GENDER MEANING AS NARRATED IN TONI MORRISON'S *BELOVED* : GREIMAS' ACTANTIAL ANALYSIS
(MAKNA JENDER DALAM NOVEL *BELOVED* KARYA TONI MORRISON: ANALISIS AKTAN GREIMAS)

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Abstract

Gender Meaning present a conventionally simplified and standardized conception or image concerning the typical social roles of male and female, both domestically and socially. The goal of this study is to find the gender meaning in the story seen from the composition between male and female in the novel. It is also to find the meaning behind the actions of the characters and the relation among characters in the novel. This study uses actantial model theory by A.J Greimas. Actantial model is a theory of narrative structure that has function to find the deep structure of text or the meaning behind text. In this theory, Greimas distinguishes between actor and actant. Then, he breaks down the actans into 6, there are sender, receiver, subject, object, helper and opponent. Every actant has its own function in a story. This study applies the mixed method. Therefore, types of the data are represented numerically (quantitative data) and textually/ pictorially (qualitative data). The data use number or percentage to count the actants, and there are many quotations from the novel or another resources which also has a function as data. The source of data is taken from Toni Morrison's Beloved. The data is analyzed by using actantial analysis, and then it is compared to the analysis based on the relation between each character. It is used to find the deep structure of the story and to know the gender meaning as reflected in the novel. The results show that women have important roles in the novel. They are strong, powerful and brave. They never give up to get the better future. It breaks an opinion that women are always inferior. Thus, the stereotype about women that women are weak, submissive, inferior are proven wrong in this novel.

Keywords: Actant, Gender Meaning, Relation among Characters

Abstrak

Makna jender secara konvensional menunjuk sebuah konsep atau gambaran sederhana dan standar berkenaan dengan peran sosial pada perempuan dan laki-laki, secara domestik dan sosial. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menemukan makna jender dalam cerita ini dilihat dari komposisi antara laki-laki dan perempuan dalam novel itu. Ini juga untuk menemukan makna dibalik aksi para tokoh dan hubungan antar tokoh dalam novel. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori model actant oleh A.J. Greimas. Model Actant adalah teori struktur naratif yang memiliki fungsi untuk mengetahui struktur dalam teks atau makna di balik teks. Dalam teori ini, Greimas membedakan antara aktor dan aktan. Kemudian, ia memecah aktan menjadi 6, yaitu pengirim, penerima, subyek, obyek, penolong dan lawan. Setiap aktan memiliki fungsi sendiri dalam sebuah cerita. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode campuran, yaitu kualitatif dan kuantitatif. Selanjutnya, jenis data yang diwakili adalah secara numerik (data kuantitatif) dan tekstual / gambar (data kualitatif). Data menggunakan angka atau persentase untuk menghitung aktan, dan ada banyak kutipan dari novel atau sumber lain yang juga memiliki fungsi sebagai data. Sumber data diambil dari novel karya Toni Morrison berjudul Beloved. Data dianalisis dengan menggunakan analisis actantial, dan kemudian dibandingkan dengan analisis berdasarkan hubungan antara masing-masing karakter. Hal ini digunakan untuk mencari struktur dalam cerita dan untuk mengetahui makna jender yang tercermin dalam novel ini. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa perempuan memiliki peran penting dalam novel ini. Mereka kuat, sangat kuat dan berani. Merka tidak pernah menyerah untuk menggapai masa depan yang lebih baik. Hal ini mematahkan pendapat bahwa perempuan selalu diposisi rendah. Dengan demikian, pemikiran bahwa perempuan adalah lemah, harus patuh dan selalu dibawah tidak terbukti dalam novel ini.

Kata Kunci: Aktan, Makna Jender, Hubungan antar Karakter

Introduction

Beloved was written by Toni Morrison (1987). This novel is about an African-American family in the mid 1800's. It is also the story of the character, Sethe, who has escaped from slavery and who is haunted by her own baby daughter, Beloved, whom she has murdered rather than let to be captured and returned to slavery. It demonstrates how she survived and struggled for her live. In the novel, as a female slave, Sethe is one of many black people who had been treated badly. However, what she does in the novel shows that she resists the slavery and struggles to leave her past life.

