



**DAVID STONE'S AGGRESSION AGAINST CIA DEPICTED IN
HIS NOVEL *THE ECHELON OF VENDETTA*: AN ANALYSIS OF
EXPRESSIVE APPROACH**

THESIS

Written by:

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**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF LETTERS
JEMBER UNIVERSITY
2015**



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A Thesis Presented to the English Department,
Faculty of Letters, Jember University, as
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Award of Sarjana Sastra Degree
in English Studies

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DEDICATION PAGE

This thesis is dedicated to:

1. my dearest mother, Nur Wasiyah, who has inspired and taught me real life experiences as a man through her endless love and prayer. I can never thank her enough, I only promise her my very best;
2. my father, K. Budiarto, for his loves, prayers and supports;
3. my beloved wife to be, Paramitha Hendja.
4. my Almamater.

MOTTO

Day and night rotate, love provides without being asked.

(Candra Malik)



DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis entitled *DAVID STONE'S AGGRESSION AGAINST CIA DEPICTED IN HIS NOVEL THE ECHELON OF VENDETTA: AN ANALYSIS OF EXPRESSIVE APPROACH* is an original piece of writing. I guarantee that the analysis and the research described in this thesis have never been submitted for any other degree or publications.

I certify, to the best of my knowledge, that all sources used and any help received in the research of this thesis have been acknowledged.

Jember, December 11th, 2015

The Writer,

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Dandy Anugerah Utama

SUMMARY

DAVID STONE'S AGGRESSION AGAINST CIA DEPICTED IN HIS NOVEL THE ECHELON OF VENDETTA: AN ANALYSIS OF EXPRESSIVE APPROACH; Dandy Anugerah Utama, 080110191007; 2015; 54 pages; English Department, Faculty of Letters, Jember University.

The Echelon of Vendetta is the first novel by David Stone. The main character depicted the author's life as an agent of CIA. This thesis tries to analyze David Stone's aggression against CIA reflected on the character Micah Dalton.

This study is conducted to know the social condition that influences David Stone's aggression against CIA depicted on Micah Dalton in the novel. The second is to describe David Stone's aggression against CIA depicted on Micah Dalton in the novel. Furthermore, this thesis uses qualitative method to collect the data. The data are taken from several resources concerning with aggression and the author. *The Echelon of Vendetta* novel is the source data and other references related to the object of the study such as, internet. M.H. Abrams book *The Mirror and Lamp* is the theory that is used to breakdown the data. The steps of analysis begin from classifying narrations and dialogues about the social condition that stimulate Micah Dalton to do aggression toward CIA taken from the novel. Then, all the data are analyzed by using expressive approach.

The results of this study shows that David Stone depicts his life as an agent of CIA through the character named Micah Dalton, who feels disappointed with CIA in the novel *The Echelon of Vendetta*.

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CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

In *The Echelon of Vendetta*, Micah Dalton, whose life will be analyzed, reflects the life of the author. Micah Dalton is a cleaner for the NSA. Attached to the Clandestine Services Agency, it is his job to come in and clean up the mistakes of others. Because of his job, he must often move from one country to another. He is very good at his job but, in fact he suffers, as always misses his team-mates and the atmosphere, when he was in the CIA made him too much, smoking too much, and not really caring about himself. On one occasion, when he was in Venice to solve the problems of one company that is shaded by British banks, Micah Dalton got the news that his team-mates in the CIA brutally murdered. From the incident he was very sad because the victim was his close friend, while he is still a team in the CIA. There unnatural events make Dalton feel worried, a few days later, he gets the bad news that another teammate suddenly killed too in sadistic manner. After that, Dalton begins to feel there will be another victim of his teammates in the CIA, including him are increasingly aware of this terror. Dalton does not stay silent with all these events, and he decides to hunt down the killer of his partner. Interestingly, it reflects the author's life. David Stone served in the military as an intelligence officer and as an investigator for a state-level law enforcement agency. He has a solid team and the best in the era. Stone has lived and worked in North and Central America, Southeast Asia, and Europe.

