

**THE CIVILIZATION OF CAPITALISM IN THE NOVEL *WATER FOR ELEPHANTS***

**BY SARA GRUEN**

**TERM PAPER**

**The term-is submitted to the Faculty of Letters in partial fulfillment of the requirements for obtaining the Strata One (S-1) Degree**



**STRATA ONE (S-1) ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

**FACULTY of LETTERS**

**UNIVERSITY of DARMA PERSADA**

**JAKARTA**

**2013**

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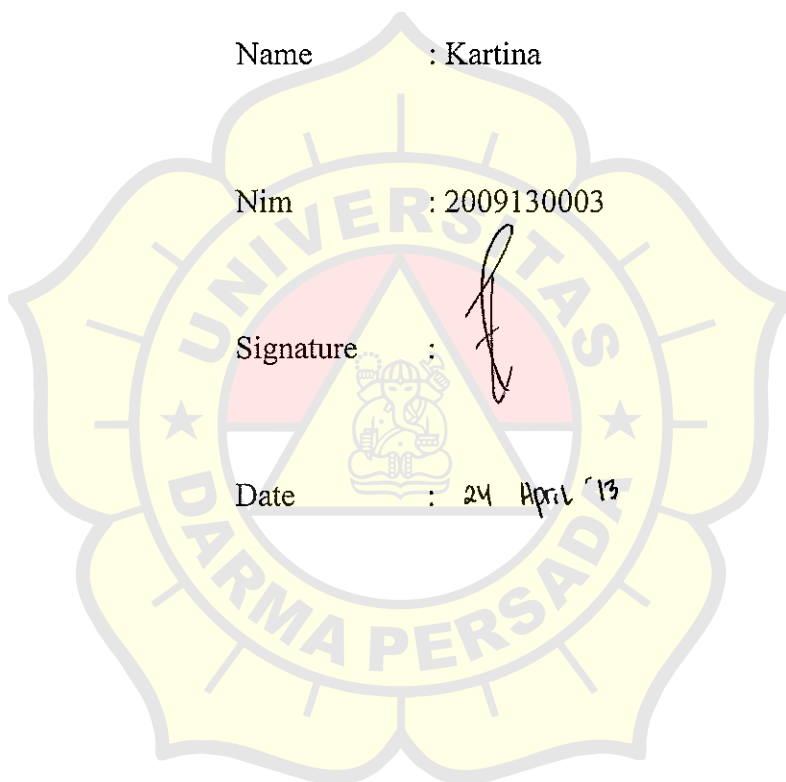
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## PREFACE

First and foremost writer would like to express my gratitude to God Almighty, because only by His Grace could I, at last, complete my term-paper after working hard for about six months. This term-paper is submitted to the Strata One Program, English Department, University of Darma Persada as a part fulfillment of the requirements for obtaining the Strata One (S-1) degree. In this term-paper writer try to see the Civilization of Capitalism from Circus. This research has been made possible through my study in the Literature Program at the University of Darma Persada.

Studying in the Literature studies Program has been a rewarding experience in my life. During that time writer had the opportunity to absorb valuable knowledge about the failure of Capitalism, especially it's geographically, and history. In studying literature writer was deeply interested in reading some works of famous American, Australia, and England writers, and writer really thankful to the people who helped during my study.

1. Dra. Karina Adinda, MA as the adviser who spent her time to guide me in doing my term-paper, she read my first draft of my term-paper. She has dealt with all my problems patiently when writer was completing my term-paper. And all suggestions were very encouraging. She has provided me with some valuable material, which broadened my knowledge of literature.
2. Drs. Rusdy M.Yusuf, SS, M.Si as the reader who gives his suggestion and helps me to improve my term-paper and finish it.
3. Syamsul Bahri, SS, M.Si as the Dean of Faculty of Letters.
4. Tommy Andrian, SS, M.Hum as the Head of Faculty of Letters.