As we know that between men and women are different. There is an opinion in society that women tend to be weak, sensitive, and dependent on men. Women are not strong enough like men, and they have to get different treatment. For instance, in the same work, women are usually paid less than men. Women might be expected to take on caring or domestic nonprofit duties and remain close to home, while men may be expected to be the main breadwinner, working outside the home, with greater freedom to move around in public places. Traditionally, the female stereotypic role is to marry and to have children. The male stereotypic role is to be the financial provider.

> "The stereotypic belief that women are warm and caring is matched by a societal prescription that they should be warm and caring. Similarly, the stereotypic belief that men are srtong and agentic is matched by societal prescription that they should be strong and agentic."(Prentice.A & Carranza.E, 2002)

From those background we are curious to know the composition between men and women in the story, we also want to know the meaning behind the acts of the characters. We choose this novel because the story has a slavery background and shows the effects of slavery. Moreover, the story has a female main character that has an important part in the story. So, it needs research to analyze the gender meaning as narrated in the novel. To know the gender meaning in this story, we decides to analyze the novel by using the theory of structural analysis of narrative text which is well known as Actantial Analysis by A.J Greimas. This theory is used to analyze the actions of the characters in a story. Moreover, the theory tends to be used to analyze the existence of the characters in every event in the story. In other words, this analysis is not related to something outside the text, it is about the text and relation between the characters in every action of the story. Furthermore, we also analyze the relation among characters to make sure the gender meaning in the story. By using those steps of analyzes, we want to show and prove the gender meaning in the novel.

In order to know the gender meaning in this story, we formulate research questions as follow:

- How does the gender meaning seen from the actions of the characters in the novel by using Actantial analysis?
- How does the relation among characters in the novel prove the gender meaning in the story?

Research Method

This research is conducted by using mixed method (qualitative and quantitative). As Dörnyei states a mixed methods study involves the collection or analysis of both quantitative and qualitative data in a single study with some attempts to integrate the two approaches at one or more stages of the research (Dörnyei, 2007). Then, the data are represented numerically and textually/ pictorially. In this research, the quantitative data are using numbers or percentage to show and count how many times each character becomes a sender, a receiver, a subject, an object, a helper, and an opponent. The type of the data taken from *Beloved* is qualitative since the data are in the form of sentences or words. The data are qualitative, because there are many explanations from the novel about the actions of the characters, and the relation among characters seen from the text and the dialogue in the novel. There are also many quotations taken from the novel to prove the goal of this analysis.

The prime of the data is used from Toni Morrison's *Beloved* (1987) to identify the actions of the characters and the relation of the characters in the novel. As the secondary data, we get the sources from some books and journal articles about gender, actant, and stereotype gender which are relevant with the topic of the research.

In depicting how the gender meaning is narrated in Toni Morrison's *Beloved*, the theory applied is The Actantial Model proposed by Algirdas Julius Greimas (1987). The goal is to find the gender meaning in the novel. To analyze the text, first, the novel is divided into several segments. Some of them are divided into several schemes. After that, we analyze the act of the characters in each segment by using Greimas' Actantial Model. The same characters may appear in some segments, while the actantial function may be different in each segment. The purpose of this analysis is to know how far the actions of the characters and the relation among characters can explain the gender meaning of the story.

Result

According to the data that have been collected and analyzed using Actantial Model and relation among characters, it shows that the action of females are more dominant than males. It can be seen from how many times females appear in each segment of the story. This result proves that females are not inferior to men. Females have same opportunity to do what they want and hold the rein of their life. For example in this story, entirely females have strong influence to the plot in each segment of the story. It

can be seen from the composition of females in each actantial functions. Females appear in almost all segments of the story. In relation to this result, the gender meaning in this story shows that females actually have the important role in almost all segments of the novel. It also breaks the opinion of society that females are always inferior.

