

REFLECTION OF ALTRUISM IN THE NOVEL *NUMBER THE STARS* BY LOIS LOWRY

TERM PAPER

**Submitted in Part-Fulfillment for Obtaining
Strata One (S-1) Degree**



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I hereby declare that the term-paper is the result of my own work, and all the sources quoted or referenced have been stated correctly.

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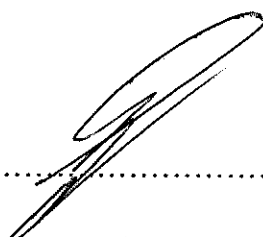
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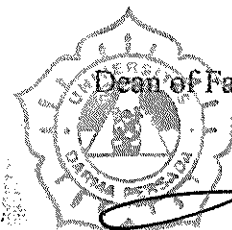


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PREFACE

Praise be to Allah SWT who has given guidance, so that I can complete my term paper entitled “*Reflection of Altruism in the novel Number the Stars by Lois Lowry*”. This term paper is submitted as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for obtaining the Strata One (S1) degree. This term paper will not be resolved, if there is no many great people behind the making process of this term paper. On account of that, I would like to say many thanks to:

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Overall, this term paper so far from perfect. I hope this term paper is useful for readers.

Jakarta, August 2014

Writer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Nurul Soraya', written in a cursive style.

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ABSTRAK

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Judul : Reflection of Altruism in the novel Number the Stars by
Lois Lowry.

Skripsi ini membahas tentang tema karya sastra novel dengan menggunakan pendekatan intrinsik dan ekstrinsik. Melalui pendekatan intrinsik diterapkan konsep: Karakterisasi, Latar, dan Alur. Melalui pendekatan ekstrinsik adalah Altruisme oleh Auguste Comte. Penelitian ini adalah penelitian kualitatif yaitu jenis penelitian kepustakaan, interpretatif / analisis dengan menggunakan metode pengumpulan data berupa teks sastra dari novel Number the Stars karya Lois Lowry sebagai sumber utama dan didukung oleh beberapa literatur untuk menghubungkan teori, konsep dan definisi yang relevan sebagai sumber sekunder.

Kata kunci: Tema, Karakterisasi, Latar, Alur, Altruisme.

ABSTRACT

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Lois Lowry.

This term paper discusses the theme of a literary work of a novel using the intrinsic and extrinsic approaches. Through the intrinsic approaches there are applied concepts: characterization, setting, and plot. Through the extrinsic approach there is Altruism by Auguste Comte. This study is the qualitative research to make use of types of library research, interpretative/analysis using the method of data collection in the form of literary texts from the novel Number the Stars by Lois Lowry as the primary source and supported by some of the literature to relate the theory, concept and the relevant definition as a secondary source.

Key words : Theme, Characterization, Setting, Plot, Altruism.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of The Problem

Lois Lowry (born on March 20, 1937 – passed away at age 74 years old) is an American author of children's literature. She began her career as a photographer and a freelance journalist during the early 1970s. She published her first novel (when she was 40 years old) *A Summer to Die* in 1977. She has since written more than 30 books for children and published an autobiography. Two of her works have been awarded the prestigious Newbery Medal: *Number the Stars* in 1990, and *The Giver* in 1993. As an author, Lowry is known for writing about difficult subject matters within her works for children. She has explored such complex issues as racism, terminal illness, murder, and the Holocaust among other challenging topics.¹

Number the Stars tells about Annemarie Johansen who is 10 years old and lives in Copenhagen, Denmark. Although, she is only 10 years old, she already knows very important distinction has entered her life. Annemarie lives happily with her family before Nazi occupy Copenhagen. Since September 1943, Nazi occupies Denmark and patrols around the city, not only problem of food shortage is perceived, even the freedom to play with her best friend Ellen is also a dangerous activity. They always go play dodge patrols on the way home-school.

Annemarie can sense the approaching danger. Starting from the closing button shop her neighbor with seal marked swastika, she knows the danger come up. Since the night of the arrival of Peter, her sister's fiance, bring news that the German soldier begins relocating all Danish people of descent Jewish, this means including Ellen's family too. Since Annemarie hears news about that, Annemarie promise herself to protect Ellen. When Jewish New Year, the Rosens plans have changes. Mr. and Mrs. Rosen have been called away to visit some relatives. So

¹<http://www.randomhouse.com/kids/pdf/AuthorBioLoisLowry.pdf>

Ellen will stay with the Johansens. Ellen is silent at dinner. She looked frightened. Annemarie's parents try to speak of cheerful things, but it is clear that they are worried. It made Annemarie worried too. Ellen pretends to be Annemarie's older sister.

