

CHARACTER AND CHARACTERIZATION IN THE TALE OF AZIZ AND AZIZAH BY POWYS MATHERS

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ABSTRACT

This research discusses the character and characterization in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah by Powys Mathers. The identification of the problem of this research is what is the types of the characters and the technique of characterization in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah by Powys Mathers. The purpose of this research is to find and describe types of characters and technique of characterization in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah by Powys Mathers. The theory uses in this research is structural analysis. This research is a qualitative research with descriptive method. This research shows results that there are many types of characters in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah by Powys Mathers. (1) There are three main characters in this story, Aziz, Azizah, and The Daughter of Willy Delilah. (2) There are six supporting characters, Mother, Father, Old Woman, Young Girl, Old Gardener, and Princess Dunya. (3) There are two protagonist, Aziz and Azizah and (4) two antagonist, The Daughter of Willy Delilah and Young Girl. (5) There are four round character, Aziz, The Daughter of Willy Delilah, Old Woman, and Young Girl and (6) five simple character, Azizah, Mother, Father, Old Gardener, and Princess Dunya. (7) Static character is not found in this story meanwhile (8) there are three dynamic character, Aziz, Azizah, and The Daughter of Willy Delilah. (9) There are two typical character, Mother and Father and (10) two neutral character in the story, Azizah and The Daughter of Willy Delilah. Characterization in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah by Powys Mathers uses analytical technique or direct technique.

Keywords: character, characterization, The Tale of Aziz and Azizah, story.

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini membahas tokoh dan penokohan dalam The Tale of Aziz and Azizah karya Powys Mathers. Identifikasi masalah dalam penelitian ini adalah apa saja jenis-jenis tokoh and teknik penokohan yang digunakan dalam The Tale of Aziz and Azizah karya Powys Mathers. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menemukan dan mendeskripsikan jenis-jenis tokoh dan teknik penokohan dalam The Tale of Aziz and Azizah karya Powys Mathers. Teori yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah teori struktural. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian kualitatif dengan metode deskriptif. Penelitian ini menunjukkan hasil bahwa ada beberapa jenis tokoh dalam The Tale of Aziz and Azizah karya Powys Mathers. (1) Tokoh utama dalam cerita ada tiga, Aziz, Azizah, dan The Daughter of Willy Delilah. (2) Tokoh pendukung dalam cerita ada enam, Mother, Father, Old Woman, Young Girl, Old Gardener, dan Princess Dunya. (3) Tokoh protagonis ada dua, Aziz dan Azizah, dan (4) tokoh antagonis ada dua, Daughter of Willy

Delilah dan Young Girl. (5) Ada empat tokoh bulat, yaitu Aziz, The Daughter of Willy Delilah, Old Woman, dan Young Girl dan (6) ada lima tokoh sederhana, yaitu Azizah, Mother, Father, Old Gardener, dan Princess Dunya. (7) Tokoh statis tidak ditemukan dalam cerita sedangkan (8) ada tiga tokoh berkembang, yaitu Aziz, Azizah dan The Daughter of Willy Delilah. (9) Ada dua tokoh tipikal dalam cerita, Mother and Father dan (10) ada dua tokoh netral, yaitu Azizah dan The Daughter of Willy Delilah. Teknik penokohan yang digunakan dalam The Tale of Aziz and Azizah karya Powys Mathers adalah teknik analitikal atau secara langsung.

Kata kunci: tokoh, penokohan, The Tale of Aziz and Azizah, cerita

INTRODUCTION

Literature refers to works of creative imagination. Literature is human expressions in the form of thoughts, beliefs, feelings, passions, ideas, and experiences which formed in a written or spoken picture of life. Literature is an effort to record the author's soul (Sumardjo & Saini K.M., 1986). The psychology of the author is influential. The author's mental condition can be seen in their literary works. The element in literature that are most influenced by the author's mental or psychology condition are the character.

Character generally describes the environmental and life situation of the author. Frame story is a story that has another story in it but still related to the main story. The character in frame story consist of human character and animal character. The human character mostly related to palace, and the animal character is a personification. Frame story is usually stories that are initially told by oral and the developed into written form. One of the example of the popular frame story is The Thousand and One Night.

The Thousand and One Nights has many stories in it, one of them is The Tale of Aziz and Azizah. This story is a side story of The Tale of Aziz and Azizah, and of Prince Taj Al-Muluk, Crown of Kings. The interesting thing to study from this story is the character and its characterization. The male main character is unique because he has unlikeable personality. Meanwhile the female main character is a character the reader cannot dislike but instead sympathize with her.

