

**MORAL VALUE REFLECTED IN NOVEL *ME BEFORE YOU*
BY JOJO MOYES: A PRAGMATIC PERSPECTIVE**



**Submitted as a Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for Getting Bachelor
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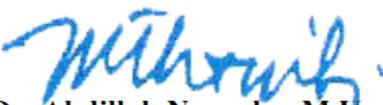
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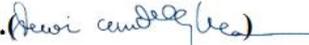
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Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan (1) perwujudan nilai-nilai moral dalam novel *Me Before You* dan (2) akhlak kedua tokoh utama dalam menghadapi permasalahan hidup dalam novel *Me Before You* karya Jojo Moyes dan (3) bentuk menyampaikan nilai-nilai moral dalam novel *Me Before You*. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian deskriptif kualitatif. Subjek penelitian ini adalah novel *Me Before You* karya Jojo Moyes. Penelitian ini berfokus pada permasalahan yang berkaitan dengan analisis nilai moral dengan pendekatan pragmatis. Data dianalisis dengan teknik deskripsi kualitatif, yaitu prosedur penelitian dengan hasil penyajian data deskriptif berupa tuturan pengarang dalam novel *Me Before You*. Metode pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan teknik membaca dan merekam. Validitas yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah validitas intrarater, dan juga validitas interrater. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan sebagai (1) bentuk nilai moral memiliki dua jenis: yang pertama adalah hubungan antara manusia dengan diri sendiri, dan yang kedua adalah hubungan dengan manusia lain. (2) Moral tokoh utama dalam menghadapi permasalahan hidup yang terdapat dalam novel *Me Before You* terdapat beberapa varian yaitu pendirian teguh, kerja keras, dan tidak mudah putus asa. (3) Bentuk penyampaian nilai moral memiliki dua spesifikasi, yaitu penyampaian nilai moral secara langsung dan penyampaian nilai moral secara tidak langsung.

Kata kunci: moral, pragmatis, pilihan, *me before you*

Abstract

This study aims to describe (1) the manifestation of moral values in the novel *Me Before You* and (2) the moral of the two main characters in facing life problems in the novel *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes and (3) the form of delivering moral values in the novel *Me Before You*. This research is a qualitative descriptive study. The subject of this research is the *Me Before You* novel by Jojo Moyes. This research focuses on problems related to the analysis of moral values with a pragmatic approach. The data were analyzed by qualitative description techniques, namely a research procedure with the results of descriptive data presentation in the form of speech by the author in the novel *Me Before You*. The method of data collection was done by reading and recording techniques. The validity used in this study is intrarater validity, and also interrater validity. The results of the study show as (1) the form of moral values has two types: the first is relationship between humans and oneself, and the second is relations with other human beings. (2) The moral of the main character in dealing with life problems contained in the novel *Me Before You*, there are several variants, namely steadfast stance, working hard, and not easily discouraged. (3) The form of delivering moral values has two specifications, namely the delivery of moral values directly and the delivery of moral values indirectly.

Keywords: moral, pragmatic, choice, existence and me before you.

1. INTRODUCTION

Literary work is a medium for expressing the thoughts of the author. Literary works are imaginative, aesthetic and pleasing to the reader. This is in line with the opinion of Damono (1984: 1), that literary works were created by authors or writers to be enjoyed, understood and utilized by society in life.

Literary works have benefits for their readers. According to Horace (via Wellek & Warren, 1990: 25) the function of literature is *dulce et utile*, which means beautiful and useful. The beauty in literature can please the reader, it is fun in the sense that it can provide entertainment for the audience in terms of the language, the way it is presented, the storyline or solving the problem. The sense useful of literary works can be taken the benefit of knowledge and cannot be separated from its moral teachings.

Literary works created by the author should contain certain values that will be conveyed to the reader, for example moral values. The reader is expected to be able to find and retrieve this value. Kenny (via Nurgiyantoro 2009: 320) states that moral stories are usually intended as a suggestion related to certain moral teachings that are practical. It is a deliberate guide given by the author about various matters relating to behavior and social manners.

The moral that is conveyed to the reader through the work of fiction is certainly very useful and helpful. Likewise the moral contained in the novel *Me Before You* will be beneficial to the reader. The moral displayed in this novel relates a lot to the struggle for life.

Moral conveyed to readers through fiction is certainly very useful and accomplished. But sometimes, readers find it difficult to determine which studies are considered important by researchers and to determine certain objects (specifically), so moral theory requires a pragmatic approach as a perspective in analyzing a literary work, more than that a pragmatic approach and moral theory both discuss the relationship between literary works and readers, namely the moral messages conveyed by literature to readers.

