

AN ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN CHARACTER OF STRUGGLING AGAINST CANCER IN THE NOVEL “THE FAULT IN OUR STARS”

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Abstract

*This thesis contained an analysis of the main character's struggle against cancer in the novel entitled *The fault in our stars* by John Green. The method used in this research was a qualitative method. The main objective of this research was to find out the main character's struggles against cancer in the novel *The fault in our stars* by John Green. The results of the data analysis found 1.) What is the main character's struggles against cancer in the novel “*The fault in our stars*” 2.) What is the impact of the main character's struggles against cancer to the other characters in the novel “*The fault in our stars*”. Hazel's struggle against cancer that she had suffered for 3 years, by joining a support group in the heart of Jesus and meet another cancer sufferers. Hazel Theriod had cancer at the age of 13. After Hazel joined the support group, she met people with cancer, one of them was Augustus Waters, who was never afraid of his illness. The negative impact that Hazel always felt was that she's not a useless girl in the world.*

Keywords: struggle, cancer, character

Abstrak

*Skripsi ini berisi tentang analisis perjuangan tokoh utama melawan kanker dalam novel berjudul *The fault in our stars* karya John Green. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode kualitatif. Tujuan utama dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui perjuangan karakter utama melawan kanker dalam novel *The fault in our stars* karya John Green. Hasil analisis data menemukan 1.) perjuangan tokoh utama dalam novel “*the fault in our stars*” 2.) bagaimana dia menjalani hidupnya dengan penyakit kanker. Perjuangan Hazel melawan kanker yang dideritanya selama 3 tahun, dengan bergabung dalam support group di hati Yesus dan bertemu dengan penderita kanker lainnya. Hazel Theriod menderita kanker pada usia 13 tahun. Setelah Hazel bergabung dengan kelompok pendukung, dia bertemu dengan penderita kanker, salah satunya adalah Augustus Waters, yang tidak pernah takut akan penyakitnya. Dampak negatif yang selalu dirasakan Hazel adalah dia bukanlah gadis tak berguna di dunia.*

Kata kunci :perjuangan , kanker, karakter

1. INTRODUCTION

According to Hudson (2006) literature is vital records of what men have seen in life, what they have experienced of it, what they have thought and felt about these aspect of it which have the most immediate and enduring interest for all of us. It also increases human being`s knowledge or insight, enrich their spirits and make them more civilized. It can help them comprehend other people`s condition and qualities. Therefore, literature helps human being grow, both personally and intellectually. It provides an objective base for knowledge and understanding. It links them with the broader culture, philosophic, and religious world of which they are a part.

According to Bonn (2010: 112), novel is a long fictional narrative written in prose, which developed from the novella and other early forms of narrative. A novel is usually organized under a plot or theme with a focus on character development and action. Action and the novel are made by the experience the written themselves. Therefore an action and the events of the novel can be a real story in everyday life which an ambition, sadness, happiness, sense, logic, and many more. Readers can get many pleasures, experiences, knowledge, and many values of human life. Reading a novel, readers can understand what is told and described by the author of the novel. Novel is one particular kind of literary works. It is mostly defined as reflection of life or everything we find in real life. Novel expresses some aspects in human`s love talks about human activities and describe what happened in surrounding.

This novel is included in a romantic novel where the main character is suffering from cancer and meets a man in a group school in the church who makes him enthusiastic about fighting his disease, because it explains about the main character struggling againt cancer. The main characters in the novel are forced to confront death in a way that the young and healthy aren't. Although everyone will eventually die, as Hazel points out in Support Group, death's immediacy to the terminally ill means they can not avoid considering what comes after death, and the potential that all that's waiting for them is oblivion. It's a very present fear for Hazel and particularly for Augustus, and in fact it's the first thing they share when they meet at Support Group. Augustus, in response to Patrick's question about what he fears, replies right away with "oblivion," and Hazel, who rarely ever speaks in the group, picks up immediately. She points out that everyone willsome day die, which means everything humanity has ever built could all be for naught, and that just as there was a time before organisms experienced consciousness, there will be a time after as well. She says if the thought is disturbing one should just ignore it, but her tone implies that it's something that can't be ignored, at least not forever.

2. METHODOLOGY

Method of research is a sequence of data analysis processes that will be presented systematically. Because the sequence of the data analysis process can be known quickly and help understand the purpose of the research. In this research used descriptive qualitative method. According to Endraswara (2011:5) descriptive qualitative method is the method in research that is described in words form of picture if necessary, not the numerals. According to Moleong, (2006:4), methodology descriptive qualitative research procedure which produce descriptive data in form of a written word or verbally from people and behavior that can be observed, based on the opinion of Moleong, it means that the descriptive qualitative methodology is a process of research procedure the data in form of written words from several object that is observed.

This type of research is qualitative research. Qualitative methods are research methods used to examine the conditions of natural objects, where the researcher is the key instrument, the data collection technique is done by triangulation, data analysis is inductive, and the results of qualitative research emphasize meaning rather than generalization, state by sugiyono (2012: 9).

