

**ENVIROMENTAL INSIGHT IN UCIL THE MOUSE DEER FAIRY
TALE COLLECTION WRITTEN BY TRIA AYU K
(AN ECOCRITIC STUDY)**

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ABSTRACT

The connection of nature with literary works raises concepts about ecological problems in literature among literary critics. Many environmental problems that occur at this time. Through poetry, fairy tales and other literary works, the writers mention this in their works. Ecocritic has a basic paradigm that every object can be seen in ecological networks, and ecology can be a helpful science in this critical approach. Environmental insight can be obtained through a literary work. Some writers in Indonesia make nature and the environment a prominent part of their works. In addition to literary works such as poetry and novels, fairy tales have first explored nature. In fairy tales, nature is described as the place of life of the characters. That way, fairy tales indirectly invite the audience to come into contact with environmental insights that need to be studied and applied in everyday life.

Keywords: *environmental insight ; ecocritic; fairy tale; literary studies*

INTRODUCTION

Teaching literature has a big role in improving students' understanding. Basically literary teaching has relevance to real world problems, so literary teaching should have an important position in the teaching-learning process. If the process of literary learning is carried out appropriately. then literature can make a big contribution to solving all

the problems that exist in society, including environmental problems that are happening lately.

As a civilized and dignified nation, such a situation is clear, the number of people who pay less attention to the environment turns out to be unfavorable for the nation's future, especially to create a future generation that is intelligent, wise, skilled, scholar,

noble, high in civilization, always obedient and fearful of God Almighty, and caring for the environment. This phenomenon can be a representation of the weakening character of this nation.

The connection of nature with literary works gave rise to a concept of ecological problems in literature among literary critics. The term ecocriticism is used as a term regarding the concept of literary criticism related to nature and the environment. As quoted by Sukmawan (Sukmawan, 2015: 7), ecocritics has received full attention in the last two decades. According to Harsono (2008: 31), etymologically, the term ecocritical comes from the English "ecocriticism" which is a form of ecology and the word critic. Ecology can be interpreted as a scientific study of the patterns of relations, plants, animals, and humans towards one another and to their environment. Criticism can be interpreted as a form and expression of judgment about the good or bad qualities of something.

According to Croall and Rankin (via Harsono, 2008: 35), ecology includes a range of natural sciences, social sciences, philosophy, and comprehensive knowledge. His holistic approach made this knowledge broad. The main point discussed and central is the interdependence of all living things. As the scope of the environment can be narrow, limited, but can also be broadly unlimited, then ecology can limit itself to a narrow summary, but can also cover a very wide area (Sukmawan, 2015: 75).

If people are now busy raising environmental issues, sea and air

pollution, deforestation, and the extinction of certain species due to the destruction of ecosystems, writers in any part of the world, it has always warned of the importance of friendship with nature or back to nature (Nur Seha via Adi Setijowati, 2010: 45). The topic of nature has indeed been alluded to in many literary works long ago. Through poetry, fiction and other literary works, ecocritics has been shown through literary texts. Ecocritics has a basic paradigm that every object can be seen in ecological networks and ecology can be used as aids in the critical approach (Harsono, 2008: 33).

In addition to literary works produced by writers in Indonesia, fairy tales have first explored nature. In fairy tales, nature is described as the place of life of the characters, how the problems and ecological phenomena implicitly are contained in fairy tales.

Fairy tales are diverse folktales (folklore). Fairy tales are stories that don't really happen. In fairy tales, various kinds of messages are taught relating to the actions of a person / character. This is the law of cause and effect. In fairy tales, it is expected to be able to explain the reality of social life. Thus in fairy tales there are good educational values to emulate and apply in real life.

Ucil's The Mouse Deer Fairy Tale collection written by Ayu Tria K, in 2017, exposes the insight of the environment through the attitudes of its characters. In addition, the author also invites its readers to care about the environment implicitly or explicitly.

Based on these problems, the research data source is the text of a collection of mouse deer tales. That way, the study will focus on ecological problems in a collection of mouse deer tales that are examined using an ecocriticism perspective. The focus is based on several reasons. First, the ecological problem in the collection of mouse deer tales is a perspective on the problems of the characters in the collection of mouse deer tales that have a special relationship with nature and the surrounding environment. Second, environment and literature, in fairy tales are complementary. Literary works are created as a mirror for the reality of social, climate and biological factors. Third, the fairy tale function is closely related to the meaning of education, showing conformity with the real world and forming children's character to be more concerned about the environment.

These three things are of course related to the content (1) respect for nature, (2) attitude of responsibility towards nature, (3) attitude of solidarity with nature, (4) attitude of affection and concern for nature, and (5) attitude disrupting natural life in literature.