5. Agustinus Hariyana, SS, M.Si as the Lecturer who gives his suggestion in presenting my term-paper.
6. All lectures that thought me everything about English from the first day writer studied in this university until I graduate. Thank you for all your share knowledge about subject and also about the value of life.
7. My family, especially my beloved mom, who never gets bored to supporting me. And my college friends Ale, Anggie, Dinda, Efris, Jessy, Dessy, Rici, Diego, Yuni and Pipin. My Manager Mr Antariksawan Jusuf. My other friends: Didit, Hery, and Dipa for sharing books. Last but not last writer would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all my friends.

This term-paper is not far from perfect. Suggestion and constructive criticism are needed to improve this term-paper. The writer hope this term-paper is useful for the readers.

Jakarta, December 2012

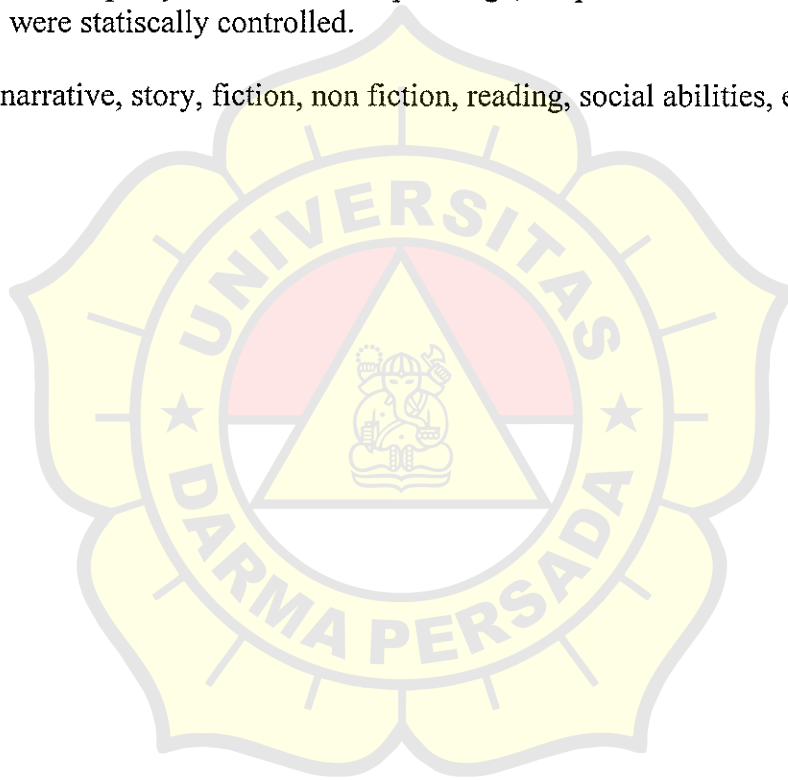
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## ABSTRACT

While frequent readers are often stereotyped as socially awkward, this may only be true of non fiction readers and not readers of fiction. Comprehending character in a narrative fiction appears to parallel the comprehension of peers in the actual world, while the comprehension of expository non fiction shares no much parallels. Frequent fiction readers may thus bolster or maintain their social abilities unlike frequent readers of non fiction. Lifetime exposure to non fiction and non fiction text was examined along with performance on empathy or social acumen measures, in general fiction print exposure positively predicted measures of social ability while non fiction print exposure was a negative predictor. The tendency to become absorbed in a story also predicted empathy scores. Participant age, experience with English, and intelligence were statistically controlled.

Keywords: narrative, story, fiction, non fiction, reading, social abilities, empathy.



