

Hermeneutic Study in The Novel “Tuyet” Bur Rasuanto's Works

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is to describe hermeneutics in the novel Tuyet by Bur Rasuanto. This research is a type of library research. Source of data in this research is primary and secondary data. Primary data is the main data taken from the novel Tuyet by Bur Rasuanto and secondary data is taken from several literatures that support primary data. The method used to obtain data in this study is a qualitative descriptive analysis method, namely reading repeatedly and then analyzing and recording words, sentences, expressions that contain hermeneutics. After the data is collected, the data is analyzed by identifying the data based on the problem items and research objectives. From the results of the analysis above, it can be concluded that the novel Tuyet by Bur Rasuanto is full of meaning. The novel teaches us that the amount of love for parents can cripple the human mind. In addition, living with idealism will lead humans to exile to the ruling regime. The more dangerous is that power that is too prominent also increasingly acts arbitrarily against its own people which is also capable of diminishing the spirit of human life.

Keywords: *Hermeneutic, Novel*

INTRODUCTION

Literary works use language as the main medium used by the author in conveying his ideas on the reflection of human life in society, culture and belief. As a medium used by humans, the language of literary works becomes a bridge that connects the author's thoughts which are then conveyed to readers with various moral messages packaged through honesty and beautiful language. In the relationship between the author and the reader, literary works occupy different roles. In addition to playing a role in the process of transferring life values from author to reader, literary works also play a role in respecting written language through the style of language used by the author in communicating with his readers. The author's style of language and writing is able to hypnotize and carry the reader away in the meaning of each word produced by the author for the literary works he produces. The difference in the author's way of conveying the implied message in each literary work through the style of language, enriches and becomes the uniqueness of the

author in the eyes of his readers. This also includes novels as literary works that are inseparable from the use of language style and the meaning of words carried out by readers in each story narrated by the author and so is the novel Tuyet.

Novel Tuyet tells of a girl from South Vietnam who is squeezed by economic conditions in collecting ransom money to save her father who was slandered and imprisoned just for opposing the ruling regime. With repressive power that threatened his honor in the devastating Vietnam war, an elite class grew a corrupt military regime that was grumpy, luxurious and in poor taste. Tuyet hoped for help from an Indonesian journalist named Alimin because of his military connections, he was moved by his humanity so he asked for help through Thi (a Saigon student) who was studying Indonesian with him and Thi had a father who was very influential in the military unit but couldn't find a way out . because in fact business and sex exploitation were the main goals for women at that time during the Vietnam war in 1967. This research examines the meaning or message contained in Novel Tuyet with hermeneutic studies.

Hermeneutics is an important element in giving meaning to the results of the reader's interpretation of a text he has read. According to Palmer (2005:8) that hermeneutics is the study of understanding, especially the task of understanding text. Meanwhile, according to Ricoeur (2012: 57) hermeneutics is about the operation of understanding in interpreting texts. In his study, Ricoeur distinguished between univocal and equivocal symbols. A univocal symbol is a sign with one signified meaning, like symbols in logic. While the equivocal symbol is a symbol

actually from hermeneutics. The novel is the result of dialogue, contemplation, and the author's reaction to life and its environment after starting intense appreciation and contemplation (Ma'ruf, 2010:17: in the journal). The word novel comes from the word novellus which is also derived from the word novies which means new. The novel comes from the Italian: novella, which in German: novella, and Greek: novellus, According to Jassin, in (Zulfanur, 1996: 67) also says that the novel tells an extraordinary incident from the story characters, because the events it causes inner turmoil that changes the course of the character's fate. Novels tend to expand and emphasize complexity. The extent and complexity that is meant is a matter of character, the problems that are being experienced by the character and the expansion of the background of the story. According to Goldman (in Saraswati, 2003: 87) states that a novel is a story about the search for truth values in a degraded world, the search is carried out by a character who experiences this problem. The novel is basically a story which contains the aim to provide entertainment to the reader.

Then according to Sumardjo (in Huslaini: 2016) states that "Novel is a form of literature that is very popular in the world. This form of literature is the most widely circulated and printed, because of its very broad community power in society. According to Kosasih (2003: 223: in Huslaini: 2016) the novel comes from the Italian novella which means "a small new item". Then the word is defined as a prose literary work. The novel is an imaginative work that tells the full side of the problems in the life of a person or several characters.

