

ABSTRACT

YOHANES JIMMY OY WEA. **The Criticism toward the European Upper-Class Way of Life in 1800's as Revealed through the Major Characters' Characterizations in August Strindberg's *Miss Julie*.** Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Sanata Dharma University, 2009.

One of the functions of literature is to criticize the society. In 1800's, social revolutions has spread out in Europe. People start to erase the barriers between the classes. The upper-class was expected to be more open and realize that the era of their exclusiveness is no longer needed. But many of them refuse to accept these changes and continue their way of life. This is the social problem discussed in August Strindberg's *Miss Julie*. He tries to criticize the European upper-class in 1800's. Since it is very important, I decided to analyze the criticism toward the European upper-class way of life in 1800's as revealed through the major characters' characterizations in Strindberg's *Miss Julie*.

There are three questions that have to be answered in this thesis. The questions are (1) How are the major characters described in Strindberg's *Miss Julie*? (2) How are the class stratification presented in the play? (3) What are the criticisms toward the European upper class way of life in 1800's revealed through the major characters characterizations in the play?

This study is a library research. The primary source is August Strindberg's *Miss Julie*, while the secondary resources are some books of literature, and sociology. In this thesis, sociocultural-historical approach is used because it talks about the social condition in which a work was created and which it necessarily reflects. Therefore this approach is the most suitable to be used in analyzing the criticism toward the European upper-class way of life in 1800's.

There are three points that can be concluded after analyzing the play. First, the major characters in the play are Miss Julie and Jean. The characterizations of Miss Julie are: stubborn, full of pride, desperate for love, and confused of herself. The characterizations of Jean are: ambitious, upper-class like, and conceited. Second, two social classes in the play are the upper-class represented by Miss Julie, signed by the title, the high power, the luxurious housing, the glamorous lifestyle, and exclusive marriage inside the class. The second one is the lower-class represented by Jean signed by no title or money, poor house, poor partner's marriages, and no glamorous lifestyle. Third, Strindberg tries to criticize the upper class way of life at that time through Miss Julie and Jean's characterizations as the major characters.

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Salah satu fungsi karya sastra adalah mengkritisi masyarakat. Pada revolusi sosial tahun 1800an, masyarakat mulai menghapus batasan-batasan antarkelas sosial. Kalangan atas diharapkan untuk lebih terbuka dan menyadari bahwa keistimewaan mereka tidak lagi dibutuhkan. Inilah masalah sosial yang dibahas dalam drama *Miss Julie* karya August Strindberg. Penulis mencoba mengkritisi kalangan atas Eropa pada tahun 1800an. Karena hal tersebut sangat penting, saya memutuskan menganalisa kritik terhadap gaya hidup kalangan atas Eropa pada tahun 1800an yang terlihat melalui karakterisasi tokoh utama dalam *Miss Julie* karya August Strindberg.

Ada tiga pertanyaan harus dijawab dalam tesis ini, yaitu (1) Bagaimana tokoh-tokoh utama digambarkan dalam *Miss Julie*? (2) Bagaimana stratifikasi sosial ditampilkan dalam drama? (3) Kritik apa terhadap gaya hidup kalangan atas di Eropa pada masa 1800an yang terungkap dalam karakterisasi tokoh-tokoh utama *Miss Julie*?

Skripsi ini adalah studi pustaka. Sumbernya adalah drama *Miss Julie* karya August Strindberg dan buku-buku sastra serta buku kemasyarakatan. Pendekatan yang paling sesuai adalah sosiokultural historikal sebab membahas kondisi sosial saat karya sastra diciptakan..

Ada tiga kesimpulan setelah menganalisis drama ini. Pertama, Miss Julie dan Jean adalah tokoh-tokoh utamanya. Karakterisasi dari Miss Julie adalah: keras kepala, penuh kebanggaan akan diri sendiri, haus akan cinta, dan bingung terhadap dirinya sendiri. Karakterisasi dari Jean adalah: ambisius, berperilaku seperti kalangan atas, dan angkuh. Kedua, kelas sosial dalam drama ini adalah kelas atas yang diwakili oleh Miss Julie, ditandai dengan adanya gelar, memiliki kekuasaan serta rumah yang megah, gaya hidup yang glamor, dan pernikahan yang eksklusif sesama kalangan atas. Kelas bawah diwakili oleh Jean. Mereka tanpa gelar, rumah mereka sangat sederhana, gaya hidup tanpa keglamoran, dan pernikahan mereka hanya membuat mereka tetap miskin. Ketiga, Strindberg mencoba mengkritisi gaya hidup kalangan atas Eropa masa itu melalui karakterisasi dari Miss Julie dan Jean yang adalah karakter-karakter utama dalam dramanya.