The morals contained in the novel *Me Before You* will benefit the reader. The moral displayed in this novel is closely related to the struggle for life. Moral

submission in literary works by the author can be done through the activities of figures or direct speakers of the author. In direct narrative, the author provides an explanation of the good or the bad thing directly. Submission of morality through the character's activities, usually conveyed through dialogue, behavior, and thoughts of the characters contained in the story.

The story of *Me Before You* presents many interesting life and life problems, and there are many moral values that are very useful for readers. Stories that display various aspects of life and their problems are conveyed in interesting and easily understood language, making it easier for readers to find the moral values in question. The novel *Me Before You*, is famous for the life story of a man in life's struggle and suicide considerations, and the story is so light that it is liked by readers. Based on the things that have been mentioned, the author is interested in examining any moral values in the novel *Me Before You*, how the main character faces problems in his life, and how the author conveys a moral message in the novel *Me Before You*.

2. METHOD

This study aims to find and describe the form of moral values, the moral of the main character in dealing with life problems and the delivery of moral values in the novel *Me Before You*. Based on these objectives, the method used in this study uses qualitative descriptive research. The method used in this study is translated into steps according to the stages of implementation, namely (1) the stage of providing data, (2) the stage of data analysis, and (3) the stage of presenting the results of data analysis.

The qualitative descriptive approach in this study is a research procedure with the results of descriptive data presentation in the form of the author's speech in the novel *Me Before You*. Sudaryanto (1993: 62), states that descriptive terms suggest to a study that is solely based solely on the facts that exist and also the phenomena that indeed empirically live within the speaker, so that those produced or recorded in the form of ordinary language descriptions said to be like a portrait: exposure as it is.

The material object of this study is the novel *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes. The formal object of this study is the pragmatics approach. The focus of this research is on the moral aspects of the novel. Data collection is done by reading and recording techniques. The reading technique is done by reading the novel *Me Before You*. At first the whole novel was carried out with the aim of knowing identification in general. After that, a careful reading and interpretation of the moral elements in the novel are carried out. After careful reading the data is recorded, the next step is recording which is done by recording the quotation directly or called verbatim from the novel studied.

This research is content analysis. The data obtained were analyzed by qualitative descriptive techniques. Data analysis was conducted to determine the moral aspects contained in the novel *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes. The data analysis technique used in this research is descriptive qualitative because data requires descriptive explanation. The description technique is used to find out all the objectives of the research, the steps used using the method as follows. First, comparing data with one another, then the second is grouping data according to existing categories to facilitate further data analysis.

3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Finding

Me Before You is a book that is lifted from the story of the struggle of a man whose life changed drastically after an accident named Will and a woman who did not give up easily named Lou. Lou, who entered Will's life as a nurse, began coloring Will's gray life after the accident which resulted in him being diagnosed with paralysis, quadriplegic, by a doctor. Lou began to panic when he learned that Will was planning to commit suicide. Lou then did everything he could to change his mind. However, Will remained at his founding.

The moral value of the characters in this novel can be used as an example in everyday life. Moral values in this novel for example do not give up like Lou.

*“You only get one life. It’s actually your duty to live it as fully as possible.”,
Lou Clark said.*

The manifestation of moral values contained in the novel *Me Before You* can be categorized based on the nature and human behavior inherent in living life. Various issues of life and conclusions that arise can provide an illustration of something idealized by the author. The manifestation of moral values in the novel *Me Before You* is a manifestation of moral values in the relationship between humans and other humans and the manifestation of human moral values with oneself. The following will be discussed regarding the manifestation of moral values in the novel *Me Before You*.

The behavior of human relations with himself is classified in all forms of moral values that relate to individuals as individuals who show the existence of the individual with various attitudes attached to him. The problem of humans with themselves according to Nurgiyantoro (2009: 324) can be of various types and levels of intensity. The manifestation of the moral value of human relations with oneself is threefold, namely patience, sincerity, and responsibility.

The patience that Lou has is extraordinary. Even though Lou was suddenly fired from her job and carried the burden of his family, Lou remained patient. Lou still doesn't ever give up and stay strong. Lou was also very patient with Will's attitude, which at first was always arbitrary. When Will finally committed suicide, Lou also continued her life to move forward. In this novel the author shows the value of morality that can be imitated by the reader.

Sincerity is to accept whatever has been given to us seriously without expecting a reward. In this novel, what is meant by sincerity is Lou and Will's parents must accept Will's decision. At the end of the novel, it was seen that Lou truly accepted Will's departure and followed Will's words to keep going forward.