However Ellen's life is still in danger. The German soldiers are trying to find the Rosens in the Johansen apartment. After the officers see Kirsti, Annemarie and Ellen, they suspect Ellen is child of the Rosens because she has dark hair. For a moment no one speaks. Then Annemarie, watching in panic, see her father move swiftly to the small bookcase and take out a book. He handed family photograph album to the German officer, who suspect Ellen's hair. Annemarie's father knows that the German soldier already suspects Ellen. Annemarie's father thinks Ellen safety is the most important thing. So Annemarie's mother take Annemarie, Kirsti, and Ellen to Uncle Henrik's house.

On the way Annemarie goes to Uncle Henrik's house and delivers lunch basket to her Uncle, she meets the German army. She remember what her mother has said, she must pretend to be nothing more than a silly little girl. Of course she is frightened, but in her mind she only thinks about what she must do. Uncle Henrik has said that, the war would end is true. The war ends almost two long years later. Peter Neilsen is dead. It was a painful fact to recall the war end when there was so much joy in Denmark.

Novel *Number the Stars* is just a fiction story. However, as described by the author in the final chapter, the background events in the novel, most of events is real. First idea of writing this novel history is told by Annelise Platt, a Jewish who has experienced periods of Nazi occupation in Denmark. I choose this novel because there are many moral messages that can be learnt.

B. The Identification of the Problem

Based on the background, I identify the problem of the research is: Annemarie's courage for helping her best friend, Ellen. The Germans have issued orders to close many stores by Jews. For some reason, they want to torment

Jewish people. Therefore, Annemarie helps Ellen from German soldiers. I assume that the theme in this novel is reflection of Altruism of the character Annemarie.

C. The Limitation of the Problem

Based on the Identification of the problem, I limit the problem of the research to the study of Annemarie's character. The theory and concept that I use are intrinsic approach and extrinsic approach. In the intrinsic approach, I analyze characterization through plot, setting, and point of view. Then, in the extrinsic approach, I analyze the novel through social psychology approaches by using concept of altruism by Auguste Comte.

D. The Formulation of the Problem.

Based on the limitation of the problem, the statement of the problem is whether the theme of this novel is "Reflection of Altruism in the novel *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry". To answer this question, there are some steps I take:

1. Can point of view be used to analyze characterization, setting and plot?
2. Can the theory of altruism be used to analyze this novel?
3. Can the theme be proved by using intrinsic approach and extrinsic approach?

E. The Objectives of Research

Based on the formulation of the research, the objectives of this research is "Reflection of Altruism in the novel *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry." To fulfill this purpose, I take some steps as follow:

1. To analyze the characterization, setting and plot by using the method of third-person-omniscient.
2. To analyze my theme assumption by using altruism theory by Auguste Comte.
3. To analyze the theme by using the results of the characterization, setting, and plot analysis, combined with altruism theory.

F. Framework of Theories

Based of the purpose of research, there are some theoretical framework to explain the intrinsic elements and the extrinsic elements which support the analysis :

1. Intrinsic Approach
 - a. Characterization

Characterization is a method that describes the characterization of a character in a fiction.² To analyze the characterization of a character, I use:

1. Third-person-omniscient Method

In this novel, I use the third-person-omniscient where the narrator is outside the story and tells about the events experienced by the characters from the standpoint of “he” or “him”. The narrator knows everything about the characters, events, and actions, including the motivation behind the actions. He freely tells about the times and places within the story, moves from a character to another one, or hides the utterances and actions from the characters in the story.

- b. Setting

Setting is the important thing that helps the reader visualize the action of the work, and thus adds credibility and an air or authenticity to the characters.³ There are five kinds of setting, those are:

²AlbertineMinderop, *MetodeKarakterisasiTelaahFiksi* (Jakarta: Yayasan Obor Indonesia, 2005),p.2

³*Ibid*,p. 37

1) Setting as background for action

This background can extensively and highly developed in historical novels and so slight in modern stories. To give a sense of “life as it was”.

2) Setting as an antagonist.

Setting in the form of nature can function as a kind of casual agent or antagonist, helping to establish plot conflict and determine the outcome of events.

3) Setting as a means of creating appropriate atmosphere

Many authors manipulate their setting as a means of arousing the reader’s expectations and establishing as appropriate state of mind for events to come.

