consist of a fairly long storyline and describe the development of characters in sufficient detail. This study aims to describe the character education of the main character in the novel Dear Nathan by Erica Febriani. This study uses a descriptive method and a descriptive approach. The data source in this research is the novel Dear Nathan. The data collection procedure was reading and note-taking techniques. The researchers used reading techniques by reading the novel Dear Nathan by Erisca Febriani repeatedly to identify which sentences were included in the value of character education. The results of this study can be concluded that the character education of the main character in the Dear Nathan novel by Erisca Febriani is honest, patient, responsible, willing to take risks, never give up, willing to sacrifice, critical, curious, friendly, cheerful, persistent, likes to help, independent, hardworking and friendly.

Keywords: Character Education, Main Character, Novel.

INTRODUCTION

Education is the most important thing in the progress of a nation, even the most important role in the progress of human life. In this day and age, there are many social phenomena that are not good for teenagers in Indonesia. For example, cases of drug abuse, the internet, games, student brawls, immoral behavior, and others. Based on this, an understanding of morals through the development of good character in each individual needs to be given from an early age. Megawangi (Kesuma, 2012: 5) says that character education is an effort to educate children so that they can make wise decisions and practice them in everyday life so that they can make a positive contribution to their environment.

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A novel is a literary work in which it contains stories about life, both in terms of storylines and the characters displayed, because they are usually stories based on events that occur in life. Novels become a good literary medium for teaching character education because they consist of a fairly long storyline and describe the development of characters in sufficient detail.

Based on the description above, the researcher is interested in revealing the character's education of the main character in the *Dear Nathan* novel by Erisca Febriani. This novel was first published by Erisca Febriani in 2016. This novel tells the story of the characters Nathan and Salma, which begins with Salma's delay in attending the first ceremony at her new school. Salma Alvira met a guy who helped her sneak through the side gate. Investigating after investigation, the guy turned out to be Nathan, a naughty student who is often the subject of gossip among schoolchildren. Several sagas ensued, which actually led Salma to become closer to Nathan. Two opposite personalities, like heaven and earth, which cannot be united but complement each other.

The purpose of this study is to describe character education in the novel *Dear Nathan*. It is hoped that the reader will benefit from it, use it as an example, and apply it.

RESEARCH METHOD

The research "Analysis of the Character Education of the Main Character of the Novel *Dear Nathan* by Erisca Febriani" belongs to the form of descriptive research. As Moeloeng said, the descriptive method is a way of managing data by systematically compiling, so as to obtain conclusions from the data collected. Then the data is analyzed one by one by outlining the quotations. The approach used is a descriptive approach because the results of data analysis obtained from researchers are in the form of quotes from sentences in the novel.

The subject of this research is the novel *Dear Nathan* by Erica Febriani. The primary data source of this research is the primary data source, namely a document in the form of the novel *Dear Nathan* by Erisca Febriani. The data collection procedure used reading and note-taking techniques. The researcher used reading techniques by reading the novel *Dear Nathan* by Erisca Febriani repeatedly to identify which sentences were included in the value of character education. The note-taking technique is an activity to collect data by recording important parts of the novel. Therefore, in this case, the researcher records sentence or story quotes that contain elements of character education.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Based on the results of the analysis, there are fifteen educational values found in the *Dear Nathan* novel by Erisca Febriani, which are described as follows:

Honesty

Honestly is one of the good characters, and that every person must have it without hiding anything.

(1) *"If the textbooks don't interest Sal, but I want to read your story, if we are interested in something, surely Sal will do everything."* (DN 149)

(2) *"Even though I look like a delinquent." But I really, really appreciate women. "Women are like glass; if they crack, they will crack for life."* (DN 95)

(3) *"My behavior is really bad, so I'm willing to dry it here. It's not too hot either. won't run away."* (DN 104)

Data (1) tells Nathan's honesty to Salma that he has read Salma's story to the end on the blog. Data (2) tells of Nathan's honesty to Salma. Nathan said his lack of Salma meant he

was telling the truth about himself. Data (3) shows Nathan's honesty about his delinquency. Nathan admitted his guilt was grave and deserved to be punished. From the depiction of Nathan's honest character in the novel, it is hoped that it can provide benefits for readers to prioritize honest characters in everyday life.

Patience

Patience is one of the good characters who remains steadfast in the face of problems. Characters who remain steadfast or endure even though it is hard to live.

(1) "Mommy wants to go out; let's go for a walk!" Nathan pursed his lips tightly. I am struggling not to cry. The boy looked away, "Daniel, why are you silent? Mom wants to go for a walk! "Come on, let's go to the night market; mama wants to eat candy!" The woman looked at Nathan expectantly. (DN 66)

(2) "I've been patiently waiting for you to open your heart, which even up to this moment, it's not at all clear that you're starting to be sympathetic to my feelings." (DN 389)

Data (1) tells us about Nathan's patience with his mother. Nathan remained patient by always being by his mother's side, even though he was considered Daniel by his own mother. Data (2) tells of Nathan's patience waiting for Salma to open his heart to him. So far, Nathan has always waited for Salma, even though Salma may not be able to open her heart to Nathan. It is hoped that the depiction of Nathan's character in the novel will increase the reader's level of patience in dealing with problems.