In other words, the novel is a literary work that is included in a prose fiction essay that is narrative in nature and a reflection of human life with the values of life teachings in it through the story and character traits built by the author into a humanist story unit.

Etymologically, the word "hermeneutic" or "hermeneutic" comes from the English hermeneutics. The word "hermeneutics" itself comes from the Greek word *hermeneuo* which means expressing one's thoughts in words or "*hermeneuein*" which means interpreting and "*hermeneia*" which means

interpretation. The word "*hermeneuo*" also translates or acts as an interpreter.

According to Gadamer (in Azis, 2012: 156-157), the goal of hermeneutics is not to apply various standard and nail rules to achieve an objective correct understanding, but to gain as good an understanding as possible. Thus, the key to understanding is not how to manipulate or control,

but with participation and openness, not with knowledge, but with experience, and not with methods, but with dialectics. In the process of dialectics, the text and the interpreter undergo an openness to one another so that both give and receive each other which then allows for the birth of a new understanding.

Habermas in Abdullah stated that hermeneutics is an art of understanding the meaning of linguistic communication and interpreting symbols in the form of text or something that is done as a text to find its meaning and meaning, where this method implies the ability to interpret the past that was not experienced, then brought to the present.

Ricouer (in Rafiek, 2010) explains the workings of hermeneutics as follows: the first step, is the symbolic step from symbol to symbol. The second step is giving meaning by symbols and careful exploration of meaning. The third step is a truly philosophical step, namely using symbols as a starting point. These three steps have a close relationship with the steps of understanding language, namely semantics (the level of pure linguistics), reflexive (a higher level of knowledge, which is close to the level of ontology), and existential or ontological (understanding the level of being or existence of meaning).

Therefore, hermeneutics is interpreted as the process of changing something or situations of ignorance to understanding. Language interpreter is actually synonymous with interpretation. From there then the meaning of the word hermeneutics has to do with an interpretation or interpretation.

In other words, hermeneutics plays an important role in the reader's ability to capture symbols from his reading material to give meaning to a text he reads through a process of symbolization stages, symbolic codes and symbolic codes which are concluded to become meanings that can be accepted by the reader. Thus, Bur Rasuanto's novel *Tuyet* is also rich in meaning from each style of language it presents, therefore it really deserves appreciation with its hermeneutic studies.

METHODS

This study uses a qualitative descriptive method, namely research that focuses on being careful in searching for and giving meaning to data obtained from words, phrases and sentences in the novel "*Tuyet*" by Bur Rasuanto. The data source for this study was taken

from the title of the novel Tuyet, a type of fiction novel, written by Bur Rasuanto, the publisher of the Indonesian Foundation, city and year of publication Jakarta, 2001 with a total of 141 pages.

According to Moleong in (Putri, 2018) the qualitative descriptive method is a research procedure that can produce descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from people and observed behavior. Sugiyono, 2016: 214) reveals, activities in data analysis are divided into three, namely data reduction, data presentation and drawing conclusions. The steps taken by the researcher to collect and analyze data in the novel "Tuyet" by Bur Rasuanto are reading thoroughly and carefully, searching for and recording then analyzing it with hermeneutical studies.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

Hermeneutic Studies in the Tuyet Novel

In the analysis of Tuyet's novel using the Hermeneutic Model Analysis theory of Paul Ricoeur, Ricoeur (Rafiek 2010: 7) explains the procedures for work as follows: 1) symbolic from symbol to symbol. 2) giving meaning by symbols and careful exploration of meaning, and 3) a truly philosophical step, namely using symbols as a starting point. These three steps have a close relationship with the steps of understanding language, namely semantics (the level of pure linguistics), reflexive (a higher level of knowledge, which is close to the level of ontology), and existential or ontological (understanding the level of being or existence of meaning. Steps -Steps of text analysis according to Paul Ricoeur with a hermeneutic approach are as follows: 1) Text (art), 2) Structural Objectivation, 3) Symbolization. 4) Artists and Referential Aspects. 5) Relevant Disciplines. 6) Meaning. The analysis of Novel Tuyet's Hermeneutic study uses Paul Ricoeur's Analysis Model.