4) Setting as means of revealing character

Very often the way in which character perceives the setting, and the way he or she reacts to it, will tell the reader more about the character and his state of mind than it will about the actual physical setting itself.

5) Setting as a means of reinforcing theme

This setting be used as a means of reinforcing and clarifying the theme of a novel or short story.

c. Plot

Plot in fiction is referring to the deliberately arranged sequence of interrelated events in the story. The plot consists of five elements, they are:⁴

1. Exposition

The exposition is the beginning section in which the author provides the necessary background information, sets the scene, establishes the situation, and dates the action. It also introduce the characters and the conflict, or the potential for conflict.⁵

⁴*Ibid*, p.14

⁵*Ibid*, p.16

2. Complication

The complication which is sometimes referred to as the rising action. It introduces the characters and the underlying or inciting conflict. The conflict is then developed gradually and intensified.⁶

3. Crisis.

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 resolution.⁷

4. Falling Action

Falling action is turning point of crisis has been reached, the tension subsides and the plot moves toward its appointed conclusion.⁸

5. Resolution

Resolution is the final section. It is also referred to as the conclusion. It records the out come of the conflict and establishes some new equilibrium or stability.⁹

d. Theme

Theme is the central idea or statement about life that unifies and controls the total works. Theme is the comment or statement the author makes about that subject as it necessary and inevitably emerges from the interplay of the various elements of the works.¹⁰

2. Extrinsic Approach

a. The Definition of Social psychology

Social psychology is about understanding individual behavior in a social context. It therefore looks at human behavior as influenced by other people and

⁶*Ibid*, p.17

⁷*Ibid*, p.17

⁸*Ibid*, p.17

⁹*Ibid*, p.61

¹⁰*Ibid*, p.61

the social context in which this occurs. Social psychologists therefore deal with the factors that lead us to behave in a given way in the presence of others, and look at the conditions under which certain behavior/actions and feelings occur. Social psychology is to do with the way these feelings, thoughts, beliefs, intentions and goals are constructed and how such psychological factors, in turn, influence our interactions with others.¹¹

b. Concept of altruism

I use social psychology approach with the concept of altruism. French philosopher Auguste Comte coined the word altruisme in 1851, and two years later it entered the English language as altruism. Altruists choose to align their well-being with others - so they are happy when others thrive, sad when others are suffering. Essential in establishing strong relationships, most societies acknowledge the importance of altruism within the family. By motivating cooperation rather than conflict, it promotes harmony within communities of any size. Of course, peace within communities does not necessarily herald peace between communities, and the two may even be inversely related - witness for example, the way in which social strife tends to decrease within countries at war.¹² Altruism divides into three kinds, there are loving others, helping them during their time of need, making sure that they are appreciated.¹³

G. Method of Research

In this research, I will used method or technic quantitative, kind of research library, research interpretative or analysis by method to collect data shaped the text from the novel with entitled *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry as primary

¹¹<http://www.simplypsychology.org/social-psychology.html>

¹²<http://www.altruists.org/about/altruism/>

¹³<http://www.altruists.org/about/altruism/>

source and support by some of literature that have relation with the theory, concept, and definition which are appropriate as an extra source.¹⁴

H. The Benefit of Research

This research is useful to explore further on the novel called *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry works to be beneficial who wish to deepen their knowledge on this subject. Another benefit is to explore further insights of life so that the reader can understand this research.

I. The Organization of Presentation

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of the background of the problem, the identification of the problem, the limitation of the problem, the formulation of the problem, the purpose of research, the theoretical of framework, method of research, the benefit of research, and the organization of presentation.

CHAPTER II: THE NOVEL *NUMBER THE STARS* BY LOIS LOWRY THROUGH INTRINSIC APPROACHES.

This chapter consists of the analysis of characterization (third person omniscient), plot, setting, and theme.

CHAPTER III: REFLECTION OF ALTRUISM IN THE NOVEL NUMBER THE STARS BY LOIS LOWRY

This chapter consists of analysis of theme by using the result of intrinsic and extrinsic approaches.

¹⁴Minderop, Albertine. *Metode Penelitian Kesusasteraan*. (Jakarta: YayasanoborIndonesia:2011) p.35

CHAPTER VI: CONCLUSION

This chapter consists of conclusion which shows that the theme of this novel is “Reflection of Altruism On Character Annemarie Johansen. This chapter presents an overview of the research subjects in the previous chapters as well as implications from studies of other variables. entitled CONCLUSION, consist of the conclusion which shows the theme in this novel.