

ABSTRACT

LYSTIANI KARATIKA SARI. **Racial Discrimination Revealed through the Major Character and the Setting in Kathryn Stockett's *The Help***. Yogyakarta, Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Sanata Dharma University, 2013.

In this thesis, the writer analyzes a novel written by Kathryn Stockett entitled *The Help*. *The Help* is her first novel, which was published in 2009. This novel describes three black maids' experiences that get the racial discrimination from their masters. The racial discrimination that happens to Aibileen Clark, Minny Jackson and Yule May is their separation from public facilities. They have to use the colored facilities. For example: bus, barber, etc. They also experienced verbal abuse from their masters.

In this research, there are three problems that are used to guide the study. The first problem is to identify the characteristics of the major characters. The second problem is to describe the setting in *The Help* and the third problem is to explore how the racial discrimination revealed through the characters and the setting of the novel. There are three theories applied in this thesis. There are theory of character and characterization, theory of setting and theory of discrimination. The approach that is used to analyze this novel is socio-cultural historical approach.

The method that is used in the study is the library research method. The sources applied in this study are primary and secondary sources. The primary source is the novel, *The Help* and the secondary sources are books and articles. The applied theories in the analysis are the theory of character and characterization which are applied for the first problem. Theory of setting is applied for the second problem, and theory of racial discrimination is applied for the third problem.

After completing the analysis, the writer finds out the characteristic of three black maids from their experiences on the racial discrimination. The racial discrimination can be seen through the setting. The third is about the racial discrimination toward the black people. The racial discrimination can be seen through the separation of public facilities between the white people and the black people. The perspective of the white people about the racial discrimination can be the reason of oppression toward the black people.

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Dalam skripsi ini penulis menganalisis sebuah novel karangan Kathryn Stockett yang berjudul *The Help*. *The Help* diterbitkan pada tahun 2009. Novel ini menggambarkan pengalaman hidup tiga pelayan wanita kulit hitam yg mendapatkan diskriminasi ras dari majikan mereka. Diskriminasi ras yang terjadi pada Aibileen Clark, Minny Jackson dan Yule May adalah pemisahan penggunaan fasilitas umum. Mereka mempraktekkan pembedaan penggunaan fasilitas umum bagi kulit berwarna, contohnya: posisi tempat duduk di bis, rumah sakit, dan lainnya. Mereka juga mendapatkan perlakuan kekerasan secara verbal dari majikan mereka.

Ada tiga rumusan masalah yang dibahas dalam penelitian ini. Rumusan pertama berisi tentang bagaimana tokoh tiga pelayan wanita di deskripsikan. Rumusan kedua menggambarkan bagaimana latar dalam *The Help* dideskripsikan, dan rumusan ketiga adalah bagaimana diskriminasi ras dapat terungkap melalui tiga tokoh utama dan latar.

Metode yang digunakan dalam skripsi ini adalah metode studi pustaka. Sumber-sumber yang dipakai dalam skripsi ini terdiri dari novel *The Help*, buku-buku dan artikel. Teori-teori yang digunakan dalam skripsi ini adalah teori tokoh dan penokohan, yang digunakan untuk menjabarkan rumusan masalah pertama, teori latar, digunakan untuk menjawab rumusan masalah kedua, teori diskriminasi ras, digunakan untuk menjelaskan rumusan masalah ketiga.

Setelah melakukan menyelesaikan analisis, penulis menemukan sifat - sifat dari tiga pelayan wanita kulit hitam yang dapat dilihat melalui pengalaman diskriminasi ras yang mereka terima dari majikan. Pengalaman tentang diskriminasi ras itulah yang membentuk sifat- sifat dari tokoh- tokoh utama. Diskriminasi ras juga dapat dilihat melalui latar dalam novel. Rasial diskriminasi juga dapat dilihat melalui pemisahan fasilitas publik antara orang kulit putih dan kulit hitam. Sudut pandang dari orang kulit putih tentang diskriminasi ras juga merupakan alasan dalam penindasan terhadap orang kulit hitam.