

## ABSTRACT

ADYUDHO, DANIEL BRAMANTYO. (2019). **The Main Character's Personality Development as Seen in Edgar Allan Poe's "The Black Cat"**. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Sanata Dharma University.

"The Black Cat" is opened with an unnamed character who tells about his past before he is sentenced to death. During his childhood, the main character does not have friends because he was bullied. Therefore, he played with his animals which were given by his parents. Their friendship last for several years until the main character turns into an adult. His personality which he kept from childhood which is good traits suddenly turns into bad traits when he turns into an adult. The main character undergoes personality development through maturation.

This study has two objectives. The first one is to analyze what characteristic that the main character has. Then, the second one is to find what reasons that make the main character's personality develop.

In order to analyze the objectives above, library method is applied by the writer to collect all data which is needed to conduct this study. Theory on character and characterization and also theory of character development are applied to help the writer answers the problem formulations. There are some factors that affect someone's personality development, which are: change in physical, change in person, and change in self-concept. Psychological approach is also used since this study focus on analyzing someone's personality development.

The writer finds out that the main character is characterized as a lenient, patient, and loving person when he was a child. He befriends with animals since childhood and also he pet animals even after his marriage. He built friendship with his black cat for several years. When he turns adult, he starts to consume alcoholic drink. His personality is changed due to the alcoholic drink. He starts to torture his animals, wife, and his black cat. His favorite animal avoids him due to his action. He kills his favorite animal because he knows that animal does not love him anymore. In the end, all of those experiences and actions that are done by the main character make the main character's personality become worse. He experience a slow and qualitative change personality development.

Keywords: personality development, main character, The Black Cat

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Cerita "The Black Cat" diawali dengan tokoh yang tidak bernama yang menceritakan masa lalunya sebelum ia dihukum mati. Pada masa kecilnya, tokoh utama tidak mempunyai teman karena dirundung. Karena itu, ia bermain bersama hewan peliharaan yang diberi oleh orangtuanya. Persahabatan mereka berlangsung sekian lama sampai tokoh utama beranjak dewasa. Kepribadian tokoh utama yang dibawa sejak kecil yang bersifat baik tiba-tiba berubah menjadi buruk ketika ia beranjak dewasa. Tokoh utama mengalami perkembangan kepribadian melalui pendewasaan.

Penelitian ini mempunyai dua tujuan. Tujuan yang pertama untuk menganalisis karakteristik tokoh utama. Tujuan yang kedua untuk mencari tahu apa yang menyebabkan kepribadian tokoh utama berkembang.

Untuk menganalisis tujuan di atas, metode kepustakaan digunakan oleh penulis untuk mengumpulkan data – data yang dibutuhkan untuk melakukan penelitian ini. Teori karakter dan karakterisasi serta teori perkembangan karakter digunakan untuk membantu penulis menjawab rumusan masalah. Ada beberapa faktor yang menyebabkan kepribadian seseorang berkembang seperti: perubahan fisik, perubahan pada orang, dan perubahan pada konsep diri. Pendekatan psikologis juga digunakan karena penelitian ini fokus pada analisis perkembangan kepribadian seseorang.

Penulis menemukan bahwa tokoh utama digambarkan sebagai orang yang lemah lembut, sabar, dan penuh kasih sayang sejak ia kecil. Ia bersahabat dengan hewan sejak masa kanak-kanak dan juga memelihara hewan setelah ia menikah. Ia menjalin persahabatan dengan kucing hitam selama beberapa tahun. Ketika ia beranjak dewasa, ia mulai mengonsumsi alkohol. Alkohol merubah kepribadiannya. Ia mulai menyiksa hewan, istri, dan kucing hitamnya. Hewan kesayangannya mulai menjauhinya akibat perbuatannya. Ia membunuh hewan kesayangannya karena patah hati mengetahui hewan kesayangannya tidak mencintainya lagi. Pada akhirnya, semua pengalaman dan tindakan yang dilakukan oleh karakter utama membuat kepribadian karakter utama menjadi lebih buruk, mengalami perkembangan perubahan yang bersifat lambat dan kualitatif.

Kata Kunci: personality development, main character, The Black Cat