

**AGAINST FRAUD FOR FAME REFLECTED IN ALEXANDRE DUMAS'S
NOVEL *THE BLACK TULIP* (1850): SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH**



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Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui fraud untuk ketenaran di novel *The Black Tulip* dengan menggunakan pendekatan sosiologi. Itu dilakukan dengan menetapkan tiga tujuan: yang pertama adalah untuk mengidentifikasi indikator fraud dalam karya sastra, kedua adalah untuk mendeskripsikan bagaimana fraud untuk ketenaran dalam karya sastra, dan yang terakhir adalah untuk mengetahui alasan Alexandre Dumas mengangkat isu fraud untuk ketenaran dalam novel. Tipe penelitian ini adalah penelitian kualitatif. Dalam metode ini, peneliti menggunakan dua tipe data yaitu data primer dan data sekunder. Data primer adalah studi *The Black Tulip* novel, yang ditulis oleh Alexandre Dumas. Data sekunder adalah data yang diambil dari biografi penulis, artikel, buku elektronik, buku-buku dan sumber lain yang mendukung dalam analisis. Hasil dari studi ini yang pertama adalah untuk mengetahui fraud untuk ketenaran yang dicerminkan dalam *The Black Tulip* novel berdasarkan indikator fraud, yaitu licik, fitnah, tipuan dan kebohongan. Yang kedua adalah bagaimana penggambaran fraud untuk ketenaran dalam karya sastra berdasarkan karakter dan pelukisan watak, kejadian, latar tempat, dan gaya bahasa. Dan yang terakhir, alasan Alexandre Dumas mengangkat isu fraud untuk ketenaran dalam karya sastra adalah agar pembaca tahu bahwa perbuatan fraud untuk kesuksesan adalah perbuatan yang salah. Dalam mendapatkan kesuksesan dan ketenaran hal yang paling penting adalah kejujuran.

Kata kunci: *The Black Tulip*, fraud untuk ketenaran, kesuksesan

Abstract

This study aims to determine the fraud for fame in the novel *The Black Tulip* by using sociological approach. That was done by setting three goals: the first is to identify the fraud indicator in the literary work, the second is to describe how fraud to fame in the literary work, and the last is to know the reason Alexandre Dumas raised the issue of fraud to fame in the literary work. This type of research is qualitative research. In this method, the author uses two data types namely primary data and secondary data. The primary data is the study of *The Black Tulip* novel, written by Alexandre Dumas. Secondary data is data taken from biographies of authors, articles, books electronically, books and other sources that support the analysis. The first result of this study is to know the fraud for fame that reflected in *The Black Tulip* novel based on the indicators that is cunning, slander, trick and dishonesty. The second is how fraud for fame describing in the literary work through the character and characterization, events, setting of place, and style. The last, the reason of Alexandre Dumas addressed fraud in the literary work is to make the reader know that the act of fraud to success is an incorrect act. In gaining success and fame, the most important thing is an honesty.

Keywords: *The Black Tulip*, fraud for fame, success

1. INTRODUCTION

Fraud is a deliberate act or omission that is deliberately committed to deceive, deceiving or otherwise manipulate others. Fraud is still common in the selection of candidates for regional heads in Indonesia. The candidates of the head of the region are willing to do various things cheating to get the position they want. The thing they often do is with money politics. Usually, they distribute some money to citizens who have the right to vote so that citizens choose them.

The phenomenon of fraud for fame not only happen in term of life but also in the novel *The Black Tulip* written by Alexandre Dumas. Alexandre Dumas was a French writer best known for his historical novels of high adventure. Alexandre Dumas was born on July 24, 1802, in Villers-Cotterêts, France. His parent's name is Marie Louise Labouret and General Thomas-Alexandre Davy de la Pailleterie. He wrote many novels, plays and magazine articles. Alexandre Dumas's novel titles include *The Count of Monte Cristo*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Twenty Years After*, *The Last Cavalier*, *The Black Tulip*, etc.