Responsibility

Taking responsibility is one of the good qualities that is done as compensation for his behavior.

(1) "Yes, why really?" He said he was afraid of what was wrong with you, because you fainted because of him too, and I think that's a sign that he's gentle and willing to take responsibility. " (DN 47)

(2) Nathan handed Afifah a plastic bag. "I'll change your clothes earlier." (DN 93).

(3) Nathan said: "Yes Auntie, Auntie, don't worry." I will take care of how your aunt's daughter comes home safely. " (DN 148)

Data (1) reveals Nathan's attitude of responsibility through Rahma's words. Nathan asked Rahma for Salma's cellphone number to ask how she was because she had made Salma faint seeing the fight between Nathan and the 11th graders. Data (2) told Afifah about Nathan's responsible actions. Nathan brought Kiranti for Afifah as an apology and a substitute for the Kiranti she was drinking. Data (3) tells us about Nathan's responsibility to Mama Salma to take care of Salma. Nathan said that he would take care of Salma and get her home safely, which meant Nathan was responsible. It is hoped that through the example of Nathan's character in the novel, readers will apply the character to be responsible when something that harms other people happens because of it.

Dare to Take Risks

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Dare to take risks is one of the good characters who keep doing even though they know there will be trouble.

(1) Finally, Nathan emerges as a hero. He got up from his crouch and brought the almost stifled junior to the UKS, ignoring the senior's shouts telling him to stay in his position. (DN 17)

(2) Today, Nathan was forced to face the boy alone, without Geri, Budi, Adit, and the rest of the group, because Dimas is pure and has direct problems with Nathan. (DN 177)

Data (1) tells us about Nathan's courage to take risks by ignoring his seniors. Nathan knew that what he did would anger the student council president, but Nathan did it anyway. Data (2) tells us about Nathan's courage to take risks, going alone against Dimas. Nathan knew that he might be beaten by Dimas and his friends, but Nathan still chose to face it alone. It is hoped that by the depiction of Nathan's character above, readers will be more willing to take risks if they think it is true.

Never Give up

Never give up one of the good characters and do not give up even though they have not experienced failure.

(1) "If I were the first guy to set foot in your heart, what would it be like?" Do you mind? " Salma looked at him with wide eyelids. "Since you didn't answer, I assume it was." A faint smile appeared on Nathan's lips. "I'll try, Sal. I'll try. " (DN 226)

(2) Salma might say that she didn't want to be brought home with Nathan again. But Nathan was able to do things beyond logic. The boy waited for him from the morning until around one o'clock in the afternoon. (DN 318)

Data (1) tells us about Nathan's unyielding attitude in pursuing Salma's love. Nathan said he would still try his best to continue pursuing Salma's love. Data (2) tells us about Nathan's unyielding attitude towards Salma. Even though Salma refused, he kept waiting for Salma from the morning until noon. The example of Nathan's character in the novel is expected to encourage readers to never give up trying to get something even though they have failed.

Willing to Sacrifice

Willing to sacrifice one of the good characters by continuing doing something even though it is self-defeating.

(1) "Home?" Salma reacted slowly, surprised at the brief question. Not a question, more like an invitation. "I've been waiting here for an hour." (DN 115)

Data (1) tells us about Nathan's willingness to Salma. An hour was not a short time, but Nathan was willing to do it for Salma. The example of Nathan's character in the novel is expected by the reader to always be willing for the truth.

Critics

Critical is a mindset that always tries to find fault, and sharp in analysis.

(1) *"I'm here to go to school, pay for it, not be made a lackey who has to obey your orders." We should all be educated here. This is the student orientation period, which means introduction, not violence. "* (DN 18)

(2) *"Seriously Sal, no bullshit. We are now living in an era where young people are "having fun" exposing and deifying human beauty. Even because of this trend, not a few girls are changing their appearance to satisfy other people they don't even know. I said, "Thank you, thank you for being yourself."*

Data (1) Nathan's critical thinking. Nathan gave an opinion so that seniors would remember what the real purpose of the orientation period was. Data (2) tells us about Nathan's critical thinking. Nathan tried to compare Salma with other women, and he thought Salma was the real woman. That's why he liked her. It is hoped that the depiction of Nathan's character in the novel will enable readers to think more critically, not to be fixated on existing thoughts in order to be able to decide things correctly.

Curiosity

Curiosity is one of the characters that everyone must have.

(1) *"New student?" Salma nodded faintly, "yes."*

"It's true." I've never seen his face here. (DN 6)

(2) *"I want to talk about Salma." "What is wrong with him?" Nathan's eyebrows rose faintly when he heard Rahma mention Salma's name. (DN 221)*

(3) *Nathan exclaimed. "You dropped out of school? Why? (DN 423)*

Data (1) reveals Nathan's curiosity about Salma. Making Nathan finally ask for Salma (2) Nathan's curiosity about Salma. His expression, with two eyebrows raised, faintly indicated that he really wanted to know. Data (3) Nathan wants to know about Deni, his junior high school friend. Why now has Deni dropped out of school? It is hoped that the example of Nathan's character in the novel will make the reader have thoughts, wanting to know more so that they have broad insight.

