

ABSTRACT

Realita Kartika Sari. (2003). **The Powerful Love of Lieutenant Jimmy Cross, One of the Main Character of Tim O'Brien's *The Things They Carried***. Yogyakarta: English Education Study Program, Department of Language and Arts Education, Faculty of Teachers Training and Education, Sanata Dharma University

This study aims to see how love can be so powerful in somebody's life, as is seen in Jimmy Cross, one of the main characters of Tim O'Brien's *The Things They Carried*. In order to do so, this study deals with two questions: (1) How are Lieutenant Jimmy Cross and Martha, the main characters of the novel, described? (2) What kinds of problem does Lieutenant Jimmy Cross have to face when he is falling in love with Martha?

In this study, the method I employed was library study. There were two sources, namely primary source and secondary source. The first source was the novel entitled *The Things They Carried*. The secondary sources were obtained from several books on literature and some criticisms of the novel from the internet, to support my analysis of this literary work. I also combined some theories of literature. They are the theories of character and characterization and of critical approaches. I used psychological approach. I also employed theories of love, of psychoanalysis and of motivation to analyze the novel.

Based on the analysis, I draw some conclusions. Jimmy Cross is an obsessive person. This means that he really loves Martha. He is obsessed with Martha. All he could do is to think about Martha, because it helps him to get through the difficult times when he is at war. Generally, Jimmy Cross loves Martha very much until being distracted by his feeling, he fails in his duty as a platoon leader. Because of his infatuation with that girl, one of his men is shot and dies. He feels so guilty and takes the responsibility. He, then, forgets Martha and continues his duty as a leader. Here, I can say that love has influenced Jimmy Cross' behaviour. Another result is that the novel tries to describe a sense of courage in facing reality, love and responsibility.

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Penelitian ini mencoba untuk melihat bagaimana kekuatan cinta dapat terlihat dalam kehidupan seseorang seperti terlihat pada Jimmy Cross. Penelitian ini memiliki dua rumusan masalah. Pertama adalah bagaimana karakter Lieutenant Jimmy Cross dan Martha sebagai tokoh utama dalam novel digambarkan. Kedua adalah masalah apa saja yang dihadapi Lieutenant Jimmy Cross ketika dia sedang jatuh cinta dengan Martha.

Di dalam penelitian ini, metode yang diterapkan di sini adalah studi pustaka. Novel *The Things They Carried* adalah sumber utama dalam kajian penelitian ini. Sumber kedua diperoleh dari beberapa buku mengenai karya sastra serta sumber-sumber yang diperoleh melalui internet mengenai kritik terhadap novel *The Things They Carried*. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori karakter, teori pendekatan psikologi, teori mengenai cinta, teori psikoanalisa dan teori motivasi untuk menganalisa novel ini.

Berdasarkan analisa, saya mengambil kesimpulan bahwa Jimmy Cross adalah seorang yang obsesif. Artinya bahwa dia sangat mencintai Martha. Dia terobsesi dengan Martha. Hal ini dapat membantunya melewati masa-masa sulit ketika berperang. Jimmy Cross mencintai Martha hingga dia mengabaikan tugasnya sebagai pemimpin pasukan. Akibatnya adalah salah seorang anggota pasukan mati tertembak. Dia merasa bersalah dan bertanggung jawab. Dia memutuskan untuk melupakan Martha dan melanjutkan tugasnya. Di sini, saya menemukan bahwa cinta telah mempengaruhi sikap dan tingkah laku Jimmy Cross. Novel ini juga mencoba untuk mengupas sisi keberanian dalam menghadapi kenyataan, cinta dan tanggung jawab.