The Black Tulip novel by Alexandre Dumas is not a famous novel to use as a research material. The researchers trying to find previous studies about *The Black Tulip* novel but did not get results. I have searched in various sources from 13th November through 25th December 2017 through proQuest, google, and other internet sources. I also visited the library to look for previous studies about this novel but also get no results.

Many comments on the novel by Alexandre Dumas. The comments are positive and some are negative. One of the positive comments is from Guy Bernard. He gave positive comments on this Dumas work. He said that there is a wonderful story, well told and a delight to receive. Then he said that I certainly must thank Mr. Dumas, were that he be here to receive his due, and to the someone certainly more literate than I an appreciation of your efforts for making this classic available that I might complete my educational endeavor.

There is also a negative comment for this novel. One of them is from Nemo. Nemo says that "The Black Tulip" is not Dumas' strongest work. The plot

is not as engaging as his others are. In fact, it is quite predictable; Rosa given the letter, which clears the main character of all wrongdoing, but she cannot read. However, she learns how to read, leading to the obvious conclusion. The characters are also not terribly developed. The only character who seems fully rounded is William of Orange, who is both sinister and sympathetic. For me, *The Black Tulip* novel by Alexandre Dumas is a very interesting novel to read. This novel provides a romantic story and many moral values that can be taken from the novel story.

In my project I want to examine the fraud for fame, the subject focuses on the relationship between Isaac Boxtel and Cornelius Van Baerle who portrayed fraud for fame. In my project, I want to show up the indicators of fraud, which are against in the novel, to describe the fraud for fame portrayal in the novel, and to reveal the reason of the author raise the issue fraud for fame in the novel. In my research, I used sociological approach to analyze the drama and draw the conclusion about the drama with the theory.

Sociology is essentially the scientific, objective study of man in society, the study of social institutions and of social processes; it seeks to answer the question of how society possible, how it works, why it persists (Swingewood, 1972: 11). The researcher wants to show up the relationship of the drama with the society with focused on the one of the aspects social document that centered on social phenomena and problem in society.

Fraud is any behavior by which one person gains or intends to gain a dishonest advantage over another. A crime is an intentional act that violates the criminal law under which no legal excuse applies and where there is a state to codify such laws and enforce penalties in response to their breach. Not all frauds are crimes and the majority of crimes are not frauds.

Oxford Dictionaries define that fraud is wrongful or criminal deception intended to result in financial or personal gain. From the quantitation above the researcher can conclude that fraud is a deliberate deception to make someone lose his valuables.

2. METHOD

In this study, the research method uses qualitative research. Bryman (2004: 266) defines that qualitative research normally emphasizes words rather than quantifications in the collection and analysis of data. The purpose of this research is to analyze the indicators of fraud in the novel *The Black Tulip* (1850) using sociological approach.

The object of this research is the material object and formal object. The material object of this research is *The Black Tulip* that first published in 1850. The formal object of the study is fraud for fame in the novel *The Black Tulip* written by Alexandre Dumas.

Type of the data of this study taken from two sources; they are primary and secondary data sources. The primary data source for the study is *The Black Tulip* novel written by Alexandre Dumas. The secondary data sources are from several sources as references, the author's biography, the articles, and the reviews of the novel from the internet, E-books, books, and other resources that support the research.

3. FINDING AND DISCUSSING

3.1 Indicators of fraud

Indicators of fraud that show in the novel are clearly visible. There are four indicators that illustrate fraud those are (1) Cunning, (2) Slander, (3) Trick, (4) Dishonesty.

3.1.1 Cunning: Destroying Cornelius Van Baerle's Garden

Cunning is the ability to achieve things in a clever way, often by deceiving other people. Cunning in the novel is illustrated by Isaac Boxtel who cunning at Cornelius Van Baerle by destroying his tulip garden. Isaac Boxtel tied his two cats in his feet and threw them into Van Baerle's garden. Isaac Boxtel looked very happy to hear the cries of the cat he had tied up earlier. The crying of the cat can illustrate how the cat feels scared and runs around the garden of Van Baerle. Isaac Boxtel

succeeds in destroying Cornelius Van Baerle's gardens and leaving only a few good tulips bulbs.

