

ABSTRACT

WIDIANINGTYAS YUNIATI (2008): **The Portrayal of the Civil War Era as Seen in the Main Characters and Setting of Charles Frazier's *Cold Mountain***. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Sanata Dharma University.

Charles Frazier's novel *Cold Mountain* is worth studying because it is a very magnificent novel with its diversity and depth. This novel tells a story about a wounded soldier, Inman, who tries to go home to unite with his sweetheart, Ada Monroe. This story is complicated with the obstacles Inman encounters on his way home to Cold Mountain in the southern Appalachian mountain.

This research aims to get a comprehensive description of the main characters and setting of Charles Frazier's *Cold Mountain*. In addition, it also aims to investigate how the main characters and setting portray the social condition during the Civil War in the United States.

The method of this study is library research. This research applies theory of characters and characterization, theory of setting, and the theory of relation between literature and society. Review of the social condition during the Civil War in the United States is also presented to get a better understanding of the background of the story. This research applies sociocultural-historical approach since it covers some aspects that are relevant to answer the problem formulations. By using this approach, the writer is able to reveal some extrinsic elements of the work especially the social condition during the Civil War in the United States.

The results of the research can be formulated as follows. Firstly, Inman, Ada Monroe, and Ruby Thewes had passed traumatic episodes during the Civil War. According to the main characters, the Civil War had devastated their life physically and mentally. Their lives were changed by the war. Inman decided to go home and resigned as a Confederate soldier. Ada Monroe learned that the land had become the part of her life. Ruby Thewes was willing to know about other people way of life, such as Ada Monroe's northern way of life. The southern social condition was also represented by the setting of the story. The social condition during the war was depicted through the people whom W. P. Inman, Ada Monroe and Ruby Thewes met. People from different social class experienced the horrible conditions during the war as well. The life of southern people was devastated by the war. The southerners realized that they actually oppose the war. They were questioning whether the war was worth fighting for.

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Novel karya Charles Frazier, *Cold Mountain* layak dikaji karena keberagaman dan kedalaman ceritanya. Novel ini menceritakan seorang tentara, Inman, yang terluka ingin pulang untuk bertemu dengan kekasihnya, Ada Monroe. Cerita ini dikombinasikan dengan rintangan-rintangan yang dialami Inman dalam perjalanan pulang ke Cold Mountain di selatan pegunungan Appalachian.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendapatkan deskripsi tokoh utama dan latar belakang novel *Cold Mountain* karya Charles Frazier secara lengkap. Penelitian ini juga bertujuan untuk menganalisa bagaimana tokoh utama dan latar belakang menggambarkan keadaan masyarakat selama Perang Sipil di Amerika Serikat.

Metode yang diterapkan dalam penelitian ini adalah penelitian kepustakaan. Penelitian ini menerapkan teori tokoh dan penokohan, teori latar belakang, dan teori hubungan antara sastra dan masyarakat. Penjelasan mengenai kehidupan Amerika selama Perang Sipil juga diberikan agar diperoleh pemahaman yang lebih dalam mengenai latar belakang cerita. Penelitian ini menerapkan pendekatan sosial budaya-sejarah karena pendekatan ini meliputi beberapa aspek yang relevan untuk menjawab rumusan masalah. Dengan menggunakan pendekatan ini, penulis dapat menjelaskan beberapa elemen ekstern cerita khususnya keadaan sosial masyarakat selama Perang Sipil di Amerika.

Hasil penelitian dapat dirumuskan sebagai berikut. Pertama, Inman, Ada Monroe, dan Ruby Thewes telah melewati peristiwa yang traumatis selama Perang Sipil. Berdasarkan tokoh utama, Perang Sipil telah menghancurkan kehidupan mereka secara fisik dan mental. Kehidupan mereka diubah oleh perang. Inman memutuskan pulang dan keluar sebagai tentara Konfederasi. Ada Monroe belajar bahwa kehidupan pertanian telah menjadi bagian hidupnya. Ruby Thewes bersedia menerima kehidupan orang lain seperti cara kehidupan orang-orang Utara Ada Monroe. Keadaan masyarakat juga digambarkan oleh setting cerita. Keadaan ini digambarkan oleh tokoh-tokoh yang ditemui Inman, Ada Monroe, dan Ruby Thewes. Masyarakat dari berbagai golongan juga mengalami keadaan bahaya. Kehidupan orang bagian Selatan dihancurkan oleh perang. Orang Selatan menyadari bahwa sebenarnya mereka tidak setuju adanya perang. Mereka mempertanyakan apakah perang itu pantas diperjuangkan.