

Ferdinandus Mario (2001): **IN SEARCH OF THEME THROUGH THE PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS' ACTION AND PLOT PROGRESSION IN HENRY JAMES' *THE TURN OF THE SCREW***. Yogyakarta. Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Sanata Dharma University.

ABSTRACT

The Turn of the Screw is a work of narrative fiction and it has been considered an ironic narrative fiction. It is ironic because finally the overprotection that came from over neurotic thought of a governess toward two little innocent kids from two ghosts has to be ended by the separation between the governess and the two little children. The governess that has tried hard to separate the children from the ghosts is finally left alone by the children; one is going back to her employer and the other is dead.

The study is to answer three problems, they are (1) how is the plot develop in Henry James' *The Turn of the Screw* (2), how are the main characters depicted in the novel, and (3) how do the character and plot would finally express the theme. The study tries to discover the theme through the characters' action and the plot progression.

There is one approach used to analyze the novel. As the study criticized the work itself without connecting it with the outside aspects of the work, it uses formalistic approach in studying the novel. The study tried to analyze the concept of causal relationship and the interdependent relation between the character, the plot, and the theme. First, the structural analysis of character depiction and plot progression will be given to be the background to understand their relation. Second, the study tries to discover the theme's expression that the characters give through the plot progression.

From the study, it can be concluded that every character's action in the novel *The Turn of the Screw* affects the other character's action and cause a certain event in the story that managed the plot. The plot itself is designed to achieve a situation where the reader can realize that the governess has failed in taking care the children. The failure happens because the lack of communication and cooperation between the employer as the parent, the children, Mrs. Grose, and the governess. The employer is too ignorant toward his children. The children are also too silent about their needs, problems, thoughts, and feelings. Mrs. Grose as the child's servant in the other hand, is helpless. The incorporated attitudes of the employer and the children add by the helpless action from Mrs. Grose have made large difficulty for the governess in running her job so then she fails. All of the causal relationship matters between the governess' failure and the characters of the employer, the children and Mrs. Grose are actually leading the writer into a certain central idea or theme of the story. It is about the essential attitude to develop a cooperation and understanding view of man, working together for better achievement and result.

Ferdinandus Mario, (2001): **PENCARIAN TEMA MELALUI ANALISA KARAKTER-KARAKTER UTAMA DAN PERKEMBANGAN PLOT DALAM NOVEL *THE TURN OF THE SCREW* KARYA HENRY JAMES.** Yogyakarta, Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Sastra, Universitas Sanata Dharma.

ABSTRAK

The Turn of the Screw adalah sebuah karya fiksi naratif yang menampilkan kisah yang ironis. Fiksi ini dianggap ironis karena bercerita tentang kegagalan seorang wanita pengajar menjauhkan dua anak didiknya dari sepasang hantu. Pada akhir cerita pengajar tersebut malah ditinggalkan kedua anak didiknya. Satu anak didiknya pulang ke tempat pamannya atau tuan dari wanita pengajar itu sedang yang lain meninggal dunia.

Studi ini bermaksud menjawab tiga pertanyaan yaitu, (1) bagaimanakah plot novel *The Turn of the Screw* karya Henry James, (2) bagaimanakah karakter-karakter utama digambarkan, dan (3) bagaimanakah karakter dan plot akhirnya dapat menyatakan tema. Studi ini berusaha mengungkapkan tema melalui analisa terhadap perbuatan karakter dan perkembangan plot dalam novel.

Studi ini menggunakan pendekatan formalis dalam upayanya menganalisa novel *The Turn of the Screw*, oleh karena itu studi ini tidak mengkaitkan novel dengan aspek-aspek di luar karya novel itu sendiri. Studi ini berusaha untuk menganalisa konsep hubungan sebab-akibat dan hubungan ketergantungan antara karakter, plot dan tema. Langkah pertama, analisa terhadap penggambaran karakter dan perkembangan plot akan diberikan sebagai latar-belakang untuk memahami hubungan mereka. Langkah kedua, studi ini berusaha untuk mengungkapkan pernyataan tema yang diungkapkan oleh karakter melalui perkembangan plot.

Satu hal yang dapat disimpulkan dari studi ini adalah setiap perbuatan karakter dalam novel *The Turn of the Screw* mempengaruhi perbuatan karakter lainnya dan menyebabkan peristiwa tertentu dalam cerita yang menata plot. Plot disini ditata untuk memperoleh situasi dimana akhirnya wanita pengajar di dalam cerita gagal menjalankan tugas mengasuh anak didiknya. Kegagalan itu disebabkan akibat kurangnya komunikasi dan kerjasama antara pengajar dengan tuan si pengajar, ibu Grose dan anak-anak didik. Tuan si pengajar terlalu tak acuh terhadap anak-anak. Anak-anak juga terlalu diam akan keinginan, masalah, pikiran dan perasaan mereka. Ibu Grose di lain pihak, tidak bisa menolong. Tidak adanya kerja-sama dari tuan si pengajar dan anak-anak serta keterbatasan pertolongan dari ibu Grose membuat pekerjaan pengajar menjadi sulit hingga ia gagal dalam tugasnya. Hubungan sebab akibat antara kegagalan si pengajar dengan sifat tuannya dan sepupu-sepupunya sebenarnya menuntun penulis kepada satu pokok pikiran. Pokok pikiran atau tema cerita ini adalah pentingnya membina sikap kerjasama demi memperoleh hasil yang lebih baik.