Relationship between humans and other human beings in community life, often friction occurs. The issue of living with fellow humans with their environment can be either positive or negative. Considering that humans are basically social beings who need each other, including relations with the surrounding environment as completeness in their lives, they sometimes cause various kinds of problems. The manifestation of moral values in human relations with other humans is six variants, namely parents' advice to children, advice

between friends, parental love for children, child love for parents, affection between friends, parents' responsibility to children.

Moral is something that the author wants to convey to the reader, which is the meaning contained in a literary work and the meaning suggested by the story (Nurgiyantoro, 2009: 321). This means that the author conveys moral messages to the reader through literary works both direct and indirect delivery. The moral character in literature has the same meaning as moral understanding itself. Moral characters are bad good values performed by characters in the literature itself. The moral of the characters contained in the novel *Me Before You*, there are six variants, namely accepting decisions, steadfast convictions, being submissive, likes to work hard, not easily discouraged, unfit to face trials. As follows.

Accepting a decision means accepting the terms Will want sincerely. Like Lou's character in Joo Moyes's *Me Before You*, Lou receives Will's decision sincerely. Although Lou initially didn't accept Will's decision, in the end, Lou accepted Will's decision, thinking about Will's suffering all this time.

Steadfast Convictions means strong stance that no one can change his mind, whoever they is. People who have a steadfast convictions are people who have opinions that are not easily changed. The steadfast convictions that was shown to Will's character in the novel *Me Before You* was how Will remained in his decision to commit suicide, even though all his friends, family, even loved ones begged him to change his decision, but Will still did not change his decision.

Being submissive is an attitude of accepting the situation with sincerity. Resignation is one of the fundamental characteristics of people who are devoted to God Almighty. Because Will remained at his founding, his parents Will could only be resigned to Will's decision, so did Lou who could only act resign on Will's decision to end his life.

The meaning of the hard work is to try with all my heart with all my might to try to get the desire to achieve maximum results in general. Hard work is one way that can be used to achieve something positive. The form of love to hard work on the novel *Me Before You* was shown to Lou. Lou tried hard to change Will's suicidal decision. From starting to look for attractions that she thought Will could

enjoy, until he decided on his girlfriend so she could make Will happy and change his decision to commit suicide.

Not easily discouraged is to try hard without giving up. If you experience failure, people who are not easily discouraged are still always trying to be better and not experience adversity. People who are not easily discouraged are people who are always patient. The form of not easily discouraged in the novel *Me Before You* is in the character Lou.

From the beginning, Lou was indeed told a figure who was not easily discouraged. Early on, she was suddenly expelled from her workplace, but she did not despair and immediately looked for another job. Then when you face Will who likes to sneer and look down on her, Lou continues to be patient in caring for Will until Will will accept it. When Lou found out that Will was going to commit suicide, Lou kept doing everything in order to change Will's decision, even though her efforts failed constantly, but Lou was not easily discouraged.

Unstoppable in facing trials is a moral character that is not good. People who are not steadfast in facing trials tend not to be patient and always blame the situation. The moral form of the character that is not good for the character Will. From the beginning, Will was indeed not a patient person, he was always impatient and always blamed the situation. So from that he made a decision to end his life.

3.2 Discussion

From the research results, by using pragmatic theory, the researcher can more clearly capture what morals are contained in *Me Before You*. That is because the approach using pragmatic theory only conveys certain objectives that the researcher wants.

4. CLOSING

Based on the results of research and discussion on the novel *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes, the conclusion can be drawn as follows. Firstly, the form of moral values in the novel *Me Before You* has two types, namely the first manifestation of moral values in the relationship between humans and oneself has a variant of patience, sincerity and responsibility, while being the moral value of human

relations with other human beings is parental advice, affection between friends, and parental responsibility to children.

Secondly, the moral of the main character in dealing with life problems contained in the novel *Me Before You*, there are several variants, namely accept the decision, steadfast convictions, resign, working hard, not easily discouraged, and indecisive in facing trials.

Thirdly, the form of delivering moral values has two specifications, namely the delivery of moral values directly and the delivery of moral values indirectly. Submission of moral values directly has two forms, namely through authors and through figures, while the delivery of moral values indirectly has a form of delivery in the form of events and conflicts. The dominant form of delivering moral values contained in the novel *Me Before You* is a form of direct delivery, which is the form of delivery through characters.

For further research, it is suggested to analyze the relationship between William Traynor and Louisa Clark using semiotic analysis. Semiotics is a science or analytical method to test signs. Semiotics views communication as a process of giving meaning through signs, namely how signs represent objects, ideas, situations, etc. that are outside the individual. Semiotics is used in topics about messages, media, culture, and society (Sobur, 2006).

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