TheGIST

Jurnal Sastra dan Bahasa

PSYCHOLOGICAL HORROR IN EDGAR ALLAN POE'S
THELIGHTHOUSE KEEPER

Ikhsan Alimi¹, Ria Nirwana², Meiyanti Nurchaerani ³

Universitas Al-Ghifari, Universitas Esa Unggul

ikhsanalimi8@gmail.com, ria.nirwana06@gmail.com, meiyanti.nurchaerani@esaunggul.ac.id

Abstrak: Salah satu hal yang paling menarik perhatian dari karya Edgar Allan Poe ialah karakteristik dalam horror yang ia buat. Edgar tidak mengeksploitasi darah yang membuncah, pisau yang tajam, dan pembunuhan sadis seperti horror pada umunya. Kelak sub-genre yang ia buat dikenal sebagai Pyschological Horror. Dalam dunia populer perfilman, ada istilah Formula 3G yakni Gun, Girl, dan Ghost yang seringkali digunakan untuk menarik perhatian khalayak yang lebih luas. Horror bagi Edgar ialah kesepian, keputusasaan, dan perasaan ditinggalkan. Kehampaan itulah yang paling ia takuti dibanding hal apapun.

Kata kunci: Pyschological Horror, 3G Formula, Edgar Allan Poe.

Abstrak: The thing that most appeals to Edgar Allan Poe's work is the characteristic ofhis horror that seems really different from other horror literary works. His horror characteristic doesn't exploit on blood, knife, and murder in his horror signature that known as Pyschological Horror later. In the popular film, terms often known as 3G formula namely Gun, Girl, and Ghost to attract a large audience. Horrror for Edgar Allan Poe is loneliness, isolation, and abandonment. It was in that emptiness that he wrote down the thing that scared him the most.

Keyword: Pyschological Horror, 3G Formula, Edgar Allan Poe.

PREFACE

Edgar Allan Poe is recognized as one of the best writers in American History when it comes to mystery and horror tales. His unique style and well- crafted stories become role model for those who aspire to be mystery writer.

It's mastery of the use of language and techniques in his work, and also as the creator of this schoolof horror literature and detective fiction that inspires writers to analyze his works. Adistinctive theme in his works is love and death, which is the author's reason for analyzing psycological horror in Edgar Allan Poe works.

The first theory is pyschoanalysis, Sigmund Freud portrays that horror comes from the uncanny" – emergence of images and thoughts of the primitive id.

The purpose of horror films is to highlight unconcious fears, desire, urges, and primeval archetypes that are buried deepin our collective subconcious – images of mothers and shadows play important roles because they are common to usall. For example, in Alfred Hitchock's *Psycho*, a mother plays the role of evil in the main character's subconcious. We watch scary movie because they help us to release our anxiety and fears deep inside our concious.

Theory of psychoanalysis about symbolism. The data of symbol of characters in the story is the behavior and their chatting with the others.
Narration in the short stories by Edgar Allan Poe that shows symbols from the mind of these characters than influence to behavioural and psychological issue that portrayed in every scene and dialogue

The symbols related to the unconscious, the characters in the stories of Edgar Allan Poe. Symbols which present in the short story are derived from the unconscious character, and remind the characters in a traumatic event or influence the actions and behavior in the story. Therefore, the researcher makes the title Psychological Horror in Edgar Allan Poe's The Lighthouse in order to find out kind images of these main characters.

RESEARCH METHOD

1. Research Design

Research Approach

The researcher used qualitative research to analyze the issue. Qualitative research is a study that provides explanation in the form of descriptions from the data that have been obtained.

The core of qualitative analysis lies in these related processes of describing phenomena, classifying it, and seeing how our concepts interconnect. It also deals with meanings. Meanings are mediated mainly through language and action. (Dey, 1993: 11 & 31)

The researcher uses this approach to describe the psycological horror character in Edgar Allan Poe's The Lighthouse and Benjamin Cooper's The Lighthouse Keeper . After describing, the author continues to analyze the entire data with the theories that has been discussed earlier.

Research Method

Comparative literature is a method that compares differences to get similarities.

