

## ABSTRACT

**Suksmaditya, Leonardo Herlangga. 2009. Morrie's View of Life Based on Buddhist Philosophy as Reflected in Mitch Albom's Tuesdays with Morrie. Yogyakarta: English Language Education Study Program, Faculty of Teachers Training and Education, Sanata Dharma University.**

This thesis discusses Mitch Albom's novel Tuesdays with Morrie. In this novel, Morrie, is the main character who was interested in following Buddhist philosophy he was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), a brutal, deadly and unforgiving disease of the neurological system. Morrie shared and talked to people about life and death in the remaining time of his life.

There are two problems related to the topic of the thesis: (1) How is Morrie's described in the novel (2) What is Morrie's view of life based on Buddhist philosophy as reflected in the novel.

There are two kinds of sources used in the study. The primary source is obtained from the novel Tuesdays with Morrie, and the secondary sources are obtained from books on literature and books on Buddhism. I also quote some literary criticisms to support this study.

I employ the theory of characterization to answer the first problem. The second problem is answered by using references on Buddhist philosophy and also employing the theory of characterization. In this study I use history of idea approach to relate Morrie's view of life and Buddhist philosophy.

Based on the analysis, I make some conclusions. First, Morrie is a wise, loving and forgiving man who teaches people how to view life. He has a good personality and live his life based on love, acceptance, and human goodness, in a way that uphold ethical values. Second, his view of life and his way of being is influenced by Buddhist teaching and philosophy, it is reflected in his speech and his way of thinking. He has some relationship with some other character. The people who are close to him are: Mitch his former college student, his wife Charlotte, his two sons Rob and Jon, and Ted Koppel.

This thesis also gives some suggestions and implementations of Tuesdays with Morrie in teaching English.

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Skripsi ini membahas tentang novel karangan Mitch Albom yang berjudul Tuesdays with Morrie. Di dalam novel ini, Morrie, tokoh utama yang tertarik menganut filosofi Budha di diagnosa mengidap ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis), sebuah penyakit mematikan yang menyerang kerja sistem syaraf. Morrie berbagi dan berdiskusi dengan beberapa orang tentang kehidupan dan kematian diwaktu sisa hidupnya.

Ada dua butir permasalahan yang terkait dengan topik skripsi ini, yaitu: (1) Bagaimanakah Morrie digambarkan di dalam novel ini dan (2) Bagaimanakah pandangan Morrie terhadap kehidupan dilihat melalui filosofi Budha.

Ada dua macam sumber yang digunakan di dalam penelitian ini. Sumber yang utama diperoleh dari novel Tuesdays with Morrie, dan sumber pendukung didapatkan dari buku-buku tentang kesusasteraan dan buku-buku tentang ajaran Budha. Saya juga mengutip beberapa kritik-kritik kesusasteraan untuk mendukung penelitian ini.

Saya menggunakan teori karakter untuk menjawab permasalahan pertama. Permasalahan kedua dijawab menggunakan referensi filosofi Budha dan juga menggunakan teori karakter. Pada penelitian ini saya menggunakan pendekatan sejarah buah pikiran untuk mengaitkan pandangan hidup Morrie dengan filosofi Budha.

Berdasarkan analisis tersebut, saya menyimpulkan beberapa hal. Pertama, Morrie adalah seorang yang bijak, penyayang dan pemaaf yang mengajarkan orang bagaimana cara memandang kehidupan. Ia memiliki kepribadian yang baik dan menjalani hidupnya berdasar pada cinta, kepasrahan, kebaikan dan menjunjung tinggi nilai kebenaran. Kedua, pandangan hidup Morrie dan cara ia menjalaninya banyak dipengaruhi ajaran dan filosofi Budha yang tergambar dalam perkataan dan pola pikirnya. Morrie berhubungan dekat dengan orang disekitarnya. Orang-orang terdekatnya adalah: mantan muridnya saat diperkuliahan Mitch, Charlotte istrinya, kedua anaknya Jon dan Rob dan Ted Koppel.

Skripsi ini juga memberikan beberapa saran dan penerapan novel Tuesdays with Morrie untuk mengajar Bahasa Inggris.