Identification of the problem of this research is what is the types of characters and the technique of characterization in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah by Powys Mathers. Meanwhile the purpose of this research is to find and describe types of characters and technique of characterization in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah by Powys Mathers.

METHODS

The researcher uses a qualitative research on this research. Samantri (2005:57-65) stated qualitative research has a style that constructing reality and understanding the meaning. Therefore, processes, events, and authenticity are a great concerned in qualitative research. Qualitative research has many benefits as Moleong (2005:5-7) stated in *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*. It examines a background, like roles, attitudes, motivations, perceptions, and values. It also seeks an understanding of behavior and motivation research.

The method used in this research is descriptive method. Moleong (2005:11) said data collection in the form of words, pictures, and not in the form of numbers is a research with a descriptive method. Descriptive method is a problem-solving procedure that describes the state of the subject or object of research, such as novels, plays, short stories, and poems, at the present time based on the facts that appear in it or as they are found during the investigation (Nawawi in Siswanto, 2014:56).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Character

Character have an important roles in the story. It carries message, moral, and any other things the author wants to convey to the reader. According to Rokhmansyah (2014:34), character is a fiction individual who has personality and certain behavior and also experiencing events. A story doesn't have only one character. The reader will find variety of character in a story. These character have their own classifications so that the reader could understand it better.

Nurgiantoro (2002:176-194) classifying characters into five parts, (1) based on the level of importance of the character, character consists of the main character and

supporting character; (2) based on the roles of the character, character consists of protagonist character and antagonist character; (3) based on the personality of the character, character consists of simple character and complex character; (4) based on the development of the character, it consists of static character and evolving character; and last, based on the possibility of the character reflects humans in the real world, it consists of typical character and neutral character.

Characterization

Characterization in a story gives characteristics of both physical and spiritual to the character (Hayati, 1990:119). Characterization divided into two types of technique, analytical and dramatic. In analytical technique, the author describes directly the characterization of the character. Meanwhile in dramatic technique, the author doesn't explicitly describe the character. The reader is required to analyze the story implicitly, such as behavior, dialogue, feeling, thought, reaction of the character and other character, stream of consciousness, physique of the character, and background (Nurgiantoro, 2002:194-210).

Synopsis of The Tale of Aziz and Azizah by Powys Mathers

Aziz was walking home after praying at mosque. He suddenly remembered his friend whom he forgot to invite to his wedding with his cousin, Azizah today. He went to his house but got lost. He decided to rest for a while before continuing his journey. As he was about to wipe his sweat with his shirt, a fragrant silk handkerchief fell in front of him. He looked up and found a beautiful woman in a window of a house. He immediately fell in love with the woman. The woman gave him some sign with her hand then closed her

window. Aziz decided to wait for her to reappear. He forgot his wedding with Azizah. Aziz finally came home because it was late. He found Azizah waiting for him at home with tears. Azizah dried her eyes when she saw Aziz and asked him the reason of his disappearance. Aziz told her the whole story and asked the meaning of the woman's hand sign. Azizah told the meaning of the sign given by the woman and promised to help Aziz to meet that woman again.

The next day, Aziz went to the woman's place, but the woman only gave him another sign. He went home and told everything to Azizah again. Azizah gave him some advices. Then Aziz went to the woman's place the next day following Azizah's advice. These events repeated a few times until the woman finally became Aziz's mistress thanks to Azizah's advice.

Blinded with love, Aziz failed to notice that Azizah suffered as he met continuously with his mistress. Her body was getting weaker till she fell ill and eventually died because of a broken heart.

Analysis of Character and Characterization in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah by Powys Mathers

The focus of the problem in this research data has been formulated previously, such as (1) types of the character in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah by Powys Mathers, and (2) technique of characterization in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah by Powys Mathers. These are the results of the research on character and characterization in this story.

Types of Character Based on Roles of Character

Main character is the center of the story. There are three main characters in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah, namely (1) Aziz, (2) Azizah, and (3) The Daughter of Willy Delilah. They

are often appear in the story. The story revolves around them. From the emergence of the conflict to the climax, they always involves. These story uses a first person point of view. The author selects Aziz's point of view to tell the story. Even though the story is seen from Aziz's point of view, Azizah and The Daughter of Willy Delilah are still the main characters because every event that Aziz experiencing in the story is always related to both of them. Here is the quotes that shows Aziz is the center of the story.