Moreover, the analysis shows that although Sethe is female, in her relation with other characters, she still can do what she wants to do. It happens in almost all events that she deals with in the novel. Similarly, the result of the previous analysis using Actantial Model shows that women have important role. It can be seen from how many times women appear in every parts of story. In other word, the gender meaning as narrated in this novel shows that woman has the same oportunity to get what she wants. It can be seen that the role of woman are very important since the main character of this novel is female. This result gives the answer that in this novel, although Sethe gets bad treatment from Schoolteacher as a master of the plantation, she can resists and fights for her freedom. Many kinds of bad things happen in her life, Sethe can pass the condition by force herself to forget the past. As a woman, she wants to teach that although she is a female, if she believes in what she thinks that it's good for her, she will do it. It is not depend on gender, it comes from a strong pretension of the character.

Discussion

In discussing this article, we use two ways to find the gender meaning in the novel. The first step is analyzing the actions of the characters using Actantial Model by A.J. Greimas. It defines how many times the characters become senders, receivers, subjects, objects, helpers and opponents. The second, we analyze the relation among characters of the novel. There are the relation between two male characters, the relation between male and female characters and the relation between two female characters. We use those steps in order to prove the gender meaning in the novel.

First, we try to analyze the characters by using Actantial analysis by A.J Greimas. This analysis is based on the segment of the story. The segments of the story is based on the movement of the story. Each segment has several schemes to be analyzed. The details of schemes are as follows:

Segments of story	The number of actantial scheme
Segment 1	3
Segment 2	2
Segment 3	2
Segment 4	2
Segment 5	3
Segment 6	1
Segment 7	1
Segment 8	1
Segment 9	1
Segment 10	1
Segment 11	3
Segment 12	1

In Segment 1, there are three schemes to be analyzed:

- In first scheme, the story is about Sethe who escapes from slavery, however Schoolteacher blocks her way to escape. In the surface structure, Sethe's desire to escape from the slavery is a sender. Sethe is a subject who escapes from the slavery. The freedom is an object and Sethe is also a receiver. In this case, Schoolteacher is an opponet because he deters Sethe to get the object. In the deep structure, the power of love from Sethe to her children makes her brave to escape from slavery.

- In second scheme, it is about Sethe's desire to write her baby's name in the headstone. In this case, Sethe's desire is a sender, Sethe is a subject. It makes Sethe as a subject, who is willing to have a sex with the engraver to get an object, the headstone. In the deep structure, the mother's love to her child makes a mother do everything in spite of her sinful behavior. Furthermore, as a poor woman who has not anything, she decides to give her body. It is one of mother's sacrifice. She ignores her decision whether it is right or wrong. In her mind, she just wants to write seven letters, b-e-l-o-v-e-d in baby's headstone no matter the consequences are. She has her own rights to do everything what she wants.

- In the third scheme, the story is about Denver's feeling. She feels lonely and want to move from the house. She thinks that the

house is haunted In this case, Denver's feeling is a sender and Denver is a subject. The object is a new house and the receiver is Denver herself. However, Sethe does not want to move from the house, so, Sethe is an opponent. In the deep structure, Denver really wants to have a friend. Living there makes her lonely. She does not have a friend. She feels that she lives like in a cage. Her loneliness drives her to move from the house.

In segment 2, there are two schemes to be analyzed:

- In the first scheme, the story is about Halle's desire to replace her mom, Baby Suggs, as a slave in Sweet Home. In this case, Halle's desire is a sender to himself. Halle is a subject to get an object, Baby Suggs's freedom. What he has done is to give the freedom to her mom (Baby Suggs) as a receiver. In the deep structure, it can be seen that lots of love from Halle as a boy, makes him decide to change himself with the Baby Suggs' freedom.

- In the second scheme, Sethe wants to marry Halle. However, mrs. Garner only laughs when Sethe tells her. In the surface structure, Sethe's desire to marry Halle is a sender. Sethe is a subject and the wedding is an object. In this case, the receivers are Sethe and Halle. The opponent is mrs. Garner. In the deep structure, it shows that Sethe as a female slave has no opportunity to gain her rights. As a slave, she needs an agreement from the owner about everything what she wants to do.