Friendliness

Friendship is one of the characters who get along easily with other people. Besides being able to convey, they are also able to listen and respond.

(1) *"Your boyfriend?" The beautiful girl in the red dress replied. "By the way, I'm Seli, Nathan's childhood best friend from a baby food company." Pleased to meet you. "* (DN 165)

(2) *The meeting between the two friends ended at the door. Nathan immediately got on his motorcycle and took the vehicle to his own house. (DN 454)*

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Data (1) tells the story of Nathan's friendship with Seli that has existed since childhood. Data (2) tells us about Nathan's friendship. The quote clearly says that both Nathan and his friend Deni have been friends since middle school. The depiction of Nathan's character in the novel is expected by the reader to have many friends, so that we do not feel alone and we can share stories with friends.

Cheerfulness

A cheerful nature is one that likes to joke with friends and relatives, likes to play with ideas, and can turn monotonous tasks into something interesting. A cheerful nature tends to be attracted to the strange and unusual, and is easily entertained by what is seen in everyday life.

(1) Afifah glared in annoyance, especially at Nathan, who was now laughing out loud while sitting in his chair. (DN 67)

Data (1) shows how happy Nathan is after seeing his friends' success in teasing Afifah. Nathan burst out laughing. Nathan is a humorous child. He often jokes with his friends. As an example of Nathan's character in the novel, readers are expected to always be cheerful even though there are problems.

Persistence

Persistence is one of the characters who remain firm in their convictions or thoughts.

(1) *"This is also Mama's house." "Papa built this house with Mama. I will not let this house be sold just like that." (DN 416)*

Data (1) tells of Nathan's persistence in upholding his principles. The quote shows that even though Papa Nathan insisted, Nathan still refused because, in principle, the house should not be sold. It is hoped that the depiction of Nathan's character in the novel will be more persistent in his stance on what he considers to be true.

Helpfulness

One of the characters who help each other because, basically, humans are social creatures.

(1) *Nathan took out his motorcycle key from the pocket of his school uniform. "What if I'm the one?" (DN 60)*

(2) *Just use my cellphone. " Nathan reached into his school uniform pocket, pulling out his cell phone. The cell phone was handed over to Rahma. (DN 268)*

(3) *"I want to help Deni, Pa. I just sold my car. I also rarely use it. The cost can be used to pay for Deni's school. " (DN 459)*

Data (1) Nathan offers to help Salma. Nathan suggested that he take him home because there was no public transportation that passed by. Data (2) shows that Nathan lent his cellphone to Rahma to contact Ibu Rahma. Data (3) tells us that Nathan helped his junior high school friend by selling his car to pay for his friend's school. Through the depiction of Nathan's character, it is hoped that readers can help each other in everyday life.

Independence

Independence is an attitude of not depending on others.

(1) "Den, you work here. Do you think there is a vacancy for me? It's okay to make extra money for me every day. When it comes to motorcycles and engines, I'm quite an expert, " (DN 424)

Data (1) tells us about Nathan's independence to meet his own needs.

Hard Work

Hard work is the nature of being serious about achieving certain goals.

(1) Nathan rubbed his forehead with his undershirt. His face now looks shabby, full of smears of oil. "Ma'am, there's nothing wrong with the battery," Nathan said, annoyed at a girl who had been sticking around to have her car checked. "I've checked three times. Try again, Ms. starter." (DN 437)

Data (1) tells of Nathan as a hard worker by being a mechanic in a workshop. With the depiction of Nathan's character, it is hoped that readers can realize their goals with hard work.

Nice

One of the characters is friendly and interesting or sociable.

*(1) "Oh, don't go in first, kid? "Drink inside first. "No need, Tan, I want to have something to do." Nathan immediately nodded his head and slightly bowed his head politely. "I go first, auntie." (DN 63)
(2) "Uncle," he asked, shaking hands with Deni's father, who was shaking and thin. "Do you remember Om?" "Oh, yeah, Nathan was Deni's friend in middle school." (DN 426)*

Data (1) tells us about Nathan's hospitality towards Mama Salma. Nathan was polite to Mama Salma by nodding his head and slightly bowing. (2) Nathan's friendliness when he met Deni's father. When Nathan met Deni's father, he immediately greeted and shook Deni's father. It is hoped that through the depiction of Nathan's character in the novel, readers will prioritize friendly characters for others, especially with older people, so that they are more appreciated by others.

CONCLUSION

Based on the research that has been done on the novel Dear Nathan, This novel is about the good times of white and gray; friendship; life lessons; and the importance of always respecting feelings. Through this novel, there are 15 different characters' educations depicted through the main character, Nathan. The character education values described by Nathan are

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honest, patient, responsible, willing to take risks, never give up, willing to sacrifice, critical, curious, friendly, cheerful, persistent, helpful, independent, hard-working and friendly.

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