The Vietnam War is the culmination of the tragedy of human history in the twentieth century. History had torn their lives to pieces and now they are tearing apart the hearts of the whole world. The people of Vietnam are racing to leave their homeland and seek refuge to simply escape the atrocities of the communist regime because they have no power to live on the pillars of justice. Vietnam is a nation that is strict with itself and others. Strong support for corruption and communism is used by the authorities to justify the accusations of their enemies.

I approached a mother among the refugees and I asked, "What district are you from?" "Dalat" he answered happily, as if my question gave him happiness. "Masha Allah, what a beautiful place Mother!" my words jumped, he looked at me and his happiness disappeared! (p .: 7)

A middle-aged farmer resting by the side of his rice field in Vinh Long, "Are you afraid of living under the communists?" his innocent peasant face gave off a smile. "I have never lived under communism. I do not know! Our government is anti-communist, so what other atrocities are we afraid of?" (p .: 8)

A Korean male hotel worker in Seoul, in an atmosphere of increasing communist Korean military activity on the north-south border, asked "Is the communist government more frightening than our current government?" (p . 8).

The quotations above capture a kind of general feeling that cannot be expressed from the feelings of the lower strata who are only able to cry inside trying to be strong and trying to get used to the life of the anti-communist movement, hoping to get human protection from the extinction of life expectancy and a legitimate land area for them to live in. The government's atrocities in the Vietnam war seemed as if nothing else matched what they experienced at that time. The album of the collapse of a power and also of hope, due to ulcers and decay from within also seems to be a story unfolding before our eyes.

"I remember Tuyet: his smiles, tears and love. Tuyet means snow in Vietnamese. The tuyet that fills my memories is the snow that comes and dissolves in a typhoon " (p:9)

From these quotes, it can be seen that Tuyet is a very charming woman, both physically and psychologically. Tuyet's existence left deep memories for Alimin. Tuyet is a twenty-one year old Vietnamese woman, has clean yellow skin, long black and slightly wavy hair that rolls up to her shoulders, long neck, straight rows of teeth, thin lips, tall body, has long legs, not too tall. skinny and smart too. However, he has the burden of finding a way to free his father from prison for slander that he is accused of being a communist against his father. Even though his father was only an SLA teacher, only because he had a different opinion with the school principal regarding the achievements of a student at his school. Unfortunately, the student's parents are colonels in Laksus.

Tuyet tries hard to keep his father from being sent to Phu Quok, a small island that has been turned into hell by the authorities. Sadness and tears can not describe the restlessness of his heart. Likewise, his love for his father was able to hit him in any way, including selling his honor for money as his father's ransom. The parable of "the snow that comes and dissolves in the typhoon" tells of the happiness at the beginning of his presence at Alimin's house but disappears with the story of Tuyet's life being very heavy and he has to solve it, based on his openness to Alimin who worked as an Indonesian press during the Vietnam war.

"Herbert?" I held my chin to confirm that I meant Herbert with the sideburns

"That Herbert" he said smiling. (p . 14)

The above quotation clearly shows symbols in communicating verbally with our interlocutors, where symbolic movements make it easier for our speech partners to quickly grasp the same meaning of what is being communicated or discussed together without explaining it in words.

"Have you written Herbert lately?

" Yes ", he replied "I leave it through people who happen to be going to Europe to be posted there".

"O, so you're expecting a reply to the letter" I said. He just nodded while biting his bottom lip. (p . 15)

above quote also contains symbols in communicating verbally, where Tuyet nods his head and bites his lower lip when communicating with Alimin. The nodding head symbol is interpreted as a true disclosure made by Tuyet to Herbert that Tuyet wrote to him. The symbol of biting his lip performed by Tuyet can be interpreted as a feeling of worry,

embarrassment and uneasiness over the feelings that are raging in Tuyet's heart that is expecting a reply to Herbert's letter for him via Alimin.

And the girl who is now sitting in front of me, waiting for a message or letter from a German newspaper who is now somewhere. Is he also a victim of that "Seasonal Love"? (p . 17)

one-season love quote above is first interpreted as a momentary love without marriage ties due to foreign men who only need their sexual desires for women in Vietnam who need protection of their souls and stomachs. The second meaning of seasonal love is also interpreted as the existence of a marriage bond during the war and ended due to the return to their respective areas of origin. So that leaves mothers holding babies or children who have blonde hair, blue eyes, sharp noses, dark skin with curly hair with Asian character without any explanation of the father.