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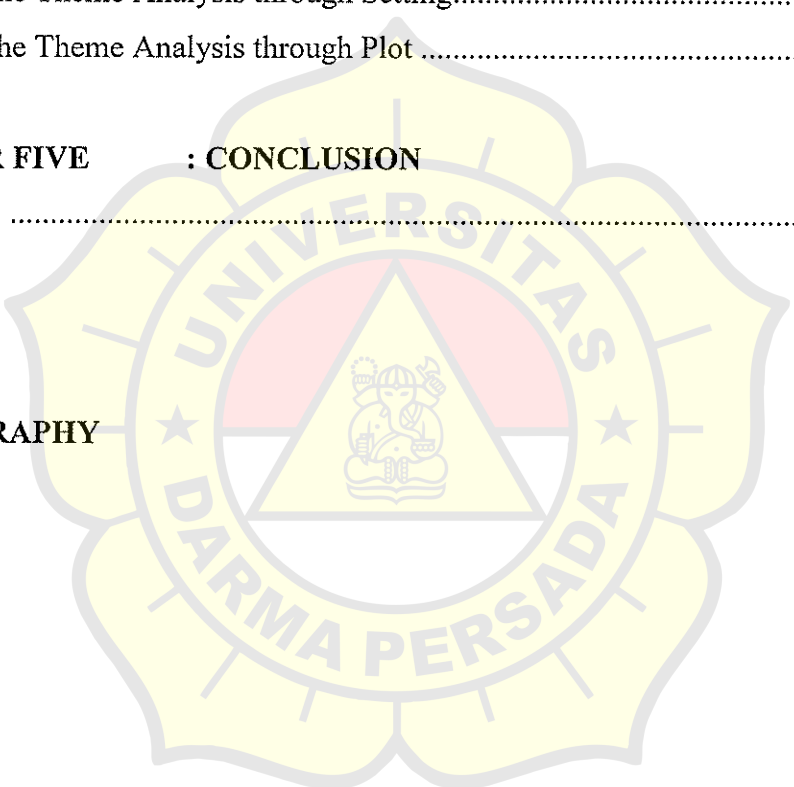
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## CHAPTER ONE

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background

In the United States, it is acknowledged that the state is capitalist, and it is not acknowledged that it is male. This condition reminds us about the history conventions. In American women endured many inequalities in 19<sup>th</sup> century. They were denied the vote. Barred from professional schools and most higher educations, forbidden to speak in public and even attend public conversations, and unable to own property. Despite these obstacles, a strong women's and books, women furthered social change. Intellectual women's drew parallels between themselves and women suffrage, despite social ostracism and sometimes financial ruins (Weekender magazine, April 2011: 25).

This descriptive source makes me more interested to know what is the definition of capitalism. The history of the word capitalism tells us something of the history of capitalism itself. According to the books source, I have found the definition about capitalism, Capitalism is a dynamic system whose profit driven mechanisms lead to the continual revolutionizing of the means of production and the forging of new market. (Barker, 2000:14). Then, the question is can capitalism survive? To answer this question I will identify why the mechanisms of capitalism also lead to perennial crises and will ultimately leading. Below is information that I got from book sources. Now suppose that the capitalist engine keeps on producing at that rate of increase for another half century starting from 1928, to this assumption there are various objections which will have to be noticed later on, but it cannot be objected to on the ground that in the decade 1929 to 1939 capitalism had already field to live up that standard. For the depression that ran its course from the last quarter of 1929 to the third quarter of 1932 does not prove that a secular break has occurred in the propelling mechanism of capitalist production because depressions of such as severity have repeatedly occurred (Schumpeter, 1994:59). According to this background,

I would analysis the paper I shall endeavor to establish that the actual perspective performance of the capitalist system such as to the negative the idea of its breaking down under the weight of economic failure.

Power is not simply the glue that holds the social together, or the coercive force which subordinates one set of people to another. Power also related to the owner, and the relation between owner and workers is the wage. For some reason the wage rates that firms will pay to workers are mainly determined by the productivity of workers, and by relative scarcity or abundance of workers with those skill (Journal Workers in a market economy, 1992:15). Everybody knows that this theory of value is unsatisfactory. In the voluminous discussion that has been carried on about it, the right is not indeed all on one side and many faulty arguments have been used by its opponents. My final conclusion, the essential point is not whether labor is the true “source” or causes of economic value.

