

LESBIANISM IN CELIE'S CHARACTER IN
ALICE WALKER'S *THE COLOR PURPLE*



A Thesis Presented to the English Department
the Faculty of Letters, Widya Mandala University
as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Sarjana Degree
in English

By:
FERANY ARDIANA
21401024

310211

Nomor induk	039
Tanggal Terima	9 MAR 2006
BELI	
HADIAH	
No. Kode Buku	2005/ENG/ard/L
Copy ke	-
Selesai/oleh	9 Maret 2006

THE FACULTY OF LETTERS
WIDYA MANDALA UNIVERSITY
MADIUN
2005

STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

This is to certify all of the ideas, phrases, and sentences, unless otherwise stated, are the ideas, phrases, and sentences of the writer. The writer understands the full consequences including degree cancellation if he or she takes somebody else's ideas, phrases or sentences without a proper reference.

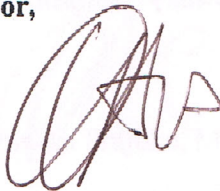
Ferany Ardiana

APPROVAL SHEET I

This is to certify that Sarjana Thesis of Ferany Ardiana has been approved by the thesis advisors for further approval by the Thesis Examining Committee.

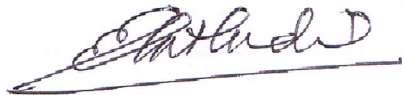
Madiun, December 1st, 2005

Advisor,



(Drs. Dwi Aji Prajoko, M. Hum)

Co-Advisor,



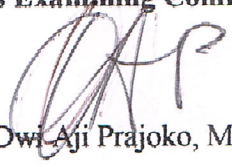
(Eko Budi Setiawan, S. S)

APPROVAL SHEET II

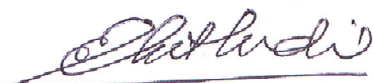
This is to certify that Sarjana Thesis of Ferany Ardiana has been approved by the
Thesis Examining Committee.

Madiun, December 1st, 2005

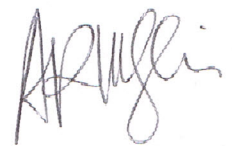
Thesis Examining Committee,



(Drs. Dwi Aji Prajoko, M. Hum)



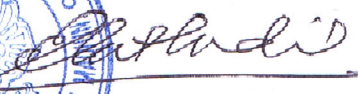
(Eko Budi Setiawan, S.S)



(Rr. Arielia Yustisiana, S.S)

Acknowledged by **21 JAN 2006**

The Dean of Faculty of Letters,



(Eko Budi Setiawan, S. S)

DEDICATED TO:

- ❖ My Beloved parents
- ❖ My brother and sisters
- ❖ My wonderful friends

MOTTO:

No man was ever great by imitating

(Samuel Johnson)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

First and for the most, I would like to say my deepest gratitude to Alloh SWT for all his blessing so I am able to finish this thesis.

Second, I would like to express my unfinishing thankful to Drs. Dwi Aji Prajoko, M. Hum, my advisor. I thank for all your kind and time making correction and guiding me through the process of writing this thesis. The, I also would like to say my great thankfulness to my co-advisor who is also the Dean of Faculty of Letters, Eko Budi Setiawan, S. S. I thank him for giving me beneficial advice and spirit during the process of writing this thesis up to the final examination.

Third, my gratitude is addressed to the lectures of the English Department who have enriched me with knowledge. Next, I thank to Rr. Arielia who borrows me *The Color Purple* novel. A big thanks for you mam!

Fourth, greatest thank is expected to my beloved parents. My father and mother who always support me with pray and financial help during my study. I love you mam and dad! My brother (Haris) and sisters (Rina and Windy), who never stop reminding me in finishing my thesis on time. Hey, I make it brother and sisters! I also thank to my best friends, Ambar, Diana, Irene, Ika, Maria, Tere, and Steven, and for everybody that I cannot mention one by one for giving me wonderful good time during my study in Widya Mandala. I will always miss you all guys!

Ferany Ardiana

ABSTRAK

Kesusastaan merupakan karya sastra tulis. Dalam kehidupan manusia kesusastaan memegang peranan yang sangat penting karena kesusastaan dapat menciptakan perasaan senang dan sedih bagi para pembacanya. Ada tiga cabang dalam kesusastaan yaitu: puisi, drama, dan novel (Rees, 1973:2). Menurut penyusun yang paling menarik diantara ketiganya adalah novel. Melalui novel, para pembaca diperkenalkan suatu keadaan yang terjadi dimasa lalu, sekarang, atau bahkan pada masa yang akan datang. Selain itu, membaca novel dapat merangsang imajinasi para pembacanya. Para pembaca dapat mendiskripsikan ide [pengarang melalui imajinasi mereka. Oleh sebab itu novel adalah subyek yang menarik untuk dianalisa.

Penyusun memilih novel karya Alice Walker's yang berjudul *The Color Purple* sebagai sumber datanya. Alice menceritakan kehidupan seorang lesbian berkulit hitam yang digambarkan pada karakter Celie. Celie merupakan korban kekejaman lelaki yang digambarkan pada karakter ayah dan suaminya. Ditengah-tengah keputusasaannya dia bertemu dengan seorang penyanyi Blues yang bernama Shug Avery yang kemudian menjadi kekasihnya.