Aggression is all forms of deliberate behavior towards other beings for the purpose of hurt, and the offended side is trying to avoid. It also includes the question of human aggression is directed deliberately torment of various forms of violence against another person. In this case, if you hurt others because of the accident, then the behavior is not considered as aggressive. For example, if pains caused by an act

of medical, even deliberately, it is not included in aggression. On the contrary, the intention to hurt others, but unsuccessful, it can be regarded as aggressive behavior. Aggression can be done verbally or physically. Behavior inadvertently causes harm or pain is not an aggression. The destruction of goods and other destructive behaviors are included in the definition of aggression.

In this case, I am very interested in the character of Dalton who dares to hunt the killer of his teammates when he is working for the CIA. All the ways he does is to avenge the death of his friend. Micah Dalton, an NSA agent tries to investigate this case. From Tuscany, Venice, and London to the Rocky Mountains and Washington, Dalton tries to track down the killer, trying to solve the cases with conspiracy and revenge. Dalton investigation leads to a number of possibilities, including the relevance of this case by the CIA. Action begins with the passing of the investigation that unloads a dirty conspiracy and underlies everything.

The point to find the relation of the author's idealism to his work is interesting since this thesis takes the novel as the source data, and the author as the subject matter. The literature is the bridge to find the link where the author conveys his complicated life through Micah Dalton as the main character.

According to Wellek and Warren (1965:94) "literature represents life, and life is in large measure a social reality even though the natural world and the inner or subjunctive world of the individual have also been the object of literary imitation". In addition according to Robert and Jacob;

"Literature helps us grow, both personally and intellectually; it provides an objective for our knowledge and understanding; it helps us to connect ourselves to the cultural context of which we are a part; it enables to recognize humans dreams and struggle in different societies that we never otherwise get to know; it helps us to develop mature sensibility and compassion for the conditional of all living things."

(Robert and Jacobs, 1986:2).

The Echelon of Vendetta is a unique novel, for it vividly illustrates and deeply explores the author's life story depicted in the novel. As an author, it is possible if he wants to insert the experience of his life in his work. Here the mental and psychological state of the author as the first person narrator is clearly noticed that he longs for his past. Based on the fact above, it is interesting to discuss this novel as the object of my research.

1.2 The Problems to Discuss

The novel is a novel which offers the understanding and successfully makes controversial and interesting to discuss. I would like to address the following problem:

1. What is the social condition that influences David Stone's aggression against CIA depicted on Micah Dalton?
2. How David Stone's aggression against CIA depicted on Micah Dalton in the novel?

1.3 The Goals of the Study

This research is arranged in order to gain several goals. The first goal is to analyze David Stone's life story or feeling depicted in the character of Micah Dalton in his *The Echelon of Vendetta*. The second shows the social condition influences the character to do aggression toward CIA's murdered problem that Micah Dalton faces.

Moreover, this thesis has a great significance for the readers. The significance of this study is to encourage the readers to know about people aggression and give a contribution for further research related to American Literature.

1.4 The Organization of The Study

To make the thesis systematic and easy to read, the interrelated logical division is needed. Therefore, this thesis is divided into five chapters. The first chapter serves as an introduction. It consists of the background of the study, the problem to discuss, the goals of the study, and the organization of the study. The central theories and literature reviews which base the overall research is reviewed in the second chapter which experts' opinions concerning expressive approach about the issues supporting the analysis. The research method is discussed in the third chapter. It explains the detail of types of the research, types of the data, the data collection, the data processing, and data analysis. The discussion of the data will be presented in the fourth chapter that answers the problem of the discussion in this research. Finally, the entire previous chapter will be provided in fifth chapter as the results and the conclusion of the discussion.

CHAPTER 2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This chapter provides all the basic theories for the study. Before proceeding to find out David Stone's aggression against CIA depicted in his novel, it is necessary to describe the previous researches and the theory used.

2.1 Literature Review

Literary review is important to choose a topic for a new research. By explaining it, the originality of the thesis can be proven and the readers acknowledge it as different research from the previous one. Moreover, it can help the writer to get any information and references related to the chosen topic.