3.1.2 Slander: Reported Cornelius Van Baerle to be arrested

Merriam Webster defines that slander is the utterance of false charges or misrepresentations, which defame and damage another's reputation. In *The Black Tulip* novel, slander can be seen by the character of Isaac Boxtel did to Cornelius Van Baerle. Isaac Boxtel saw Cornelius Van Baerle meet Cornelius de Witt, his godfather, talking about something. He could see from his binoculars if Cornelius Van Baerle received a package from Cornelius de Witt but he did not know what they were talking. Isaac Boxtel reports Cornelius Van Baerle without finding out what really happened. He simply concludes himself on what events he has seen from his telescope.

3.1.3 Trick: Remove The Traces of Thief

Merriam Webster defines that trick is a crafty procedure or practice meant to deceive or defraud. Another definition of a trick is a quick or artful way of getting a result. From the definition above the researcher can conclude that trick is the quick way of getting a thing.

Based on the novel, the tricks can be seeing by the character of Isaac Boxtel. Isaac Boxtel thought to try stealing black tulip by stealing the keys owned by Rossa. Then he thinks if he takes the key and then Rossa finds out, then Rossa will change the key and his efforts will be in vain. So he thought of another way, by collecting as many keys and trying it as Rossa went to see Van Baerle in the cell. After he succeeded in stealing Cornelius Van Baerle's tulip then he removes every trace of theft he has done. He damages the original flowerpot and replaces it so that the tulip is different from the previous look.

3.1.4 Dishonesty: Reversed All The Facts

Merriam Webster defines that dishonesty is disposition to defraud or deceive. Another definition of dishonesty is lack of honesty or integrity. Based on the story of the novel, dishonesty can be seen by the

character of Isaac Boxtel did to Cornelius Van Baerle. Isaac Boxtel did not admit that he was the one who stole the black tulip. Isaac Boxtel confidently reversed all the facts. He says that Rossa and Van Baerle are planning something to destroy it. He also said if those who want a black tulip can get a gift of one hundred thousand guilders. Isaac Boxtel is very smart to lie and reverse facts.

3.2 The Portrayal of Fraud in The Drama

3.2.1 Through Character and Characterization

Character and characterization that show fraud in the novel is clearly visible. There are five characters that illustrate fraud on this novel those are (1) Dishonest Character, (2) Victim Character, (3) Ambitious Character.

3.2.1.1 Dishonest Character

In *The Black Tulip* novel, there is a dishonest character. Dishonest can be a lie of words and deeds. A dishonest character in the novel can be seen by the character of Isaac Boxtel. Isaac Boxtel always lurks everything that Cornelius Van Baerle does to grow a good black tulip. Isaac Boxtel thought of a way to destroy the tulip Cornelius Van Baerle.

Another thing Isaac Boxtel did to Cornelius Van Baerle was to slander him. He reported Cornelius Van Baerle on charges that he was conspiring with Cornelius de Witt. He also stole a Cornelius Van Baerle's black tulip and recognized the tulips as his tulips. He even said that Rossa and Cornelius Van Baerle had tried to destroy his career and steal the black tulip from his hand.

3.2.1.2 Victim Character

In the *Black Tulip* novel, a victim character is Cornelius Van Baerle. Cornelius Van Baerle was the godson of Cornelius Van Baerle. He devoted himself to tulip growing. He has a neighbor named Isaac Boxtel. Isaac wants to be the only person who gets an award from a black tulip.

The first thing he did to Cornelius Van Baerle was to destroy Van Baerle's garden. The second thing he did to Cornelius Van Baerle was to slander him. Cornelius Van Baerle was vilified do a conspiracy with his godfather, Cornelius de Witt. Then Cornelius Van Baerle arrested and imprisoned. Moreover, the last misfortune that happened to Cornelius Van Baerle was his black tulip stolen by Isaac Boxtel.