Dalam skripsi ini penyusun menyajikan tiga perumusan masalah. Perumusan masalah yang pertama adalah penyebab Celie menjadi lesbian. Alasan pertamanya adalah Celie sangat membenci laki-laki, karena Celie merasa trauma pada kekejaman laki-laki yang selalu menyiksa dan memerkosanya. Alasan keduanya, faktor psikologi yang berasal dari latar belakang keluarganya. Celie merindukan kasih sayang seorang ibu. Selain itu Celie sangat takut kepada ayahnya. Rasa takut kepada ayahnya membuat Celie menjadi lesbian. Alasannya ketiganya adalah rasa ketidakpuasannya dalam berhubungan seksual dengan suaminya.

Pada perumusan masalah yang kedua, penyusun membahas tentang tingkah laku Celie sebagai lesbian terhadap kekasihnya Shug Avery. Pada umumnya tidak ada perbedaan tingkah laku antara lesbian dan wanita normal terhadap kekasih mereka. Sebagai lesbian, Celie sering berfantasi tentang seseorang yang dicintainya, Shug Avery. Selain itu, Celie juga bercerita semua masalah yang dihadapinya pada Shug. Oleh sebab itu Celie menghargai hubungan jangka panjang yang dia miliki bersama Shug meskipun pada akhirnya Shug tidak lagi menjadi kekasihnya.

Perumusan masalah yang terakhir adalah pendapat karakter lainnya dalam *The Color Purple* mengenai lesbianism pada diri Celie. Shug Avery setuju pada keputusan Celie sebagai lesbian dan menjadi kekasihnya. Dilain pihak, Mr. _____, Harpo, dan Sofia, tidak setuju pada keputusan Celie sebagai lesbian.

Ferany Ardiana

ABSTRACT

Literature, which is a written literature plays important role in human's life. Literature serves three main branches, they are: poetry, drama, and prose (Rees, 1973:2). In the writer's opinion, the most interesting among them is a prose. By reading prose, the readers are introduced a new environment whether happens in the past, present, or even in the future. Moreover, reading prose stimulates the readers' imagination. That is why a prose is interesting subject to analyze.

The writer chooses Alice Walker's novel *The Color Purple* as the source of the data. Walker illustrates a black lesbian life presented in Celie's character. Celie is the victim of men's brutality who enjoy raping and bashing her, in Alphonso and Mr. ____'s characters. In her desperation, she meets Shug Avery a blues singer who eventually becomes her lover.

The writer presents three statements of the problem. The first statement is the causes of Celie's lesbianism. The first reason, Celie hates men because she feels traumatic on men's brutality that raping and bashing her. The second reason, her psychology family background whom desperate of mothering woman's love. She misses mothering woman's love. Besides, she is also fear of the opposite sex parent, her father. The fearing of her father makes her to be a lesbian. The third reason, Celie feels unsatisfaction on the heterosexual intercourse she has committed with her husband.

The second statement discuss Celie's attitude as a lesbian toward her lesbian partner Shug Avery. Commonly, there is no different between the lesbians' and heterosexual women' attitude toward their love. As a lesbian, Celie also has sexual fantasy on the one she loves, Shug Avery. Besides, she also shares her problem with Shug. As the result, Celie appreciates engaging in long-term relationship even though at the end they are no longer as a lover.

The third statements discuss the other characters' opinions toward Celie's lesbianism. Shug Avery agrees on Celie's lesbianism and becomes her lover. On the other sides, Mr. ____, Harpo, and Sofia, disagree on Celie's lesbianism decision.

Ferany Ardiana

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONTENT.....	PAGE
TITLE.....	i
STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY.....	ii
APPROVAL SHEET I.....	iii
APPROVAL SHEET II.....	iv
DEDICATION.....	v
MOTTO.....	vi
ACKNOWLEDGMENT.....	vii
ABSTRAK.....	viii
ABSTRACT.....	ix
TABLE OF CONTENT.....	x
CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION	
1.1 The Background of the Study.....	01
1.2 The Statement of the Problem.....	04
1.3 The Limitation of the Problem.....	04
1.4 The Objectives of the Study.....	04
1.5 The Significants of the Study.....	05
CHAPTER II: THEORITICAL FRAMEWOKS AND RESEARCHES	
METHODOLOGY	
2.1 Theoretical Frameworks.....	06
2.1.1 The Definition of Lesbianism.....	06
2.1.2 The Causes of Lesbianism.....	07

2.1.2 The Causes of Lesbianism.....	07
2.1.3 The Attitude of Lesbianism.....	10
2.1.4 Several Opinions on Lesbianism.....	14
2.2 Research Approach and Methodology.....	17
2.2.1 Research Approach.....	17
2.2.2 Research Methodology.....	17
2.2.2.1 Data Collection.....	17
2.2.2.2 Data Corpus.....	17
2.2.2.3 Data Analysis.....	18

CHAPTER III: THE ANALYSIS

3.1 Celie's Lesbianism Causes.....	19
3.1.1 Fear on the Opposite Sex.....	19
3.1.2 The Bad Family Background.....	21
3.1.3 The Rejection of Heterosexual Brutality.....	24
3.1.2.1. Raping.....	25
3.1.2.2 Bashing.....	28
3.1.4 The Heterosexual Unsatisfaction.....	31
3.2 Celie's Attitude as Lesbian.....	33
3.2.1 Homosexual Fantasy.....	33
3.2.2 Engage in Long-Term Relationship with the Same Sexual Partner.....	36
3.2.2.1 Taking Care.....	36
3.2.2.2 Sharing Problem	39

3.3 The Other Characters' Opinions on Celie's Lesbianism....	43
CHAPTER IV: CONCLUSION.....	48
APPENDICES.....	51
APPENDIX I: BIOGRAPHY OF ALICE WALKER.....	51
APPENDIX II: THE SYNOPSIS OF <i>THE COLOR PURPLE</i>	55
BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	xiii