In writing this thesis, I use three previous researches. The first previous research is the thesis about *Khaled Hosseini's Diasporic Life Reflected in His Work Entitled the Kite Runner* by Surya Dewi. She also tries to do expressive research. She explains that the characters in the literary works are usually the representation of the author's personality. In her thesis, she focuses on the character's life in the story named Amir depicted as the author, who becomes resonant theme within the novel. The discussion starts from the reason of Hossaini's fond memories of childhood reflected toward the character of Amir in his novel. The Second is thesis about *Erik's Aggression in Gaston Leroux's the Phantom of the Opera* by Nurul Faris Devi Astiti Aryadi. She tries to analyse human destructiveness toward aggression, which is reflected in *The Phantom of The Opera* that represents the destructive behaviour of Erik as the main character in the novel. The third is thesis about *The Reflection of the Author's Life on the Characters' Life in Harper Lee's To Kill A Mockingbird* by

Erna Dewi Rofiqoh. She tries to discuss about the reflection of Harper Lee's life and people around the author who inspires Harper Lee to write *To Kill A Mockingbird*.

On the other hands, the research tries to focus the discussion on author's expression or feeling, which is reflected in his novel *The Echelon of Vendetta*. The discussion starts from David Stone's aggression of CIA depicted on Micah Dalton as the main character in the story.

2.2 Expressive Approach

Expressive theories defines a literary work as the overflow, utterance, or projection of the thought and feelings of the author or in other words, the work itself modifies and synthesizes the images, thoughts, and feelings of the author. The expressive approach treats the literary work primarily in relation to the author, the expression of the author's feeling and emotion, or as the product of the author's imagination operating of his or her perception. This approach is usually used to analyze how the vision of the author in his work.

“In general terms, the central tendency of the expressive theory may be summarized in this way: A work of art is essentially the internal made external, resulting from a creative process operating under the impulses of feeling, and embodying the combined product of the poet's perceptions, thoughts and feelings. The primary source and subject matter of a poem, therefore, are the attributes and actions of the poet's own mind; or if aspects of the external world, then these only as they are converted from fact to poetry by the feelings and operation of the poet's mind.” (Abrams, 1953: 22)

Wordsworth's definition of poetry as “the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings recollected in tranquility” is taken as the ground idea of the expressive theory of art. (<http://www.bachelorandmaster.com/criticaltheories/about-expressive-theory.html#sthash.f4Jo37mR.dpuf>, accessed on February 11, 2015, 12.07 pm)

Especially, the characters in the literary works are usually the representation of the author personality. The author sometimes creates his own figure to be the main character in his works. Then, he usually explores his own life experience in his works. He creates the story that is similar with his own life including the conflicts he has experienced.

“The real elements, of course, of any work of fiction, are the elements of the author’s personality: his imagination embodies in the images of characters, situation, and scenes the fundamental conflicts of his nature or the cycle of phases through which it habitually passes. His personages are personifications of the author’s various impulses and emotions: and the relations between in his stories are rarely the relations between these.” (Abrams, 1953: 228)

Based on the explanation of expressive theory above, this theory is suitable as a tool to analyze the problem to discuss of the research. The reason is because the novel *The Echelon of Vendetta* is a novel that reflected the author’s experiences that existed in the past. It tells about the story of Micah Dalton, the cleaner agent of NSA. Micah Dalton, an NSA agent is to investigate the murder of his teammates in CIA. In the real life, the author is a former CIA agent who had handled the same murder case. Fascinatingly, it reflects the author’s expression life. In short, this condition is suitable analyzed with expressive theory.

Lastly, the author sometimes symbolizes his own personality and his own life experience through the personification sentences that can be seen in literary works. Through the novel, David Stone tells his own experiences that happened in the past. In order to achieve this, expressive approach is needed in this study.

2.3 The Meaning of Aggression

According to *Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary*, “aggression is violent or hostile feelings or behavior”. The violent behavior itself is the expression of the

anger feeling when someone in a danger and pressure time. In this thesis, I focus on explanation by Erich Fromm. Erich Fromm (1973) says that “the word “aggression” serves conveniently as a bridge to connect biologically adaptive aggression (which is not evil) with human destructiveness which indeed is evil”. This means that aggression actually comes from human character or innate in each individually. The core of this kind of “reasoning” is biologically adaptive aggression from innate, it means that the destructiveness and violence includes to aggression. Therefore, it can be concluded as destructiveness and violent innate.