This method compared two or more, even are not limited things. It also helps to find out human expression from any authors with having similar ideas. "In brief, it is the comparison of one literature with another or others, and the comparison of literature with other spheres of human expression." (Basnett, 1993: 31)

The similarities will be the comparison between the sources. The comparative method is able to use any theories as long as this research needs them. In addition, the unlimited area and object in comparative literature facilitates the researcher to carry out this research.

Comparative literature can also be a bridge among different objects because the data obtained from various objects that can relate each othe through the comparison process.

According to Bassnett (1993, pg. 32) "Crucial to remark argument was the notion that comparative literature should not be regarded as a seperate discipline with its own laws, but should rather be seen as an auxiliary discipline, as a bridge between subject areas". The researcher will analyze the comparison from data of grotesque between main characters in three literarr works.

Source of Data

These data are research object. These will be the substances to be analyzed by the researcher.

a. Short Story *The Lighthouse* by Edgar Allan Poe.
b. Movie *The Lighthouse Keeper* by Benjamin Cooper.

Technique of Collecting Data

In this research, the data from three research objects were collected in several ways. According to Moleong, there are several ways to collect data, namely reading objects, making signs or taking notes, compiling data, and reading other sources such as journals or other books that relate with this research (Moleong, 2007). The researcher carries out some of these methods.

a. Reading the three text of objects.
b. Making signs or taking notes the quotes that related with research scope by using the colorful paper mark or bookmark in each page of object based the reading result.
c. Arranging or collecting data that related with the topic of discussion in this research.
d. Comparing data of five different perspectives or objects to get the similarity.
e. Collecting additional data from other sources, such as books, journals, and articles that related with the research.

Technique of Analyzing Data

After collecting data, the researcher does analyze the data. These are some steps in analyzing data:

a. Categorizing data in accordance with horror character through three main characters of research objects.

b. Identifying data that have been selected with formulation of problems to find out similarities and differences of research objects.

c. Adjusting the affection of other characters into horror characters in research objects.

d. Describing and writing down the interpretation of each data. The researcher will describe and interpret the comparison of in main characters of three research objects.

e. The last step is a conclusion from the overall discussion of the research.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The writer studied three short stories as the object of the study, they were: Edgar Allan Poe's *The Lighthouse* and Benjamin Cooper's *The Linghouse Keeper*. Theory of character, and gothic used as the theoretical frame work of the research.

The goals of the research were to find and understand gothic idea that revealed on the Poe's short stories characters. The writer found out that Edgar Alan Poe's characters in his short stories were supported by the gothic idea.

Poe found several things that aimed to the gothic tendencies (such murky atmosphere of horror, gloom, macabre, mysterious, violent incidents, grotesque, irrational violence, desolation, and decay) that Poe revealed in his characters. This research covers several different sources and genres.

These differences lead to theories that will be used, namely horror character from Harold Bloom and Blake Hobby (2009) and Maria Haar (1983), character from Abrams (1999), character is a form of morality, character, which makes a feature of someone.

This feature makes each character distinguishes with another characters. As for the three research objects on *The Lighthouse and The Lighthouse Keeper* which have different issues in each characters.

"Characters are the persons represented in a dramatic or narrative work, who are interpreted by the reader as being endowed with particular moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities by inferences from what the persons say and their distinctive ways of saying it — the dialogue — and from what they do — the action." (Abrams, 1999, pg. 32-33)

The characters represented something that happened at the works were written. It could be related with society, architecture, or inner self of human.

According to Young in his essay *Representation in Literature*, "Nowadays, when people talk about representation in connection with the arts, they usually have in mind the visual arts and pictorial representation." In literary works, the representation can be seen through the texts.

Representations in literary works are depictions of literary works towards a social phenomenon. This description is of course through the author as a creator. Representation in literature arises in connection with the view or belief that literary works are actually just a mirror, a picture, a shadow, or an imitation of reality.

The term "novel" is now applied to a great variety of writings that have in common only the attribute of being extended works of fiction written in prose." (Abrams, 1999, pg. 190).