I was just turning into the mosque to make the necessary Friday prayer when I remembered a friend whom I had forgotten to invite. I began to walk very quickly to his house, as I did not want to be late, and soon found myself in a side-street which was unknown to me. (The Book of the Thousand Nights and One Night:489)

Nevertheless, as I remembered Azizah's words, I began to make those enquiries and plans necessary for meeting with the King's daughter. (The Book of the Thousand Nights and One Night:519)

Supporting character is a character who helped the story going on. There are six supporting characters which found in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah, namely (1) Aziz's Mother, (2) Aziz's Father, (3) Old Woman, (4) Young Girl, (5) Old Gardener, and (6) Princess Dunya. These character rarely appear in the story. They only appear in some part of the story. The conflict they cause doesn't affect much to the story. They appear to help the story going on. As example, Princess Dunya appear once at the end of the story. She doesn't even have a single dialogue in the story. Here is the quotes that shows Princess Dunya only appear once.

Then, dear lord, I saw the lady Dunya come through the gate as if the moon herself were entering the garden. Such was her beauty that I remained where I was as if I had been dead. I followed her with my looks without being able to breathe, although I ardently desired to speak to her. (The Book of the Thousand Nights and One Night:520)

I waited till the princess left the garden; then I took leave of the old gardener and hastened to rejoin my caravan, (The Book of the Thousand Nights and One Night:520)

Based on Function of Character

Protagonist is identical as a good character. But it is not completely true. Protagonist character is a leading of the story. Protagonist is a character who leads the plot. The protagonist doesn't always have a good

character. As long as they are the one who leads the plot, they can be called a protagonist. The protagonist in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah are (1) Aziz and (2) Azizah. Aziz doesn't have much of good personality in the story but he's the one who lead the story. He still has several good traits like he always treats and listens to Azizah well, and he realizes his mistake later. Meanwhile Azizah is a classic protagonist who has a good personality. She is patient, kind, and caring. Below is the quotes that shows Aziz and Azizah being a protagonist.

She burnt benzoin below my robe and embraced me tenderly, saying: 'Dearest cousin, behold the hour of your calm. Be courageous and return to me satisfied. I wish you peace, and will have no happiness save in your happiness. Yet do not delay too long to come back and tell me your adventure, for there are fair days and fairer nights to come for us.' (The Book of the Thousand Nights and One Night:491)

'Dear cousin,' she added, 'as you hope for mercy, do not forget to recite my lines the next time.' 'Repeat them again, for I have a little forgotten them,' I answered. She did so, and I then remembered them perfectly. This time I did not forget to repeat to my lady the lines of Azizah. (The Book of the Thousand Nights and One Night:502)

Antagonist is the opposite of protagonist. Antagonist also identic with a bad character. But the real meaning of antagonist is a character who caused conflicts with the protagonist. Like protagonist who is not always good, antagonist is not always bad too. As long as they have conflict with protagonist, they can be called antagonist. There are two

antagonist in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah, (1) The Daughter of Willy Delilah and (2) Young Girl. Both of the character are manipulative and ignorance. This can be proofed on the quotes below.

‘What! You do not know the Daughter of Wily Delilah, when she has been your mistress for a year and four months? Beware, poor Aziz, beware the treacheries of this God-detested harlot. There is not a corrupter soul on earth than hers; she has slain a hundred with her own hands; she has committed a thousand dark treacheries upon her lovers; it is astonishing to me that you should be still alive.’ (The Book of the Thousand Nights and One Night:510)

You have only to allow yourself to be made a husband. I will have nothing at all to do with you except after legitimate contract before Allah and His Prophet (on whom be prayer and peace!). All your wishes shall be fulfilled: you can have treasures, fair stuffs for your robes, light clean turbans, and all for nothing. I will never allow you to loosen the strings of your purse, for in my house the bread is ever fresh and the cup filled. In return for these things, dear Aziz, I require but one thing.’ ‘What is that?’ I asked, and she answered: ‘That you do with me as a cock does.’ (The Book of the Thousand Nights and One Night:511)

Based on Personality of Character

Stock Character is a character which common, familiar, and stereotype. There are five simple character in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah, which is (1) Azizah, (2) Mother, (3) Father, (4) Old Gardener, and (5) Princess

Dunya. The author does not fully reveal the personality of these characters, except of Azizah. The readers can guess Azizah traits. There is a stereotype that a woman is patient, kind, and caring to someone she loves. Azizah fits these stereotype. Here is the quotes that shows Azizah being the woman’s stereotype which is kind, patient, and caring.

When she saw that I was awake, she brought me food and put it piece by piece into my mouth; therefore I had nothing to do but to swallow and was soon satisfied. Then she gave me a concoction of jujubes with sugared rose-water, and my thirst passed from me. She washed my hands, wiped them with a musk-scented napkin, and sprinkled me all over with flower-waters. She brought me a marvelous new robe and helped me on with it, (The Book of the Thousand Nights and One Night:500)

Round character a character whose personality is unpredictable. The author reveals these characters fully with various point of view. Because of it, round character has many possible personalities and not predictable. The round character in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah are (1) Aziz, (2) The Daughter of Willy Delilah, (3) Old Woman, and (4) Young Girl. The author writes an unpredictable personality for these characters. For example, the reader might have the image of a weak and sympathetic woman when an Old Woman character appears. But apparently she tricked Aziz to come to her house. Below is the quotes that proof the Old Woman character is a round character.