3.2.1.3 Ambitious Character

An ambitious character is a character that has a very strong desire. People who have very high ambitions often do things beyond reasonable limits. The ambitious character in the novel *The Black Tulip* illustrated by the figure of Isaac Boxtel.

Isaac Boxtel is very ambitious to gain fame from producing black tulips. Isaac Boxtel lurks Cornelius Van Baerle's garden so that he can know every Cornelius Van Baerle tulip's development. Then he tries to destroy Cornelius Van Baerle's garden by tied the feet of the two cats and then threw the cat into Cornelius Van Baerle's garden. Isaac Boxtel also slandered Cornelius Van Baerle, which resulted in him going to jail. In prison, Cornelius is still trying to grow his tulips with the help of Rossa. However, Cornelius Van Baerle's black tulip steal by Isaac Boxtel.

3.2.1.4 Through Event

Events that show fraud in this novel are clearly visible. There are five events which illustrate the fraud in the novel, those are (1) Wanting to be famous, (2) Leering, (3) Slandering, (4) Stealing the Black Tulip, (5) Dishonesty.

3.2.1.5 Wanting to be famous

The beginning of the fraud began with the ambition of Isaac Boxtel wanted to be famous for growing black tulips. Isaac Boxtel is a tulip grower who have being award. He had a neighbor named Cornelius Van Baerle. Cornelius Van Baerle also devoted himself to

growing black tulips. Isaac Boxtel is not lucky as his neighbor, Cornelius Van Baerle, who has plenty of treasures to grow black tulips.

3.2.1.6 Leering

Fraud happens because Isaac Boxtel wants to be the only person who managed to grow black tulips. At first, he accidentally found a free screen that can be used to view the garden of Cornelius Van Baerle. He looked at his neighbor's garden there was a light bulb, tulips seeds, and tulips in pots. He also noticed there was a collection of labels, cabinets, drawers, and wire guards for cabinets. He was deeply impressed with the equipment owned by Cornelius Van Baerle.

Isaac Boxtel always stalked what Cornelius Van Baerle did. He looked at every gesture of his neighbor. Until at one time, he saw Cornelius Van Baerle looking very happy and then he felt very angry, jealous, and hateful to his neighbors. Then he thought of planning something to destroy his neighbor's garden.

3.2.1.7 Slandering

Isaac Boxtel's desire to be famous for his black tulips made him slander to Cornelius Van Baerle. At that time, he saw Cornelius Van Baerle talking to his godfather, Cornelius de Witt. Isaac Boxtel saw Cornelius de Witt handed a document to Cornelius Van Baerle but he could not hear what they were talking. After a few days, Isaac Boxtel heard the news that Cornelius de Witt arrested and tried for treason against the state, and then he reported Cornelius with the same case. Isaac Boxtel thinks if he reports Cornelius Van Baerle then Cornelius Van Baerle will be imprisoned and he will have no rival anymore to gain fame from growing a black tulip.

3.2.1.8 Stealing The Black Tulip

Isaac Boxtel desperately wanted Cornelius Van Baerle's black tulips. By the time Cornelius imprisoned, his black tulips were treated by Rossa. Then he found a strategy how to steal the black tulip from Rossa's room. Then he thinks if he takes the key and then Rossa finds

out, then Rossa will change the key and his efforts will be in vain. So he thought of another way, by collecting as many keys and trying it as Rossa went to see Van Baerle in the cell. When Rossa came out of the room to meet Cornelius at the cell, Isaac Boxtel used the time to steal the black tulip from Rossa's room.