This theory related to research objects entitled *Edgar Allan Poe's The Lighthouse and Benjamin Cooper's The Lighthouse Keeper*. Various characters present in both short story and movie with each different characteristics and psychological issues.

In analyzing characters and storylines, researcher use Dr. Kübler-Ross first explored the now-famous five stages of death: denial and isolation, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance.

How imminent death affects the patient, the professionals who serve that patient, and the patient's family, bringing hope to all who are involved.

The Kuble-Ross model
Stage of Grief pyramid.
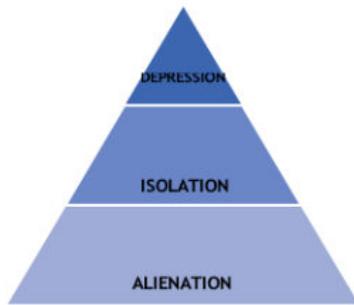
By using the Kuble-Ross model, it can be seen that there are 3 stages of Edgar Allan Poe's writing characteristics. The first stage is the alienation when the main character feels left by everyone around him.

Then the second stage is isolation, which is when the main character is lonely and starts consuming too much alcohol. And the last is the depression stage when the main character becomes alcoholic and often fantasizing non-sense thing.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Researching a writer's biography beforehand is one way to understand why someone's literary work has strong characteristics compared to other literary works.

A writer's biography can be very impactful and reflected in the work they wrote. We can further explore how the condition of a writer's family and environmental conditions when he grew up to get the context of their writing style.

After doing library research, it was found that there were life moments that influenced Edgar Allan Poe's writing style. Since childhood, Poe has been left by his mother passed away.

A year later, his father left his family. The next moment that he was dropped out from the University because he was caught play gambling at the time.

A lot moments in his life that made him an alcoholic later that can be associated with depression. Even in solitude he was found passed away at home alone. Doctors said Poe died of a blood pressure in the brain. While historian believe that he died of some kind of rabies.

In this conclusion, the writer found out that Edgar Alan Poe's characters in his short stories were supported by the gothic idea.

He found several things that aimed to the gothic tendencies (such murky atmosphere of horror, gloom, macabre, mysterious, violent incidents, grotesque, irrational violence, desolation, and decay) that Poe revealed in his characters.

The symptoms of schizophrenia are indeed seen in the main character's behavior and utterences which indicates that they are schizophrenic.

The main characters experiences positive symptoms such as hallucinations in which they sees and hears vague image around them.

Delusions which are false beliefs and different than the reality, thought disorder that can be seen from the main character inability to think logically, suffers thought blocking, peserveration and flight of ideas, disorder of movement, and also negative symptoms, lack of pleasure. The symptoms directing to the types of schizophrenia.

REFERENCES

Abrams, M. H. 2009. *A Glossary of Literary Terms, 7th Edition*. Massachucets: Heinle&Heinle Thomson Learning.

Bassnett, Susan. 2003. *Comparative Literature, A Critical Introduction. UK: BlackwellPublishers Ltd.* Print

Baumbach, Sibylle, Herbert Grabes & Ansgar Nünning. 2009. *Literature and Values: Literature as a Medium for Representing, Disseminating and Constructing Norms and Values*. Trier: WVT Wissenschaftlicher Verlag. Journal.

Carrol, N. (1990). *The Philosophy of Horror, or Paradoxes of the heart*. New York: Routledge.

Dey, Ian. 2003. *Qualitative Data Analysis*. New York: Routledge.

Freud, S. (1955). The Uncanny. In J. Strachey (Ed & Trans) *The standard edition of thecomplete pyschological works of Sigmund Freud*. London: Hogarth.

Jankovic, M. (2002). *Horror, the film reader*. London: Routledge.

Kubler-Ross, Elizabeth. 2014. *On Death and Dying*. New York: Amazon.Young, James O. 2011. *Representation in Literature*. Essay.

Mitry, J. (1997). *The Aesthetics and pyschology of the Cinema.* (C. King, Trans).Bloomington: Indiana University Press.

Young, James O. 2011. *Representation in Literature*. Essay.