

**THE STUDY OF OBSESSION FOR BETTER LIFE IN  
BLACK FAMILY LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES IN  
LORRAINE HANSBERRY'S *A RAISIN IN THE SUN***



**A Thesis Presented to the English Department,  
the Faculty of Letters, Widya Mandala University  
as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement**

**for Sarjana Degree  
in English**

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**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT  
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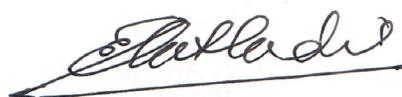
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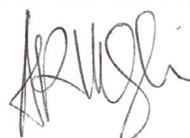
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*Dedicated to:*

- *ALLAH SWT*
- *MY BELOVED PARENTS*
- *MY BELOVED BROTHER  
AND SISTER*
- *ALL MY BEST FRIENDS*
- *MY ALMAMATER*

## MOTTO:

## The Secret of Success is Constancy

## **to Purpose**

(Benjamin Disraeli)

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**Ambarwati**

## ABSTRAK

Kesusasteraan adalah suatu ekspresi yang dituangkan oleh seseorang melalui bahasa tulis maupun lisan. Kesusasteraan adalah suatu karya sastra yang menggambarkan pengalaman hidup atau situasi disaat tertentu.. Kesusasteraan dapat berupa novel, drama dan puisi. Pada skripsi ini penulis memilih drama untuk dianalisa. Drama adalah suatu bentuk karya sastra yang dipentaskan diatas panggung yang dimainkan oleh seorang aktor. Ide dalam cerita drama bisa berasal dari kehidupan nyata atau fiksi. Dalam hal ini, penulis memilih sebuah drama yang ditulis oleh Lorraine Hansberry yang berjudul *A Raisin in the Sun*. Produksi pertamam *A Raisin in the Sun* dipentaskan pada bulan Maret 1959 di Teater Ethel Barrymore. *A Raisin in the Sun* merupakan karya pertama Lorraine Hansberry. Lorraine Hansberry merupakan wanita kulit hitam yang pertama yang mementaskan hasil karyanya di Broadway.

*A Raisin in the Sun* menceritakan tentang keluarga the Youngers. Keluarga Younger adalah keluarga kulit hitam yang berjuang untuk hidup yang lebih baik. Keluarga Younger sedang menanti uang asuransi sebesar \$10.000 dari Big Walter Younger, suami Lena Younger yang telah mati. Lena Younger, Walter Lee Younger dan Beneatha Younger mempunyai rencana yang berbeda dalam menggunakan uang tersebut. Mereka mempunyai obsesi sendiri-sendiri. Lena Younger ingin menggunakan uang itu untuk membeli rumah baru, Beneatha menginginkan agar uang itu untuk biaya sekolah kedokterannya. Dia ingin menjadi dokter untuk membuktikan ke orang kulit putih bahwa seorang kulit hitam tidak hanya bekerja sebagai pembantu tetapi mereka bisa menjadi wanita yang berpendidikan. Sedangkan Walter menginginkan uang itu untuk bisnis membuka sebuah bar. Obsesi mereka bertujuan sama yaitu agar keluarga mereka hidup lebih sejahtera dan bahagia. Obsesi mereka membuat mereka dari sebuah keluarga yang solid menjadi keluarga yang sering bertengkar demi memperjuangkan obsesi mereka.

Alasan penulis menganalisa *A Raisin in the Sun* mengacu pada gambaran sebuah keluarga kulit hitam yang miskin, yang mempunyai kelas sosial yang rendah yang berjuang demi kehidupan mereka agar sejahtera dan bahagia. Lena Younger, Walter Lee Younger dan Beneatha Younger mempunyai obsesi sendiri-sendiri. Obsesi mereka ada yang baik maupun yang buruk. Tujuan mereka sama yaitu agar keluarga mereka dapat lebih sejahtera dan kelas sosial mereka dapat naik. Mereka terlibat konflik dalam penggunaan uang insuransi tersebut. Meskipun mereka terlibat konflik, tetapi pada akhirnya mereka menyadari kalau mereka adalah suatu keluarga, dan mereka harus kompak agar keluarga Younger tidak pecah. Mereka mempunyai kepercayaan yang tinggi dan rasa bangga untuk membuktikan bahwa keluarga kulit hitam tidak sejelek apa yang dibayangkan oleh kaum kulit putih. Mereka bangga mempunyai identitas sebagai kulit hitam. Mereka ingin menunjukkan bahwa orang kulit hitam tidak seburuk yang dibayangkan oleh orang kulit putih. Keluarga Younger ingin diterima dan diperlakukan sama di masyarakat.