We shook hands. His hand was a bit cold when I held it. " If there's anything I can do for Miss, don't bother saying it," I said casually

"Thank you once again ," he said "Sir very kind" (p: 19)

The meaning of the quote above with the symbol of a cold hand can be interpreted that Tuyet is not feeling well. Cold hands when talking to someone can reflect dominant feelings of love, embarrassment or aversion, worry or anxiety, and fear. Because usually that natural symbol appears in humans when dealing with strangers who are still in the initial stages of communication being built.

"Asar the next day, I boarded a "flying raft" from Da Nang to Saigon. (p: 49)

The meaning of the flying raft is the correspondent's nickname for the United States military transport planes that they usually take to travel from one city to another. The "War Correspondent Card" issued by USMACV in Saigon , is a free ticket to ride in available military vehicles. Just sitting on the iron floor, the entire belly of the plane is just loose, even the door is rarely closed when flying without a seat belt.

"Who is that kind person?"

"The Ostrich, who else!

"Ha , what does he want, how come he's on good terms with the press?"

" He wants to sit on Ky's chair, right! Hopefully there is still God's forgiveness for him....." (p: 99)

The ostrich quote above is interpreted as a nickname for a general who is being eliminated in Saigon, and is starting to participate in political activities through Buddhist groups ahead of the presidential election. The ostrich itself can be described as a bird that has a tall or tall posture. Giving nicknames to someone is sometimes a symbol of familiarity or hatred, both group and personal.

"Chieu Hoi". I greet deluan. The word made him open the door wider and I entered. (p .: 105)

The word Chieu Hoi is a symbol or code of communication of familiarity or a mutually agreed interest to be used for transactions in Saigon. Chieu Hoi means open arms for the voluntary surrender of the Vietcong or North Vietnamese soldiers.

"He just waits while reading here. Good boy he is. I didn't think he was still good at making traditional compresses like this. Young people these days, you know. But that friend of yours....., Tuyet's name? O, do you know what Tuyet means in Vietnamese? Tuyet means snow. I think the name suits the person." (pg 119)

The above quote conveys the meaning that giving a name by parents can be a good prayer for a child's future life. Through names that have good meanings, there are also hopes for a good future. Even in religious beliefs there is also an order to give a good name for a child. The meaning of snow in Tuyet's name clearly means good. Snow is very white, fluffy, soft, cold and its presence is very much missed and gives the impression of happiness to anyone who witnesses the snow falling. Along with that, Tuyet also has a charming physique and psyche.

The skin on the palms and chest of the fingers seemed to be peeling and thickening "Where do you work, Tuyet?" I asked urgently by looking deep into his eyes.

"I told you, I've worked with Hanazaki", he said avoiding my eyes. (p .: 121)

The quote above tries to give a symbol in Alimin's mind to the condition of Tuyet's palms that this gesture emphasizes that Tuyet works as a manual laborer who has damaged his smooth skin tissue. Of course, Tuyet works as a laundress for soldiers' clothes, which are very thick and heavy to survive. live and make money. Since his father was in prison, Tuyet's life was very isolated by communist slander against his father and he did not get a letter of clearance from Laksus to get a decent job. The confirmation of the symbol can also be seen when Tuyet deftly arranges the edges of sheets and pillows. Alimin immediately suspects that Tuyet usually does housework.

"Sadik!!" I screamed as best I could.

"Sadik!" Thi also shouted for him, because Sadik had not yet appeared. The historical fossils also appeared at last. (p .: 124)

Quoting the nickname symbol for someone who mentions humans as Historical Fossils can be interpreted that someone is very old which reflects the number of ages that person has in the long history of his life in the world.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the research above, an analysis of hermeneutic studies has been carried out on the novel Tuyet by Bur Rasuanto, so it can be concluded that hermeneutic studies can also be used in the novel Tuyet. Tuyet's novel itself uses its own symbols or communication codes in its writing which places hermeneutic studies right to be applied when reading it. The location of symbols and communication codes in spoken language written by the author makes it easy to describe the intent or meaning directed by the author to the reader, without having to explain in words. Movement or body language or gestures also give a sign that hermeneutics is at work in the listener or reader of a literary work.

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