

AN ANALYSIS OF CHARACTERIZATION OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THE NOVEL OF “EARTH” BY TERE LIYE

Silvia Erika Sari

English Education Study Program

STKIP PGRI SIDOARJO

silviaerika86@gmail.com

Abstract

This research was intended to know the characterization of the main character in the novel of “Earth” by Tere Liye. This research used descriptive qualitative method. The descriptive qualitative method uses data from words, phrases, and sentences in the novel. The data collection technique of this research is documentation technique based on the data used in this research include expressions, sentences, or dialogs that describe the main character in the novel “Earth” namely Raib, Seli, and Ali. The researcher found five characterizations of the main character in the novel “Earth” by Tere Liye there are (1) Expository or Analytic technique, (2) Conversation technique, (3) Character’s Reaction technique, (4) Behavior technique, and (5) Thoughts and Feelings technique. The researcher found 46 data supporting the identification of characterization applied to the main character in the novel “Earth” by Tere Liye. By conducting the study, the researcher hopes that the result of this study will help the next researchers who do the same research topic.

Keywords: Characterization, The Main Character, Novel “Earth”

INTRODUCTION

Literature can be interpreted as a reference used to obtain certain information. According to Wellek and Warren (1963: 22) the author's imagination contributes to the creation of literature. Literature is more than merely a compilation of factual accounts, even if those accounts reflect actual occurrences. Literature is a product of the unbounded imagination and may build its universe. Literature may be a social phenomenon. It is so because literature is typically composed during specific eras closely tied to the standards of the time and the literary author's membership

in or portrayal of that society Luxemburg (1984: 23). One of the most common literary works is a novel.

A novel is an artistic work of literature. According to Suroto (1989: 19), novels are prose stories that describe spectacular incidents in the characters' lives because these incidents lead to conflict that decides the outcome of the character's fate. There are two essential elements in a novel, namely intrinsic elements and extrinsic elements. Intrinsic elements develop the literary work from the inside, such as plot, theme, setting, character and characterization, and of course, point of view. Besides that, the novel also was constructed using extrinsic aspects, which include literature and society, psychological literature, feminism, genetic structuralism, and other topics. In this study, the researcher focuses only on one of the intrinsic elements, namely characterization.

The researcher is interested in analyzing characterization because characterization is one of the essential elements in the novel. Characterization is the process of creating a character in a literary work (Auger, 2010: 46). With the characterization, the readers will be helped to understand the literary thoughts of the characters in a novel. Even so, some readers still need help understanding the particular literary thoughts of characters in a novel. These conditions are possible because the authors often portray characters in novels indirectly or impliedly. Based on that assertion, this research is crucial to complete to understand how Tere Liye characterizes the main character in the novel "Earth." This research is limited to the main character in the novel "Earth" by Tere Liye. The main character is the center of everything in the novel.

According to Altenbernd & Lewis (1966), characterization is divided into two techniques, namely expository or analytic technique and dramatic technique. The expository or analytic technique is a technique that gives a direct explanation. In contrast, the dramatic technique is a technique that offers indirect description. Tere Liye's novel "Earth" describes the adventures of

three teenagers, Raib, Ali, and Seli. Under their conduct, these three teenagers had superpowers. In addition to telling about exciting adventures in a parallel world, from this novel, readers can take on a tremendous amount of moral values to apply in everyday life.

Based on these reasons, the researcher was attracted to the study under the title “An Analysis of Characterization of the Main Character in Novel of Earth by Tere Liye”.

RESEARCH METHOD

The research method used by the researcher in this study is qualitative descriptive. The qualitative research method is a method that focuses on profound observations. With the aid of detailed descriptions in words and language in a particular context using various natural methods, qualitative research aims to understand phenomena of research topics such as behavior, perception, motivation, action, and phenomena experienced by the research subject (Moleong, 2017:6). Since this study is qualitative research, the results will be described in a systematic descriptive form or detailed, factual description. The object of research in this study is the main characters in the novel “Earth” namely Raib, Ali and Seli. The researcher chooses the main character of the novel “Earth” because the main character is important things in a novel.