In segment 3, there are two schemes to be analyzed:

- In the first scheme, the story is about Paul D's pretension to take care Sethe and Denver. In the surface structure, Paul D's pretension is a sender. Paul D is a subject and Sethe is an object. Paul D is a receiver because he wants to get Sethe to himself. In the deep structure, Paul D's feeling to Sethe after 18 years they have never met each other makes him realize that he is apprehensive about the Sethe's future.

- In the second scheme, Paul D invites Denver and Sethe to a carnival in town to celebrate a

special day for the blacks. Paul D's desire to make Sethe and Denver communicate with the society is a sender. Paul D is a subject. The interaction with society is an object. Sethe and Denver are the receivers. In the deep structure, Paul D wants to gain Sethe's attention by asking her and Denver to go out from the house. Paul D wants to make Sethe believes that it does not matter to build communication with society. There is nothing to be feared because Paul D will keep them.

In segment 4, there are two schemes to be analyzed:

- In the first scheme, Paul D is curious to know the background of Beloved. In this case, Paul D's curiosity is a sender. Paul D is a subject and also as a receiver. The object is the background of Beloved. However, when Paul D introgates Beloved, Sethe and Denver interrupt him. So, Sethe and Denver are the opponents. In the deep structure, Paul D's feeling to Sethe drives him to keep a watchful eye to Sethe from any strange people around her. That is why he is very concerned to investigate Beloved.

- In the second scheme, it tells about Denver's curiosity about Beloved. In the surface structure, the Denver's curiosity is a sender. Denver is a subject to get an object (Beloved's story). Denver is also as a receiver. In the deep structure, what Denver has done is to make sure whether Beloved is really her sister's reincarnation or not. Actually, Denver is very happy when Beloved comes to them. Denver feels that she is not lonely anymore, she has a friend although in the deep of her heart she feels that Beloved is really her sister's reincarnation.

In segment 5, there are three schemes to be analyzed:

- In the first scheme, it tells about Stamp Paid who gives a signal for Ella to help Sethe. In the surface structure, Stamp Paid is a sender and Ella is a subject. Stamp Paid gives Ella signal to help Sethe, Sethe is an object and also as a receiver. In the deep structure, Stamp Paid feels that he is "in the same boat" with

Sethe. It means that Paul D as an agent of the Underground Railroad, he has ever become a slave in the Sweet Home. Therefore, he cares about Sethe and other passengers.

- In the second scheme, the story is about Beloved's feeling that Sethe is really her mom. Beloved kissess and bruishes Sethe's neck however Denver prevents it. In the surface structure, Beloved's feeling is a sender. Beloved is a subject. Then, Sethe is an object and also a receiver. However, Denver is an opponent. In the deep structure, what Beloved has done shows how she loves Sethe very much. She thinks that Sethe is really her mom so she kisses and bruishes Sethe's neck.

- In the third scheme, it tells about Paul D's desire to run away from the prison during a long rainstorm. Paul D's desire is a sender to himself as a subject. The freedom is an object. He wants the freedom for himself as a receiver, and a long rainstorm is a helper. In the deep structure, Paul D as a slave, does not have a power to fight the slavery. The situation describes that there are almost no opportunity to escape. They need miracle to finally run away from the plantation successfully.

In segment 6, there is one scheme to be analyzed:

- In this scheme, Beloved begs Denver to drive Paul D go away but Denver knows that Sethe will be angry if Paul D leaves the house. In this case, Beloved is a sender to Denver, as a subject, to drive Paul D away. Paul D is an object and Beloved is a receiver. In the deep structure, Beloved asks Denver to drive Paul D go away is one of great affections to Sethe. She gets jealous if someone is too close to Sethe.