‘Excuse me, my lord, but I have a further favour to ask you. If you grant it, you will make me the happiest of women and will yourself be recompensed by the Master of

Reward. I beg you to come with me to the door of our house, which is quite near here, and read this letter again to the women of the household. They would not be content with my version of it.' (The Book of the Thousand Nights and One Night:508)

I leaned forward to receive it when suddenly, just as I was two feet from the door, I felt the old woman push me violently in the back with her head and was hurled forward into the vestibule. Quick as lightning she followed me in and shut the street door upon me. Thus I found myself a prisoner between the two women, without having the least idea what they wished of me. (The Book of the Thousand Nights and One Night:509)

Based on Development of Character

Static or Flat character is a character who stays the same and flat even though many things happen to them. They are not affected by any incidents. The Tale of Aziz and Azizah doesn't have a static character. All main character of this story evolve. Meanwhile the other characters only appears in a certain parts of the story so the change and the development of the character cannot be assessed.

Dynamic character is a character which develops in line with the development of the story's plot, events, and conflicts. There are three dynamic characters in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah, namely (1) Aziz, (2) Azizah, and (3) The Daughter of Willy Delilah. These three characters evolves from the beginning to the end of the story. As example, Aziz lost his way and fall in love with other women at the beginning of the story. But at the end of the story, he finally realizes his mistake and back to Azizah.

A memory suddenly came over me of my sweet Azizah, the poor girl who had died of heartbreak without one word of reproach. For the first time I truly regretted her and wept tears of despair and repentance on her account. (The Book of the Thousand Nights and One Night:500)

Based on Reflection of Character

Typical Character is a character which describes the presentation of life in the real world. Characters that classified into typical character in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah are (1) Mother and (2) Father. Both of the character reflect the parents who cares about their children. The parent usually reprimand if their children make mistakes.

In this my mother encouraged me, saying: 'The long journey will distract you, my son, and drive away your grief. There is a caravan of merchants just ready to leave our city. I advise you to buy merchandise and join yourself to them. At the end of three years you will come back with the same caravan, quite cured of the grief which now oppresses you. And all my happiness will be to see you smile again.' (The Book of the Thousand Nights and One Night:500)

Neutral character is character that only exist in the story. They doesn't represent anything in the real world. There are two neutral character in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah, (1) Azizah and (2) The Daughter of Willy Delilah. Azizah whose body become weak, then sick, and finally died of a broken heart is not familiar in the real world. The daughter of Willy Delilah's character also not possible in the real world because she kills every man

who tries to seduce her and tortures Aziz when she found out the reason of his disappearance. Here is the quotes that shows Azizah and The Daughter of Willy Delilah being neutral character.

I must avenge myself on you and on the wicked wanton who has stolen you. There is but one way.' Then to the slaves she cried: Help me! Tie his feet and do not let him move an inch!' (The Book of the Thousand Nights and One Night:516)

Having bared my belly, she took hold of my eggs and bound them at the root with the noose of a waxed cord; the ends of this cord she gave to two of her slaves, who bore strongly upon it, while she herself took up a razor and, with a single stroke, cut off my manhood. (The Book of the Thousand Nights and One Night:516)

Neighbours were hurrying in and out, and one of them said to me: 'They found Azizah stretched out dead before the door of her chamber.' I rushed into the house and the first person I met was my mother, who said to me: 'You are responsible before Allah for her death! The weight of her blood is about your neck! My son, my son, you have been but a sorry bridegroom!' (The Book of the Thousand Nights and One Night:516)

Technique of Characterization

The Tale of Aziz and Azizah uses analytical technique of characterization. Analytical technique means the author described the character directly with description or explanation. There are several examples of this technique when Aziz describes Azizah condition when he arrived at

home. This can be proofed with the quotes below.

I found my poor cousin sitting up for me, red-eyed from weeping, with a resigned sadness upon her face. (The Book of the Thousand Nights and One Night:492)

CONCLUSION

Based on the research about character and characterization in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah, it can be concluded there are several types of the character in this story, which is main character, supporting character, protagonist, antagonist, simple character, complex character, evolving character, typical character, and neutral character. There are no static character in this story. The technique of characterization found in The Tale of Aziz and Azizah is analytical technique which describes directly by the author.

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