The source of data used by the researcher is words, phrases and sentences in the novels. The data used in this study is an expression, sentence or dialogue that describes the main character in the novel “Earth” there are Raib, Seli dan Ali. The principal instrument of this research was the researcher herself. The researcher conducts all the processes of observing, retrieving, and analyzing data. However, the researcher also need an additional research instrument in the novel “Earth” by tere liye. The method for collecting data used by the researcher is the method of documenting. The process of data collection by the researcher involves, first, reading the novel Earth, second, undstanding the context in the novel Earth, third, identifying data found in the

novel Earth, fourth, analyzing the data retrieved from the novel Earth, and the last step is drawing conclusion.

After the research data is collected, the next step of it is analyzing the data. The first step in the process of data analysis is data reduction. The reduction of data is a selection process that focuses on the simplification, abstraction, and transformation of raw data generated from field data. At this step the researcher will select every piece of data she has obtained from the novel. After data at reduction, researchers must classify the data as needed. The next step would be the data display. Data display is a process by which a body of data is systematically organized and easily understood, thus gaining conclusions. In the process of data display, the researcher presents data in the form of a chart that is then explained in the form of a paragraph. After completing both the process of data reduction and the display of data, the next step is a drawing conclusion. The drawing of conclusions is the essence of the collected data in the form of a brief, dense yet comprehensive sentence statement.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The researcher was conducting this study to answer the research question, which is the characterization of the main character in the novel "Earth" by Tere Liye. After collecting the data, the researcher does the analyzing data and interprets all the collection data. The researcher uses the theory from Altenbernd and Lewis (1966) to analyze the characterization of the main character in the novel "Earth" by Tere Liye, namely Raib, Seli, and Ali.

According to Altenbernd and Lewis (1966), the characterization technique is divided into two techniques, namely, analytic or expository technique, and dramatic technique. Based on the result data, the researcher found 46 supporting characterization data. Those results of identification were categorized into five, namely: (1) Expository or Analytic used by author containing 2 data,

(2) Conversation used by author containing 17 data, (3) Character's Reaction used by author containing one datum, (4) Behavior used by author containing 25 data, and (5) Thoughts and Feelings technique used by author containing one datum. The characterization of Raib, Seli, and Ali will be discussed below.

1. The Characterization of Raib

Raib play an important role in the novel "Earth". Raib is the main character in that novel. Each chapter in this novel tells about Raib as the source of the story. Raib was a 15 years old girl who kept a big secret in her life. She was the only daughter of her parents. She was like 10th grade student who was a little shy, but unexpectedly she had the power to disappear, just by covering her face with her hands. In fact, she's a pure descendant of the moon clan. The disappearing power has been around since she was a kid. she had loving, obedient to her parents, brave, friendly, strong, stubborn, worked hard, never give up, loved reading, was a little shy, and reckless character.

"I like reading and I've got two cats at home."
(Earth, 2019: 5)

"In Class Ten of this new school of mine I prefer to be on my own and observe, and watch my classmates playing basketball. I sit silently in the middle of all the bustle of the canteen, in front of the class, and in the playground." (Earth, 2019: 5)

Raib's character, who loves reading and is a little shy, is described in an analytic technique: a direct portrayal of the character through a description. This depiction was directly described by the author to the reader Usually, this technique is shown at the beginning of the story.

"I just nodded and enjoyed eating "the most delicious omelet in the world". (Earth, 2019: 12)

The obedient parent's characteristic of Raib is described by the behavior technique of the character's indirect portrayal of action. The characteristic of the character can be seen in the way they do things.

"I was actually thinking about something else. Not just worried about school, but about what Mum and Dad would be doing right now in our city. I knew they wouldn't be getting much sleep, always on the lookout for some good news. But I was even more worried, if we managed to get home, about how I was going to ask about my status. Was I brave enough to just tell Mum and Dad? Ask them whether I was really their child or not? Even if Mum maybe got hysterical or fainted before I could finish asking.". (Earth, 2019: 307)

The loving characteristic that Raib have is described by thoughts and feelings technique. The thoughts and feelings technique is a technique that can describe the character's characteristics by the thoughts and feelings of the character.

