

ABSTRACT

Awis, Luciana Novita (2016). *The contribution of symbol in revealing the theme in Elizabeth Gilbert's Eat, Pray, Love*, Yogyakarta: English Language Education Study Program, Department of Language and Arts Education, Faculty of Teachers and Education, Sanata Dharma University.

This study discusses about a novel entitled *Eat, Pray, Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert. This novel tells about Gilbert's journey in three countries, namely India, Italy and Indonesia.

The aim of this study is to find how the symbols contribute in revealing the theme of the novel. This study analyzed symbols in the novel and found how symbols existing are able to reveal the theme of the story. There are two problems formulation: (1) what are the symbols found in the novel? and (2) how do the symbols reveal the theme of the novel?

This study was a library study. There are two types of data sources which are used in this study. The novel *Eat, Pray, Love* was used as the primary source and books and articles used as the secondary source. This is research uses formalist approach because it focuses to the text only. Theories which were used in this study were theory of symbol, theme and authentic happiness. There were several steps in doing this study. First, the writer chose a literary work which was analyzed. Second, the writer studied every symbol and also found the meaning of those symbols. The last step was to reveal the theme by linking the meaning of all symbols found in the story.

The result of this study showed that there were three symbols found in the novel. According to Perrine (1974) readers should pay attention on how the author gives certain detail of an object, action or people because symbols are often indicated by emphasis, detail repetition or position. The first symbol found in the novel was eating, the action of eating symbolized Gilbert's happiness, contentment. Eating is considered as symbol because they were mentioned several times in the novel. The second symbol which was praying symbolized Gilbert's happiness. The action of eating is considered as a symbol because the author gives certain detail on the actions of eating and they were mentioned several times in the novel. The third are Ketut Liyer, Wayan and Felipe. Those people are considered as symbols because they were mentioned several times in the novel they were mentioned as one symbol because they have same meaning which was love. The meaning of each symbol correlated with the pathways of authentic happiness which are pleasure, engagement and meaning. The correlation shows how Gilbert found her true happiness. Therefore, the theme of the novel was pursuit of happiness.

Keywords: *symbol, theme, happiness*

ABSTRAK

Awis, Luciana Novita. (2016). *The contribution of symbol in revealing the theme in Elizabeth Gilbert's Eat, Pray, Love*, Yogyakarta: Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, Jurusan Pendidikan, Bahasa, dan Seni, Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan Universitas Sanata Dharma.

Penelitian ini membahas tentang novel berjudul *Eat, Pray, Love* karya Elizabeth Gilbert. Novel ini menceritakan tentang perjalanan Gilbert di tiga negara yaitu India, Italia dan Indonesia.

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui bagaimana peran symbol dalam mengungkap tema novel. Penelitian ini menidiskusikan simbol-simbol yang terdapat dalam novel dan menemukan bagaimana simbol-simbol tersebut dapat mengungkapkan tema dari cerita. Terdapat dua rumusan masalah yang telah dirumuskan. Pertama adalah simbol-simbol yang ditemukan di dalam novel dan yang kedua adalah bagaimana simbol-simbol tersebut mengungkapkan tema dari novel tersebut.

Penelitian ini adalah penelitian kepustakaan. Terdapat dua jenis data yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini. Novel *Eat, Pray, Love* digunakan sebagai sumber utama dan buku serta artikel digunakan sebagai data tambahan. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan formalis karena penelitian ini berfokus pada unsur intrinsik novel. Teori yang digunakan dalam penelitian adalah teori simbol, tema dan kebahagiaan sejati. Terdapat beberapa langkah dalam melakukan penelitian ini. Pertama, penulis memilih karya sastra yang akan diteliti. Kedua, penulis mempelajari setiap simbol dan menemukan arti dari simbol-simbol tersebut. Langkah terakhir adalah mengungkapkan tema dengan menghubungkan arti dari semua simbol yang sudah ditemukan di dalam cerita.

Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan ada tiga simbol yang ditemukan di dalam novel. Menurut Perrine (1974) pembaca harus memperhatikan bagaimana penulis memberikan rincian tertentu pada suatu object, tindakan atau orang karena simbol sering ditandai dengan penekanan, pengulangan rinci atau posisi. Simbol pertama yang ditemukan dalam novel adalah makan, makan menyimbolkan kebahagiaan, kepuasan Gilbert. Makan dianggap sebagai simbol karena diulang beberapa kali dalam novel. Simbol kedua adalah berdoa yang menyimbolkan kebahagiaan Gilbert. Makan dianggap sebagai simbol karena penulis memberikan detail tertentu pada tindakan makan dan itu disebutkan beberapa kali dalam novel. ketiga adalah Ketut Liyer, Wayan dan Felipe. Orang-orang tersebut dianggap sebagai simbol karena diulang beberapa kali dalam novel, itu disebutkan sebagai salah satu simbol karena mereka memiliki arti yang sama yaitu cinta. Arti dari setiap simbol berkorelasi dengan teori kebahagiaan otentik yaitu kesenangan, keterlibatan dan makna. Korelasi tersebut menunjukkan bagaimana Gilbert menemukan kebahagiaan sejati. Oleh karena itu, tema novel itu pencarian kebahagiaan.

Kata kunci: *symbol, theme, happiness*