Researchers use qualitative data because this research is about analysis that leads to observations of data that cannot be calculated with numbers, According to Moleong (2009: 6) explains that Qualitative research is research that wants to understand phenomena about what the research subject is prepared for such as behavior, perception, motivation, action, etc., holistically, and by way of description in the form of words and language, in a special natural context and by making use of various natural methods.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

The data analysis result is taken from the analyzing process through data concerning the main character's struggling against cancer in "The Fault In Our Stars" novel. This chapter will show how struggles she is. The struggle discussed in this study the condition and how her feelings during her cancer journey. And also to see how was she affects other characters in the novel. In this chapter, the writer will show the data analysis that she had done by reading the novel and found the data which is related to the problem concerned. The entire data finding will be shown in the following below.

The author collected the data by reading the novel repeatedly and understanding the content, reading other resources related to the novel and the approach, giving marks to particular parts in the novel, sentence, and paragraph, taking notes for important parts both in primary and secondary data sources, classifying the data into categories and

developing them into a good unity, and drawing conclusion and formulate its pedagogical suggestion. The result of the study shows that the struggle of Hazel is that she always tries to appreciate life, especially her friend's life. She always gives the spirit to keep alive to Augustus, one of her friends in the support group. The author found Hazel's struggle also appears where in her daily activity she always reads the novel and she tries to get rid of her negative mind about cancer by reading the novel. Then after she reads the novel she makes a decision to meet the author of the book.

a. The main character's struggles

At the beginning of the 20th century, cancer was eight among the leading causes of death. Infectious diseases were prominent, with pneumonia, influenza, tuberculosis, and gastrointestinal diseases being responsible for one-third of all deaths. Life expectancy at birth was 49 years. As the century progressed, however, people survived to older ages and chronic noninfectious diseases became much more common, such that by the middle of the century, the leading causes of death were heart disease, cancer, and stroke.

Hazel suffers a lot during her cancer journey, her friends die one by one, her condition is getting worse day by day and the love of her life dies when both of them are fall in love. Hazel has been in physical suffering and mental suffering during her journey. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), mental health is a state of well-being in which the individual realizes his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to his or her community.

The author had already read the novel carefully and captured that physical pain is a pain derived from someone's body and the mental suffering is the emotional pain of someone. On the other hand, Hazel struggled against her sickness and fighting for her life. She tries to be strong and hold on for the one she loves. According to Marsam (2000: 181) Struggle comes from the word that means struggle a fight for survival or independence of the State. The struggle referred to in this study is how the struggle of a young teenager who is hit by a deaden disease that she has experienced for a long time and how she fights for herself.

b. The impact of the main character's struggles to the other characters

Hazel is a novel's narrator and 16 years old protagonist, an astute and remarkably conscientious girl. Hazel was diagnosed at age thirteen with a terminal form of thyroid cancer that she has since spread to her lungs. She keeps most people at distance, knowing her death will ultimate hurt them, until she impacts other characters with her incredible cancer journey. In the middle of Hazel's striving to keep survive and to enjoy her life, she

knows that she must be clever in making decisions about what kind of activity that she must do. At the time she finally falls in love with someone named Augustus. But, she also knows that her love is only one of her creative way to fill her spare time. When she feels lonely and needs someone to accompany her, then she always tries to call and contact Augustus. Not, every time Augustus accepts her call, but, the most important thing is that she has someone as her purpose. She feels that Augustus can help to fulfill her lonesome days. According to the United Nations site, impact implies changes in people's lives. This might include changes in knowledge, skill, behavior, health or living conditions for children, adults, families or communities. Such changes are positive or negative long term effects on identifiable population groups produced by a development intervention, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended.

Hazel's positive mind had an impact on August, and it made Augustus value the true meaning of life. Hazel gives her full attention to Augustus and supports him, by giving him the spirit to live and give get the novel that is similar to their case. It makes August realize that life is a gift and he should be grateful for being given more time to live. In the middle of his life against cancer, Augustus knows how to face it and does his best thing to do before his life done by joining Hazel to visits her favorite author in Amsterdam. He had known and observed Hazel after meeting her, and he was very inspired by her. Hazel is not only inspired him but also gave him the spirit to survive and live his life. And the impact on him is that he can enjoy the remaining days trying to recover and struggle the cancer together with Hazel.

4. CONCLUSIONS

The researcher would the conclusion from the end of this research namely the researcher the main character's struggle against cancer in this novel, which makes him live his life with cancer. She has been living with cancer three years ago, she always carries a gas cylinder to help her breathing wherever she goes. Hazel Grace is a person who never considers himself useless to others, but the people around his consider hazel is a very strong and great person in living his life with cancer. Hazel always fight her pain , she tries to be strong and survives for her life. She struggles with her mental stability by always reading her favorite book in bed every day, it can increase the physical pain she is experiencing. Hazel grace almost died and had time to enter the ICU before leaving to meet her idol but she was able to get past it and did not dempen her enthusiasm to make her dream come true. She fought her cancer to prove everyone desearves to be happy. After analyzing the novel and making conclusion writer one some suggestion for

the next writer. The fault in our stars is a fascinating novel. The novel tells about struggle , cancer , love , friendship. In this reaseach the writer mainly discuded struggles against cancer which is described in Hazel.

5. REFERENCES

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