"You didn't do your homework, Ra?"

"I did do my homework, Miss."

"So why are you coming to the front of the class?"

"I left the book at home.". (Earth, 2019: 22)

"May I come in, Ra?"

"Eh? "Please come in, Miss. Sorry, you startled me just now. I had no idea who it was who had come." (Earth, 2019: 70)

"You need to listen to Miss Curly-Locks!"

"I'm not going to run away. I'm going to help Miss Selena fight." (Earth, 2019: 157)

The brave, friendly, and stubborn characteristic that Raib have is described by conversation technique. Conversation technique is a technique that describes a character by means of a conversation between characters. But not all

conversations can convey the character of the character at least indicate the existence of that character.

"I took several deep breaths, and concentration. My hand was filled with a whirl of strong it gave my wind, full stronger and stronger as I reached the next level of concentration. Then I slowly struck the frame of the capsule. The sound of a loud bang could be heard. The capsule was thrown from inside the station and flew three metres above our heads." (Earth, 2019: 271)

"After taking two deep breaths, I struck the rock in a more restrained way. A loud bang was heard again. The rock was raised from the sand. Grains of sand flew everywhere. The rock was flung into the air-not too high, just three metres." (Earth, 2019: 269)

The strong, never give up, working hard, and reckless characteristic that Raib have is described by behavior technique. The behavior technique is the portrayal technique of a character's action indirectly. The characteristic of the character can be seen in the way they do things.

"Recalling the conversation with that figure, I stared at the thick novel on my bed and sighed. I concentrated, I told it to disappear a number of times-but fifteen minutes later that fat novel was still sitting there mutely." (Earth, 2019: 94)

"I really did forget Ali's instructions to hold back and return to them at once, to discuss the next plan. When I saw Miss Selena curled up there, I lowered my hands and jumped as far as I could. My body drifted as much as twenty metres, then landed with ease beside Miss Selena, who was right in the middle of the room." (Earth, 2019: 339)

The working hard, and reckless characteristic that Raib have is described by behavior technique. The behavior technique is the portrayal technique of a character's action indirectly. The characteristic of the character can be seen in the way they do things

2. The Characterization of Seli

Seli was a best friend and classmate of Raib at school. She is a best friend who always faithfully accompanies and protects Raib. Seli has the power to emit lightning and bright light. Also, Seli can move objects around her and absorb electrical energy into her body. Seli had cheerful, fangirling, loving, friendly, brave, strong, kind, loyal friend, never give up, and working hard character.

"Look there are some over there giving off rays of light!" Seli shouted happily, pointing at another flock of hummingbirds." (Earth, 2019: 234)

"Ou sat at the table, asking us lots and lots of questions. It looked like Seli was good with children. Every once a while Ou and Seli's conversation was very funny and filled the kitchen with laughter." (Earth, 2019: 295)

"A split second before those two cables reached us, Seli raised her hands. She put her body in front of mine, protecting me." (Earth, 2019: 127)

The cheerful, loving, and brave characteristic that Seli have is described by behavior technique. The behavior technique is the potrayal technique of a character's action indirectly. The characteristic of the character can be seen in the way they do things.

"Have you done your homework from Miss Curly-Locks?"

"Of course I have."

"Oh, thank goodness for that.".... "I just finished mine early this morning. Last night I forgot we had homework and had a great time watching the Korean telenovela. Miss Curly-Locks can get really mad if anyone has not done their homework. And if she just gets angry, ok, but if she asks you to stand up front by the blackboard for the whole lesson, that's really embarrassing, don't you think?" (Earth, 2019: 19)

“Oh, Good Afternoon, Auntie,” “Whatever you like, Auntie, I don't want to put you to any trouble.”