In the novel *Water for Elephants* we can know circus as industrial culture. A circus is commonly a traveling company of performers that may include clowns, acrobats, trained animals, trapeze acts, musicians, hoopers, tightrope walkers, jugglers, unicyclists and other stunt-oriented artists (Taken from: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Circus> acceded date August, 30 2012). It is certainly possible to construct a base definition of capitalism and the process of creative destruction. Based on this definition it is impossible to discuss capitalism without discussing the image of capitalism. Then, in the novel *Water for Elephants* I have much information about the image of capitalism.

Sara Gruen as the author novel *Water for Elephants* was born in Vancouver, 1969. Her family lived in Northern California. She received her bachelor’s degree in these fields at Carleton University. Gruen is an animal lover her experience became the source of her inspiration in writing. In 2007, one of her work fiction novels is *Water for Elephants* (Taken from: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sara\\_Gruen](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sara_Gruen). acceded date August, 30 2012).

Next, *Water for Elephants* tells a story about Jacob Jankowski, a 93 year old man living in a nursing home. His parents passed away in a car wreck, turning his world upside down. Jacob walked out of his final exam and hopped town, climbing on the first train he could. He quickly found out that it was no ordinary train. It belonged to the Benzini Brothers Most Spectacular show on earth, a traveling circus. August, the owner seemed like a nice guy. But his true colors came out when times got tough. And worst of all Jacob fell in love with the beautiful performer Marlena, who just happened to be August's wife.

So, if an animal can be human that probably means that human can be animals. Rosie performs for others and is abused by August. Rosie is a kind of outsider who falls into circus life by accident and almost doesn't succeed, she is just an elephant.

*"In the morning light I see what I couldn't last night the wagons are painted scarlet, with gold trim and sunburst wheels, each emblazoned with the name Benzini Bros Most Spectacular Show On Earth. As soon as the wagons are hitched to teams, the Percherons lean into their harnesses and drag their heavy loads across the field". (Gruen, 2007:33).*

*"I studied veterinary sciences."  
His mien changes instantly, utterly. "Vet school? You're a vet?"  
"Not exactly."  
"What do you mean, 'not exactly'?"  
"I never wrote my final exams."  
"Why not?"  
"I just didn't."  
"And those final exams, those were in your final year?"  
"Yes."  
"What college?"  
"Cornell". (Gruen, 2007:59).*

Based on the quotation we know that the younger Jacob loses educational opportunity when he joins the circus, and the other hand August asking Jacob to be professional worker. Then they make a deal to achieve the most spectacular show on earth. My assumption is I can indicate the process of social life is a function of so

many variables many of which are not amenable to anything like measurement. The actual and prospective performance of the capitalism system is such as to negative the idea of its breaking down under the weight of economic failure.

In this paper I want to stress about the circus as industrial culture, and I would give detail concept civilization of capitalism in chapter three. In my view these problems derived from identifications of civilization of capitalism with circus. To define a process of creative destruction in this way still implies connection between civilization of capitalism and circus as industrial culture.

### **B. Identification of the Problem**

In the previous background, I identify of problem that at the circus, everything on the surface is beautiful, exiting, or dramatic, but underneath there's pain. A circus as part of stage activity that showing entertainment. The word "recreation" brings to mind activities that are relaxing and enjoyable (Althen, 1988:98). I'd like to analyze about the aspect civilization of capitalism so the theme of my research is "The civilization of capitalism in the novel *Water for Elephants* is new fact of the failure economic value system".

*"I peer inside. The tent is enormous, as tall as the sky and supported by long, straight poles jutting at various angles. The canvas is taut and nearly translucent sunlight filters through the material and seams, illuminating the largest candy stand of all. It's smack in the center of the menagerie, under rays of glorious light, surrounded by banners advertising sarsaparilla, Cracker Jack, and frozen custard".*

*"Brilliantly painted red and gold animal dens line two of the four walls, their sides propped open to reveal lions, tigers, panthers, jaguars, bears, chimps, and spider monkeys even on orangutan. Camels, llamas, Zebras, and horses stand behind low ropes slung between iron stakes, their heads buried in mounds of hay. Tow giraffes stand within an area enclosed by chain link fence". (Gruen, 2007:39).*



The quotation is giving information that Benzini Brother is company circus that is part of industrial culture which is the aim surplus in income. August, the owner show the power and want to achieve the target his stage circus.