Dalam penulisan ini, penulis mengambil sumber data dari drama *A Raisin in the Sun* karya Lorraine Hansberry, dan juga mengumpulkan data-data pendukung. Penulis menggunakan beberapa teori untuk mendukung analisis ini. Teori-teori tersebut adalah teori obsesi, teori konflik dan teori setting. Dalam teori obsesi dijelaskan mengenai penyebab suatu obsesi dan jenis-jenis obsesi, sedangkan teori konflik sosial dan psikologis digunakan untuk menjelaskan hambatan-hambatan yang mereka hadapi dalam memperjuangkan obsesi mereka. Yang terakhir adalah teori setting. Teori setting digunakan untuk menjelaskan keadaan dan situasi keluarga Younger pada saat itu dan juga yang mempengaruhi obsesi mereka.

*A Raisin in the Sun* adalah suatu drama yang dapat diambil manfaatnya. Keluarga Younger adalah sosok keluarga yang tangguh, yang mempunyai obsesi agar kehidupan keluarga mereka lebih baik. Sebagai orang kulit hitam, mereka bangga dengan identitasnya. Mereka berusaha menunjukkan bahwa kulit hitam tidak sejelek yang dibayangkan oleh kaum kulit putih. Sebagai orang kulit hitam, mereka mempunyai hak untuk tinggal dimana saja meskipun dengan kaum kulit putih.

## ABSTRACT

Literature is an expression of human being through written and spoken language. Literature is a work that reflecting the experience of life or situation in certain time. Literary works can be in the form of novel, play, and poems. In this thesis, the writer chooses drama as the means of analysis. Drama is the kind of art acted in the stage through the image of characters and actions. The story of drama can be taken from the real life or just from fiction. In this case, the writer is concerned with the play of Lorraine Hansberry entitled "*A Raisin in the Sun*." *A Raisin in the Sun*, first performed in March 1959, in Ethel Barrymore Theater. It was the first of Lorraine Hansberry's works. Lorraine Hansberry becomes the first black woman who has a play produced in Broadway.

*A Raisin in the Sun* tells about the Youngers. The Youngers are the black family that struggle for a better life. The Youngers are waiting for \$ 10,000 life insurance check from Big Walter Younger, Lena's husband who has passed away. Lena Younger, Walter Younger, and Beneatha Younger have different plan in using the money. They have their own obsession. Lena Younger, the mother wants to buy a decent house as their apartment is very bad. Walter, the son of the family wants to spend the money to open liquor store. Beneatha, the daughter of the family, wants to spend the money for her medical school. She wants to be a doctor to prove to the white that a black woman is not only being a servant but they can become educated women. All of their obsessions are aimed to get better life for their family. Their obsession changes them from a solid family into a family who is always against to each other.

The writer's reason in analyzing *A Raisin in the Sun* is due to the portrait of a poor black family's struggle for better life and who has low social status. Lena Younger, Walter Lee Younger and Beneatha Younger have their own obsession. Their obsession are either good or bad obsession. However, the aim is the same that is, to get the better life in the future. They are in conflict in using that money. Finally, they realize that they are family. They have to a solid family to reach their obsession. The Youngers have high confident and pride as a black. They want to show that the black people are not as bad as the white people think. The Youngers want to be accepted and treated equally in the society.

In this thesis, the writer analyzes the play entitled *A Raisin in the Sun*. It becomes the source of data. Then, relating to the research, some theories of obsession, conflict and setting are applied. In theory of obsession, it is explained about the cause of obsession and the kinds of obsession, meanwhile, theory of conflict, social and psychology are to explain about their obstacle to reach their obsession. Further, the theory of setting is to explain the condition and situation of the Youngers at that time and influences their obsession.

*A Raisin in the Sun* is a meaningful drama. The Youngers are strong family, which have obsession to make their family to live better. As a black, they are proud of their identity. They try to show that the black people are not as bad as the white people's imagination. They have right to live everywhere they want, even in the white environment.

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