3.2.1.9 Dishonesty

After stealing the black tulips, he then went to Harlem to admit the tulips to the William of Orange. He wished he could get the award of the black tulip he had stolen from Rossa's room. However, for a moment he went to Harlem, Rossa who had realized that his tulip have being stole immediately traveled to Harlem. Rossa reported to the court officer that her black tulip have being stole. Rossa says if the black tulip that brought by Isaac Boxtel is her and Cornelius Van Baerle own. However, Isaac Boxtel kept saying that the black tulip belonged to him. Isaac Boxtel has many ways to convince court people and William of Orange if the tulips are his own.

3.2.2 Setting of Place

There is some settings of the novel that occurring in the novel. The first setting is Dort. Dort is a place where Cornelius Van Baerle and Isaac Boxtel live. Dort is also, where they grow tulips. At Dort Isaac Boxtel who really wanted the fame of growing black tulips trying to spy on every move, Cornelius Van Baerle made to grow his black tulips. Here also happened slander to Cornelius Van Baerle conducted by Isaac Boxtel, which resulted in Cornelius Van Baerle, arrested.

The second setting is Loevestein prison. Loevestein prison is where Cornelius Van Baerle was imprisoned and where he met Rossa. Hague prison is also the place of the theft of black tulips by Isaac Boxtel. With Rossa's help, Cornelius Van Baerle's second black tulip can grow well. However, Isaac Boxtel steals the tulips. Isaac Boxtel had been watching and lurking Rossa and Cornelius Van Baerle for a long time. At the time Rossa off guard, he stole the tulip from Rossa's room.

The last setting is Haarlem. Haarlem is the place where Isaac Boxtel will get the award and fame of the black tulip. In Haarlem is also the place where all the crimes committed by Isaac Boxtel against Cornelius Van Baerle revealed. Isaac Boxtel had died in this place because shocked hearing the words of William of Orange if Rossa and Cornelius Van Baerle own the black tulip.

3.2.3 Style

3.2.3.1 Diction

Diction is a choice of words selected by the author in describing the story he made. With diction then a word will be seen more clearly and precisely in accordance with its use. There is some diction in *The Black Tulip* novel; it can be seen in the quotation below:

“Besides, Isaac had made the discovery that too much sun was injurious to tulips, and that this flower grew quicker, and had a better colouring, with the temperate warmth of morning, than with the powerful heat of the midday sun.” (Dumas, 1850: 43)

The quotation above illustrates how Isaac Boxtel did to get a black tulip flower. The other word diction is *Tulipa Nigra Rosa Barlaensis*, it can be seen in the evidence below:

“This tulip,” continued the Prince, “will therefore bear the name of its producer, and figure in the catalogue under the title, *Tulipa nigra Rosa Barlaensis*, because of the name Van Baerle, which will henceforth be the name of this damsel.” (Dumas, 1850: 208)

The word *Tulipa nigra Rosa Barlaensis* is the title of a black tulip flower produced by Cornelius Van Baerle and Rosa. Flower titles named after the person who produced them. Prince William gave the title of the flower because the producers of the tulips are Cornelius Van Baerle and Rosa.

3.2.3.2 Symbol

The Black Tulip represented success. There is the symbol that researcher found in the drama, that is *The Black Tulip*. Black tulips are flowers, but flowers are rare and difficult to produce. Everyone competes to produce black tulips. They choose their own way of

producing a black tulip; some cheat and some are honest. Those who excel in producing black tulips will get prizes in the form of prize money and fame.

Black tulips in a novel like a flower itself, which symbolizes a success. Everyone is eager for success. Those who want to succeed are sometimes willing to cheat, but who act honestly. Those who achieve success will gain wealth and fame.

3.3 The Reason Why Alexandre Dumas Addressed Fraud

Alexandre Dumas is a novelist, best known as a historical novelist. One of his novel works is *The Black Tulip* novel released in 1850. This novel is a French novel that translated into English.

In the novel *The Black Tulip* there is a fraud aspect depicted by a figure named Isaac Boxtel against Cornelius Van Baerle. Isaac Boxtel is a very ambitious figure to get what he wants, that is fame. In his attempt to get rid of his opponent, Cornelius Van Baerle, he was willing to do everything he could to gain fame. As depicted in the novel, in addition to cunning and dishonesty, he also slandered Cornelius Van Baerle and deceived him with various tricks.