To understand economic development in feudalism, we have to start from the consideration of the social relations which constitute feudal lords as social actors wielding both politics (authoritative) and economic (allocative) power. The dynamic of these social relations, I will argue, is decisively shaped by the struggles over the control of “authoritative” resources conflict over power seem to be decisive for the nature of social development under feudalism. But only if we constantly remind ourselves that, in dealing with feudalism, relation of domination also constitute relation of exploitation (in a very different and much more immediate way than in capitalism), can we develop an account of the structure and transcendence of feudalism that does justice to the specificity of its constitutive social relations.

In this chapter, I will lay the foundations for this argument by taking issue with the civilization of capitalism in the stage of circus is new fact of the failure economic value system.

### **C. Limitation of the Problem**

Based on identification of the problem, I would like to limit the problem in relation with the concept of capitalism economy, the theory is I used are:

1. Literary approach, the concept that will apply is the intrinsic concept in analyzing with the characterization, setting, and plot. I limit the problem in research of characterization of Jacob Jankowski, August, Marlana, and Walter “Kinko”.
2. Civilization and Capitalism approach are the extrinsic concept in analyzing the Circus.

#### **D. Formulation of the Problem**

Based on restriction of the problem, I would like to formulate the analyzing process to solve the problem it is true that my assumption about the theme is about civilization of capitalism. To answer this question, I wrote the formula of the problem below:

1. Can the direct (*telling*) and (*indirect*) method be used to analyze the characterization?
2. Can the setting and plot be used to analyze this novel?
3. Can the concept of Civilization and Capitalism be used to analyze this literary work?
4. Can the theme of this Novel be reinforced by using the result of analysis of the intrinsic and extrinsic approaches?

#### **E. Objectives of the Research**

Based on the above research goals, I will use theories and concepts covered in the literature and theories civilization and capitalism concept. To get the point, bellow some steps as follows:

1. To analyze the characterization by using the direct (*telling*) and indirect (*showing*) method.
2. To analyze the setting and plot of this novel.
3. To analyze this literary work by using the concept of Civilization and Capitalism.
4. To reinforce the theme of this novel by using the result of analysis of intrinsic and extrinsic approaches.

#### **F. Framework of the Theory**

Based on the above mentioned formulation of the problem, in this research the writer uses the concept of intrinsic and extrinsic approaches. For the intrinsic I uses literature approaches. Meanwhile, for the extrinsic I uses the concept of Civilization



and Capitalism. And through intrinsic approaches I uses the concepts of characterization, setting, and plot.

1. Intrinsic approach

a. Characterization

In analyzing the disposition of the novel *Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen, I use the stock of disposition through the omniscient viewpoint. Viewpoint is basically a technical strategy, a strategy that is deliberately chosen authors to express ideas and stories to show the world view and interpretation of life that all of this is channeled through the viewpoint character.

b. Setting

In order to understand the purpose and function of setting, the reader must pay particular attention to the descriptive passages in which the details of setting are introduced. The most important fictional settings are those that are “dramatic”. Setting in fiction is called on to perform a number of desired functions. Setting may serve:

1. To provide background for the action.
2. As and antagonist.
3. As a means of creating appropriate atmosphere.
4. As a means of revealing character, and
5. As a means of reinforcing theme.

c. Plot

A plot is also a narrative of events, the emphasis falling on causality. Below is part of plot:

1. The expositions, is the beginning section in which the author provides the necessary background information, sets the scene, establish the situation, and dates the action. It may also introduce the characters and the conflict, or the potential for conflict (Pickering, Hoeper, 1981:16).
2. The complication, which is sometimes referred to as the rising action, breaks the existing equilibrium and introduces the characters and the

underlying or inciting conflict. The conflict is then developed gradually and intensified (Pickering, Hoepfer, 1981:17).