“But it's really no trouble.” (Earth, 2019: 76-77)

The fangirling and friendly characteristic that Seli have is described by conversation technique. Conversation technique is a technique that describes a character by means of a conversation between characters. But not all conversations can convey the character of the character at least indicate the existence of that character.

“I trembled to witness Seli's body wrapped in electric current. Sparks of fire covered her body. Explosions of light spread to her neck, her head, her hair. A second later, Seli slammed her hands to the ground, and all the electric current flowed through her hands into the ground, till there was nothing left.” (Earth, 2019: 128)

“The situation became more and more chaotic. Seli tried to deploy her very last energy. Her gloves glowed with a dim light as she tried to restrain Miss Selena's body. She was able to sit down again briefly, but only for a moment. Her body was lifted up again, and this time more quickly.” (Earth, 2019: 358)

“Seli! From a sitting position, Seli had lifted up her hand and was trying to restrain Miss Selena's body remotely, using all her powers. Seli's hand trembled, her face was grimacing in pain.” (Earth, 2019: 128)

The strong, never give up, and working hard characteristic that Seli have is described by behavior technique. The behavior technique is the portrayal technique of a character's action indirectly. The characteristic of the character can be seen in the way they do things.

"I will always be with you, Ra.".... "I'm going to defend my best friend."

"Thanks, Sel." (Earth, 2019: 260)

"Have you got a new idea about how you're going to read it, Ra?"

I shook head. I didn't have my any ideas at all.

"Sooner or later I'm sure you'll be able to read it. I really believe that" (Earth, 2019: 306)

The kind and loyal friend characteristic that Seli have is described by conversation technique. Conversation technique is a technique that describes a character by means of a conversation between characters. But not all conversations can convey the character of the character at least indicate the existence of that character.

3. The Characterization of Ali

Ali was a brilliant student, even a genius. So clever he even became the youngest olympic participant. He also often makes sophisticated equipment of his own. Unlike his two friends, Ali is descended from the earth clan. Ali had high curiosity, genius, love reading, mysterious, gentleman, loyal friend, brave, never give up, working hard, and strong character.

"How does this rail capsule move in the passage? There're no rail pads?"

"With magnetic technology.".... "The capsule floats in the passage, then moves propelled by different magnetic fields. There are hundreds of railway passages underground and thousands of capsules that are all moving at the same time according to the various destinations and tracks. You would get dizzy just looking at a map of the network. Everything is automatically controlled by a central capsule transportation system. The system is very precise indeed, calculated down to a fraction of a second, so that all the capsules that are travelling at high speed do not end up on the same track, pass one another or crash into one another at the intersections." (Earth, 2019: 241)

"Nothing exists that we can't see with our own eyes."....
"Except if you mean ghosts and other such hair-raising stories."

"Who says they don't exist?".... "And no, I didn't mean ghosts. Just listen.".... "Every day, every second, we're living with something all around us that we can't see. Air. We breathe it but we never think about what its original form would be. Is it like fog? Or like smoke? What's this oxygen? What shape does it have? A box? An oblong?"

..."And you don't even need to become as thin as air so as not to be seen.".... at me enthusiastically, smoothing his messy hair which was almost over his eyes. "If you are too small or conversely too big compared to that which you can see, you can disappear according to a different definition of the word. Ants, for example, just try and see the ants in the school yard from this second floor, they actually disappear because they are too small to be seen. Conversely the Earth, for example, because the Earth's globe is too big, no one can actually see it floating in orbit around the sun. We only know it's doing this from pictures, the television, but we never see this with our own eyes. It's invisible according to a certain definition." (Earth, 2019: 27)

The high curiosity and genius characteristic that Ali has is described by conversation technique. Conversation technique is a technique that describes a character by means of a conversation between characters. But not all conversations can convey the character of the character at least indicate the existence of that character.