METHOD

The data source of this research is The Collection of The Fairy Tales of The Mouse Deer written by Tria Ayu K (2017). From the work data is obtained through descriptive qualitative method, data analysis is done by means of data analysis techniques, namely, (1) comparison of data, namely activities carried out by comparing verbal in a

collection of mouse deer tales, either in the form of words, phrases or one sentence ; (2) categorization, namely activities carried out by grouping data in accordance with certain characteristics possessed; (3) presentation of data, namely techniques in presenting data in table form; (4) data inference which means, concludes, and compares data found in a collection of mouse deer tales with supporting ecocritical data. Based on the discussion of the results of analysis of the text in the story of Ucil The Mouse Deer written by Ayu Tria K, there are several ecocritical aspects grouped, namely the Ecocritical Aspect of Animal Presence, the Ecocritical Aspect of Plant Presence, and the Ecocritical Aspect of the Presence of Earth Elements.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this section, the results of the research and discussion will be described as the focus of the study, namely the Ecocritical Aspect of Animal Presence, the Ecocritical Aspect of Plant Presence, and the Ecocritical Aspect of the Presence of Earth Elements.

Ecocritical Aspects of the Presence of Animals

Humans believe in the world of knowledge and tend to want to classify animals in this world and study them. The center of the environment is human, but ecology places all living things together, in the same position, the same degree in this world. Animal figures in the collection of Ucil the Mouse Deer fairy tales, are the main characters in this

fairy tale, not human. The characters' portrayals also imply a certain purpose and foundation. This can be seen in the depiction of a mouse deer character:

... After all, these short legs won't be able to match their long, sturdy and strong legs. He was definitely able to chase me. Catch me. Knock me out. I guess, soon my fate will end at the sharp end of his teeth. Then ... my history is over. (Ayu, 2017: 5)

The above sentences are a picture of a mouse deer and leopard figure. Through the description, the reader is invited to imagine the figures in question. Mouse deer is a manifestation of people's understanding of small, agile, yet vulnerable animals. Mouse deer is a game in the wild. Animals that do not want to cooperate with humans. They are animals that disturb humans quietly. While the leopard figure, is a manifestation of human understanding of the authority of an animal. Animal figures that are difficult to hunt and not animals that want to cooperate with humans. Leopard figures also portray animals that are dangerous, can endanger the surrounding living creatures, not just humans. In every fairy tale, animals are often used to provide metaphoric meanings.

Ecocritical Aspects of Plant Presence

Plants in the literal sense, are plants that exist in the environment around, plants that live wildly, naturally, and which are deliberately planted by the community to meet human needs.

Metaphorically, when a tree is used as a symbol of protection, even more environmental problems arise. Trees are displayed as a shelter for animals. The author strengthens the trees physically with a description that invites the readers to imagine the physicality of the tree should be. This can be seen in the description:

... The atmosphere was instantly silent. We were silent without a word, until faintly there was a rustling sound behind the bushes in front of us. The bushes moved, then a group of animals appeared. Not only from bushes, they also jump from branches of trees that are protected by thick leaves ... (Ayu, 2017: 33)

The description of plants in this fairy tale, gives modern humans a lesson about local wisdom. Inviting readers to reflect on things that are now starting to disappear, like trees physically as they should. Trees that should be a refuge for all living things. By preserving the harmony of the forest, life is maintained between humans.

Ecocritical Aspects of the Presence of Earth Elements

Earth elements in this case are land, water, air, forest, and other earth elements in scientific meaning. In the context of society, the presence of earth elements is the same, namely as biological beings. Elements of land, water and forest are found in the following depiction:

... "I do not care. I'm still doing it ... "I missed, infiltrated the bush, and began to

explore between the roots of the tree, looking for fruits that were scattered on the ground. Apparently, there is a small lake behind the bush. Uh, but, why is the lake edge neatly walled like man-made? ... (Ayu, 2017: 65)

The presence of earth elements in the form of water and forest is illustrated in detail. Invite readers to think about the situation. The state of the lake whose water is still clear and not contaminated with anything, so it is worth drinking. Then, the state of the forest is still natural and consists of sturdy and large trees. This is reflected in the diction "roaming between the roots of trees". Of course imagined the size of the roots of trees at that time. The roots of trees are large and hundreds of years old, which grow steadily.

The things that have been discussed show that humans have the same position in life in this universe. The life of every living creature has the nature of dependency. That way, humans have a moral responsibility for all life on earth.

CONCLUSION

The general objective of this research is to obtain a deep understanding of environmental insights in a collection of deer tales using the Ekokritik approach.

Humans are an integral part of nature, so have the responsibility to preserve and maintain the balance of nature, not only individually, but also collectively. Matching the degrees of every living thing is a form of caring and

maintaining the balance of nature with humans and vice versa.

Through literary ecocritics, that can help determine, explore, and even solve ecological problems in a very broad sense.

Through this research, the researchers hope that the results of this study can increase literary knowledge for lovers of literature, especially fairy tales and as material for developing theories of fairy tale analysis through an ecocritical approach. In addition, it is also hoped that this research can indirectly enhance literary learning, especially fables, to elementary school students. Not only that, researchers also hope that fairytale readers can take advantage and model positive things that are implicitly or explicitly written in fairy tales, in this case related to the environment.

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