3. The crisis (also referred to as the climax) is that moment at which the plot reaches its point of greatest emotional intensity, it is the turning point of the plot directly precipitating its resolutions (Pickering, Hoepfer, 1981:17).
4. Falling action, once the crisis, or turning point, has been reached, the tension subsides and the plot moves towards its appointed conclusions (Pickering, Hoepfer, 1981:17).
5. Resolution is the final section of the plot is its resolution, it records the outcome of the conflict and establishes some new equilibrium or stability (how ever tentative and momentary) (Pickering, Hoepfer, 1981:17).

## 2. Extrinsic approach

### a. Civilization approach

Methods how to analyze that I use in assessing this novel as below description: "...the rational attitude presumably forced itself on the human mind primarily from economic necessity as a tool". (Barker, 2000:14). This quotation shows about the effort how to be living with rational attitude. The process of achieving things and circus as the example of civilization in this novel show the effort how to be struggle in life.

1. Private ownership of property.

### b. Capitalism approach

Next, Capitalism is a dynamic system whose profit driven mechanism lead to the continual revolutionizing of the means of the production and the forging of new market (Barker, 2000:14). The capitalist process rationalizes behavior and ideas and by so doing chases from our minds. The fundamental class

division of capitalism is between those who own the means of production, and those who, being a property must sell their labor to survive. Next is the method how to analyze this paper.

1. Relationship between business and labor through circus stage.
2. Capitalism produces inequality of wealth and power.
3. Workers representative on board of cooperation; rent subsidies.

In analyzing the civilization of capitalism I used intrinsic and extrinsic concept, based on the assumption that literature is a reflection of the reality of its condition. The term “reality” in this context is used in its widest sense, covering anything that exists outside the literary work and anything which is referred to by the work, such as the tangible things, social institution, feelings, thoughts, and literary traditions. Methods of collecting data through library research and assessment pattern is inductive theory is particular to the general.

#### **G. Methods of the Research**

This study is useful for those who wish to deepen knowledge about the realization of surplus value in monetary form is achieved by the selling of goods as commodities, a stage of circus as part of commodities. This study is useful because it is done through a new perspective in which I conducted this research with something new and not closed the possibility for further research.

#### **H. Benefits of the Research**

Based on the methods of research, the benefits of this research are firstly it could be beneficial for students or researches who want to explore more deeply about Sara Gruen Novel *Water for Elephants*, this research may be beneficial because it has been done through the new perspective by applying the Socioanalytic Approach to Civilization of Capitalism theory which can show something new for further researches.

## **G. Scope of Discussion**

The scope of discussion is arranged in such a way that it includes:

### **CHAPTER ONE :**

**INTRODUCTIONS**, This chapter contains of the background, identification of the problem, limitation of the problem, formulation of the problem, objectives of the research, framework of the theory, methods of the research, benefits of research and scope of discussion.

### **CHAPTER TWO :**

**ANALYSIS *WATER FOR ELEPHANTS* THROUGH INTRINSIC APPROACH**, Analysis of stock of disposition is through characterization; Jacob Jankowski, August, Marlena, Walter 'kinko'. Setting and plot.

### **CHAPTER THREE :**

**THE FACT OF THE FAILURE ECONOMIC VALUE SYSTEM IN STAGE CIRCUS THROUGH CIVILIZATION OF CAPITALISM APPROACH**

Using the theory civilization concept; Private Ownership of Property, the theory of capitalism concept; Relationship between business and labor through circus stage, Capitalism produces inequality of wealth and power, Workers representation on board of corporation; rent subsidies.

### **CHAPTER FOUR :**

**THE ASSUMPTION OF THE CIVILIZATION OF CAPITALISM IN THE NOVEL *WATER FOR ELEPHANTS***

Analysis of the civilization of capitalism through the novel *Water for Elephants* is new fact of the failure economic value system.

### **CHAPTER FIVE :**

### **CONCLUSION**

The last chapter contains of the conclusion of the assumption, consists of conclusion that show the theme of this novel is The Civilization of Capitalism in the Novel *Water for Elephants* is new fact of the failure economic value system presented an

overview of the research subjects in the previous chapters as well as implications from studies of other variables.

**SCHEME**

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