There are two distinctions (benign and malignant aggression) of human aggression which is shown by Fromm in *The Anatomy of Human Destructiveness* (1973). Because of my study is included in the area of malignant aggression, and then I will explain in more detail about it. “It is one of the passions that are dominant and powerful in some individuals and cultures, although not in others” (Fromm, 1973:218). This malignant aggression gives more explanation for how and why the aggression happens. There are several terms in this malignant aggression, but I just want to take a few points to strengthen my research. 1) Excitation and Stimulation; Today, people have a motivation to do something of their needs. Those needs could be stimuli to respond and to seek excitation. The motivation itself is called a stimulus. Fromm divides stimulus into two types. The first stimulus is simple stimulus. Simple stimulus is the respond of someone is reflection in a way to save his life by a danger because it is a neurophysiology of man. It is just the reflection to respond his brain to save his life. Next, activating stimulus. This stimulus is the activating stimulus to do something that makes the people active in a way they reach the goal. 2) Social Condition. Environmental factors influence directly on the development of man’s character. The most elementary case showing the influence of environmental factors on personality are the direct influences to the growth of the character. Man who is isolated in his society will grow with a bad characteristic than the other condition. Fromm (1973: 259) says that, “he has the possibility for full

development and growth, provided the external conditions that are given are conducive to this aim". This means that there are specific environmental conditions conducive to the optimal growth of man. On the other hand, man who grows in the good environment he will grow and develop into better characteristic.

In short, the concept expressive study in this thesis is to analyze the biography of David Stone. He reflects his life in his novel *The Echelon of Vendetta*.



CHAPTER 3. RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

This chapter presents the research method used to discuss the topic of the study. According to Hornby (2005:925), method is a particular way of doing something. This chapter is going to bring the following methods such as type of research, data collection, data processing, and data analysis. They will be discussed in the following sub chapters.

3.1 Type of Research

The type of data used in this thesis is qualitative data. In his book, (Denscombe, 2007: 285) states that qualitative data take the form of words (spoken or written) and visual images (observed or creatively produced). Based on the statement, it can give more understanding about qualitative data that focuses on understanding and meaning through verbal description rather than through number. The qualitative method is used in this research activity because the object of the research is a novel that the form is not dealing with number but verbal or words description. It means the researcher wanted to describe the data systematically, factually, accurately. In this case, the essence of this descriptive qualitative study is related to the chosen topic in this research. In addition, it is appropriate to analyze the data by using qualitative method.

3.2 Data Collection

In this thesis, the data collected through documentary process. According to Blaxter et al (1996:141), documentary data collection uses written materials as a

basis of research. Therefore, the writer is expected to read several books and grouping the relevant data which are found.

There are several books and other references are used to support the study, for instance, the novel written by David Stone, 2007, *The Echelon of Vendetta* is the primary source of this thesis. The next book is *The Anatomy of Human Destructiveness*, 1973, by Erich Fromm. From the title, it is depicted that the book gives information about the concept of aggression. Furthermore, from book of *The Mirror and Lamp*, 1953, the expressive theory based on M.H. Abram's perspective is applied as a theory.

3.3 Data Processing and Data Analysis

Data processing is a coding and sorting the data based on the type of data and certain categories based on the chosen theory. In this method, I choose and find out the information which is needed and it can support the analysis activity then to answer the problem of discussion. The data which is needed in this analysis are learning and make deep understanding about expressive study, then finally identifying the statements and narrations in the novel which can support the analysis. The analysis of the research is presented in a descriptive way. This activity is aimed to know the contribution of literary work that is not only giving an entertainment to the readers, but also giving some information. The data are used to answer the problems to discuss.

First, the data are collected, classified and verified from David Stone's work *The Echelon of Vendetta* as the main source. Second, library research will be applied by gathering the information and data from several books in relation to the study of expressive and the terms of aggression. Then the next step is to apply the expressive study to analyze the problem to discuss of the research. It treats a literary work primarily in relation to the author. It defines literary works as an expression or as the

products of the author's feeling. *The Echelon of Vendetta* is a novel that reflects the author's experiences that happened in the past. Furthermore, the expressive theory based on Abram's perspective is applied as a theory. It is about the purpose of art is not only for art's sake but it has something to do with the teaching of moral lesson to society.

