

ABSTRACT

Aninditya Putri Arumsari. **The Responses of Chinese Women toward the Practice of Patriarchal Culture as Seen through Adeline Yen Mah's *Falling Leaves***. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Sanata Dharma University, 2011.

In this study, the writer analyzes a novel written by Adeline Yen Mah entitled *Falling Leaves*. It portrays the patriarchal culture which is adopted by the Chinese society. The novel reveals that Chinese women are considered insignificant and they must bend down to the authority of men in their families. *Falling Leaves* clearly describes about many obstacles that Chinese women must face as the victim of the practices of patriarchal culture in their families.

There are three problems formulated in this study. The first problem is how the female characters are described. The second problem is how the practices of patriarchal culture are experienced by the female characters and the last problem is about the responses given by each female character toward the practices of the patriarchal culture. In this study, the writer focuses on explaining the five female characters; Adeline, Aunt Baba, Grand Aunt, Grandmother, and Lydia.

The method used in this study was the library research method. The sources applied in this study were primary and secondary sources. The primary source was the novel *Falling Leaves* itself and the secondary sources were books and articles. The applied theories in the analysis were the theory of character and characterization, which was applied for the first problem, theory of patriarchal culture, which was applied for the second problem, and theory of feminism, which was applied for the third problem.

The result of the analyses after answering those three formulated problems above showed that the characteristics of the female characters became the factor which determined their fate living in the patriarchal culture. For the example was Lydia's characteristic which was not courageous. Her characteristic made her experienced the patriarchal culture because she did not have courage to rebel. Patriarchal cultures found in *Falling Leaves* were in form of the practice of footbinding custom, an arranged marriage, and the men domination in the family. The female characters gave different responses toward the practices of patriarchal culture. Grandmother who came from the old generation conformed herself toward the patriarchal culture. Grand Aunt, although she came from the old generation, she had awareness toward her future, so that she decided to rebel. Adeline, Aunt Baba, and Lydia who lived in the early 19th century decided to show resistance toward the patriarchal culture. Their decision to resist was influenced by the existence of feminist movements, where its target is to release women from the oppression given to them. So that the existence of feminist movement brought the awareness to some female characters in *Falling Leaves* to resist against the practices of patriarchal culture and get their freedom.

ABSTRAK

Aninditya Putri Arumsari. **The Responses of Chinese Women toward the Practice of Patriarchal Culture as Seen through Adeline Yen Mah's *Falling Leaves***. Yogyakarta: Jurusan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Sastra, Universitas Sanata Dharma, 2011.

Dalam skripsi ini penulis menganalisa sebuah novel karangan Adeline Yen Mah berjudul *Falling Leaves*. Novel tersebut menggambarkan kebudayaan patriarki yang diadaptasi oleh komunitas Cina. Novel ini menyatakan bahwa kaum wanita di Cina dianggap tidak berarti dan mereka harus tunduk pada kekuasaan kaum lelaki di keluarga mereka. *Falling Leaves* dengan jelas mendeskripsikan tentang rintangan-rintangan yang kaum wanita harus hadapi sebagai korban dari praktek budaya patriarki di keluarga mereka.

Terdapat tiga rumusan masalah dalam skripsi ini. Rumusan masalah pertama tentang bagaimana tokoh-tokoh wanita dideskripsikan dalam novel. Rumusan masalah kedua tentang bagaimana praktek kebudayaan patriarki yang dialami tokoh-tokoh wanita dan rumusan masalah ketiga tentang bagaimana tanggapan tokoh-tokoh wanita dalam novel terhadap praktek kebudayaan patriarki di keluarga mereka. Dalam skripsi ini, penulis memfokuskan penjelasan terhadap lima tokoh perempuan; Adeline, Aunt Baba, Grand Aunt, Grandmother, dan Lydia.

Metode yang digunakan dalam skripsi ini adalah metode studi pustaka. Sumber-sumber yang dipakai dalam skripsi ini terdiri dari sumber utama dan sumber kedua. Sumber pertama adalah novel *Falling Leaves* sendiri, dan sumber kedua adalah buku dan artikel. Teori-teori yang digunakan dalam analisis adalah teori karakter dan karakterisasi, yang digunakan untuk rumusan masalah pertama, teori kebudayaan patriarki, yang digunakan untuk rumusan masalah kedua, dan teori feminisme, yang digunakan untuk rumusan masalah ketiga.

Hasil dari analisis di atas menunjukkan bahwa sifat-sifat dari tokoh-tokoh perempuan adalah faktor yang menentukan nasib mereka yang hidup di dalam kebudayaan patriarki. Contohnya adalah sifat Lydia, yang tidak pemberani. Sifat tersebut membuat Lydia mengalami praktek kebudayaan patriarki di hidupnya karena dia tidak mempunyai keberanian untuk melawan. Kebudayaan patriarki yang terbadapt di novel *Falling Leaves* berupa praktek adat pengikatan kaki, perjodohan, dan dominasi laki-laki di dalam keluarga. Tokoh-tokoh perempuan memberikan tanggapan yang berbeda-beda terhadap praktek kebudayaan patriarki. Grandmother yang hidup di generasi tua menyesuaikan diri dengan kebudayaan patriarki. Grand Aunt, walaupun dia hidup di generasi tua, tetapi dia mempunyai kesadaran terhadap masa depannya. Dia melakukan perlawanan untuk membebaskan dirinya dari praktek kebudayaan patriarki. Adeline, Aunt Baba, dan Lydia yang hidup di awal abad kesembilan belas memutuskan untuk menunjukkan perlawanan mereka terhadap kebudayaan patriarki. Keputusan mereka untuk melawan dipengaruhi oleh keberadaan pergerakan feminisme yang targetnya

PLAGIAT MERUPAKAN TINDAKAN TIDAK TERPUJI

adalah untuk membebaskan wanita dari penindasan yang diberikan kepada mereka. Sehingga keberadaan pergerakan feminisme membawa kesadaran terhadap beberapa tokoh wanita di *Falling Leaves* untuk melawan praktek kebudayaan patriarki dan mendapatkan kebebasan mereka.