By the indicators of fraud in *The Black Tulip* novel, it makes everyone believe that there is precision in our daily lives. From *The Black Tulip* novel by Alexandre Dumas, there is information about ours in this modern society. For the first is to make the reader know that the act of fraud to success is an incorrect act. In gaining success and fame, the most important thing is honesty.

3.4 Discussion

Swingewood (1972) in Faruk (1994: 1) state that sociology as a scientific and objective study about man in the society, institution, and social function tries to answer how the society is enabled, how it behaves, and how the society survives. Sociology of literature is a science that is studies of a human being in the social environment and all aspects of human life. According Swingewood and Laurenson (1972: 11) Sociology

is essentially the scientific, objective study of man in society, the study of social institutions and of social process.

There are three major principles of sociological approach the first is literary works as the social document, second is literary works as a reflection of the social situation of the writer, and the last is literary work as the manifestation of the historical moment. Swingewood defines that literature reflects various and social phenomena and problems in society such as class structure, class conflict, family, relationship and possibility divorce friend, and population composition. The sociological holds with some social aspects, which consist of social structure, social status, class social, social relation, family, etc. The social issues is the relationship between a person and the social environment.

In 1850 after the French revolution, the social class position not based on the blood of nobles or castes. However, after the French revolution, the social class was determined based on the achievements one has achieved. In achieving, these achievements there are those who do honest and those who do fraud. For example, Alexandre Dumas have described it in *The Black Tulip* novel.

In the novel *The Black Tulip*, the social relation between Isaac Boxtel and Cornelius Van Baerle is very clearly. The relationship between them clearly demonstrated from the illustration of fraud for fame to gain social status. Isaac Boxtel and Cornelius are close neighbors and equally struggling to grow rare black tulips. In their attempt to grow a black tulip, Isaac Boxtel has always fraud Cornelius Van Baerle. Cornelius Van Baerle strives with his honesty and intelligence to grow black tulips. In the end, Cornelius Van Baerle earned social status because his fame earned black tulips.

4. CONCLUSIONS

After analyzing *The Black Tulip* novel by Alexandre Dumas the researcher draw some conclusions.

Firstly, there are four indicators of fraud, which the researcher found in the novel. There are cunning, slander, trick, and dishonesty. The first indicator is cunning, which Isaac Boxtel did to Cornelius Van Baerle. Isaac Boxtel lurking every move by Cornelius Van Baerle with his binocular, which is a sneaky act. Through his binoculars, he could find out what Cornelius Van Baerle was doing in his garden. Until one day, he saw Cornelius Van Baerle talking to Cornelius De Witt and receiving a document from Cornelius De Witt. He did not hear anything they were talking. A few days later Cornelius De Witt arrested and tried for treason against the state. Hearing the news, Isaac Boxtel later reported Cornelius Van Baerle and then he was imprisoned. In the prison, Isaac Boxtel is still watching Cornelius Van Baerle. He then stole a black tulip flower from Rossa's hands, the woman who helped Cornelius Van Baerle to grow his black tulips. After getting the black tulips, he rushes to Haarlem to gain fame over the tulips that he recognizes as his black tulips.

Second, the fraud for fame that depicted in the novel can be seen through character and characterization which there are three personality based on the novel. At first is a dishonest character, which illustrates the personality of the character who do all the means and lies to gain fame. Then, victim personality is the personality of the character who became victims of fraud for fame. The last is an ambitious character, which illustrated as the character of the novel who is very eager to get fame to do fraud. Alternatively, the fraud for fame can be seeing from the events in the novel.

The last is the reason why the author raises fraud for fame in the novel. The reason is to make the reader know that the act of fraud to success is an incorrect act. In gaining success and fame, the most important thing is an honesty.

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