"Ali was just sitting on a chair under the canopy. He'd brought books and magazines and he was deeply absorbed again in his inter-world dictionary." (Earth, 2019: 296)

"We hurried back to class. Classroom X-9 was still empty, there was just Ali who for some reason was sitting at our table, as if he had just done something. Seli glared and threw him out of her seat." (Earth, 2019: 34)

"Ali opened his rucksack, pulled out a bottle of water, and offered it to me. "Want a drink, Ra?" (Earth, 2019: 132)

The love reading, mysterious, and gentleman characteristic that Ali have is described by behavior technique. The behavior technique is the portrayal technique of a character's action indirectly. The characteristic of the character can be seen in the way they do things.

"Are you going to help Ra or not, Ali?"

"Of course I'm going to help."... "I'm not going to leave even one of you alone in this world. But it will be my responsibility to think through what steps it would be reasonable for us to take and what not. That's why I was asking a lot of questions. Because you two are too preoccupied with your powers. You're not able to think about anything else."... "I know you think I'm a pain, Ra. But I'm not going to let you go off on your own to the Forbidden Section. If you go, I come with you. Let's do this stupid thing together." (Earth, 2019: 326)

"I'm going to memorise one by one how to write each letter of the alphabet in this world. Actually, when we read a book or a magazine, we don't decipher letter by letter, we memorise the form of words one by one. Our brain quickly recognizes those words, and combines them into sentences or paragraphs, but there is no need to go after each letter."

"But that's still not easy, is it?"

"Nobody said it was going to be easy, Sel, but I'm going to do it." (Earth, 2019: 291)

The loyal friend and never give up characteristic that Ali have is described by conversation technique. Conversation technique is a technique that describes a character by means of a conversation between characters. But not all conversations can convey the character of the character at least indicate the existence of that character.

"Ali finally plucked up courage to approach. He threw his bat down on the floor and walked up to the blazing fire. Av was struggling to pull the body of someone out of the fireplace. Ali helped, putting his hands into the flames. Seli shut her mouth, she wanted to scream, but Ali was fine." (Earth, 2019: 310)

"Another hour passed without us evening noticing, then finally we finished. Ali had already moved to one of the sofas and was deep in concentration reading the inter-world dictionary that we had created." (Earth, 2019: 291)

"... Ali had turned into a bear as tall as the ceiling of the room... Ali roared, making the ceiling fall down. Before he had even finished roaring, his right hand seized Tamus, as if he were handling a doll, and hurled him far away... A hand with thick black fur grabbed Seli and Miss Selena and threw them against the side wall, rescuing them from the dark passage." (Earth, 2019: 359-360)

The brave, working hard, and strong characteristic that Ali have is described by behavior technique. The behavior technique is the potrayal technique of a character's action indirectly. The characteristic of the character can be seen in the way they do things.

CONCLUSION

The researcher has concluded that the characterization used by the author in the novel "Earth" by Tere Liye is an analytic and dramatic technique. The researcher found 46 data supporting the identification of characterization applied to the main character in the novel "Earth" by Tere Liye. Those result of the identification were categorized into five namely: (1) Expository or Analytic used by author containing 2 data, (2) Conversation used by author containing 17 data, (3) Character's Reaction used by author containing 1 datum, (4) Behavior used by author containing 25 data, and (5) Thoughts and Feelings technique used by author containing 1 datum.

The characteristics of Raib in the novel "Earth" is loving, obedient to her parents, brave, friendly, strong, stubborn, worked hard, never give up, loved reading, was a little shy, and reckless. The characteristics of Seli is cheerful, fangirling, loving, friendly, brave, strong, kind, loyal friend, never give up, and working hard. Meanwhile the characteristics of Ali is high curiosity, genius,

love reading, mysterious, gentleman, loyal friend, brave, never give up, working hard, and strong. In the novel "Earth" by Tere Liye, apart from the exciting adventures, the reader can also take moral values regarding the meaning of family and true friendship.

SUGGESTIONS

By conducting this study, the researcher hopes that the result of this study will be helpful in the future. The researcher expected English teachers to provide an overview of the language and literature, especially about characterization. And for the students, the researcher expected that they could improve their reading ability while understanding and appreciating a person's character simultaneously. Meanwhile, for future researchers, the researcher hopes that the result of this study can be used as a reference to develop research in literary work, especially characterization.



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