In segment 7, there is one scheme to be analyzed:

- In this scheme, it tells about Sethe's anxiety about her daughter's future so she decides to murder her baby daughter. In this case, Sethe's anxiety is a sender to herself, as a subject. The object is the daughter and the receiver is Sethe. In the deep structure, what Sethe has

done is because the motherly affection for her children. She thinks that she wants to escape from the cruel world and saves her children by murdering Beloved. In her mind, it is the only way to leave the dark part of her life.

In segment 8, there is also one scheme to be analyzed:

- In this scheme, the story tells about Stamp Paid who is forced to give his wife to his master's son to sleep with. In this case, the power of Stamp's master is a sender. The subject is Stamp's master and the object is Stamp's wife. The receiver is master's son. In the deep structure, Stamp's master does it because he has a power and vigour to do everything he wants.

In segment 9, there is one scheme to be analyzed:

- In this scheme, Denver fears for what Sethe has done before, she will do it again to Beloved. The Denver's fear is a sender, and Denver is a subject. The object is Beloved and the receiver is also Beloved. In the deep structure, Denver feels loss after her brothers' departure. She is really afraid to loss again. She is very happy when Beloved comes and becomes her friend. She never has a friend because she lives in the house and she is a daughter of a former slave. Therefore, almost all of people whom she loves go and never come back. So, she never wants to loose the only one friend that she has.

In segment 10, there is also one scheme to be analyzed:

- Sixo behaves so maniacally, then Schoolteacher tries to burn him alive. In the surface structure, Sixo's behaviour is a sender. Schoolteacher is a subject. Sixo is an object and also is a receiver. In the deep structure, what Schoolteacher has done to Sixo is a form of directionary. He uses her dominance to do something without consideration from others. He holds the power to do it, because he thinks that he has a responsibility to make the plantation "Sweet Home" in progress and ignores the rights of slaves.

In segment 11, there are three schemes to be analyzed:

- In the first scheme, Beloved begins to drain Sethe's life force. She feels that Sethe leaves her behind. In this case, Beloved's feeling is a sender. Beloved is a subject and Sethe is an object. The receiver is also Beloved. In the deep structure, what Beloved has done is to punish Sethe because she thinks that Sethe has left her behind. She thinks that Sethe has responsibility to give what Beloved wants.

- In the second scheme, Denver decides to leave the house to find help for Sethe. In the surface structure, Denver's pretension to help Sethe is a sender. Denver is a subject and the aid for her mom is an object. She wants to find help for Sethe, is a receiver. In the deep structure, what Denver has done is a form of amorousness to her mother. She will do anything to help her mom even though she has to go out from house and to look for a job. She knows that what her mom has been gave her is more than anything.

- In the third scheme, Denver tells Lady Jones that her mom is sick, and she needs a job to exchange for food. In this case, Denver's pretension to her mom is a sender. Denver is a subject to get an object, a work to exchange with food. The receiver is Sethe and the helper is Lady Jones. In the deep structure, lots of love from Denver to Sethe makes her willing to work and exchange with food for her mom. Denver does not want to loose her mom, because Sethe is one of the very important people in her life. She will do everything while her mom can still alive.

In the last segment, there is one scheme to be analyzed:

- Finally, Paul D comes back to 124. He finds Sethe lying in Baby Suggs's bed with vacant eyes. In this case, Paul D fears that Sethe wants to lie down and wait for death is a sender. Paul D is a subject, Sethe is an object. Sethe and Denver are the receivers. In the deep structure, Paul D's feeling to Sethe has never changed. Paul D still has pretension to build the future and leaves the past together with Sethe and Denver. He never wants to

remember what happened in the past, because it is so hurt to be reminded.

After explaining 12 segments using actantial scheme, the position between males and females is formed as follows:

Actantial function	Portion between Male and Female		Total Frequency
	Frequency	Percentage (%)	
	Male : Female	Male : Female	
Subject	8 : 13	38,09 : 61,9	21
Object	2 : 8	20 : 80	10
Sender	1 : 1	50 : 50	2
Receiver	7 : 16	30,43 : 69,56	23
Helper	0 : 1	0 : 100	1
Opponent	1 : 4	20 : 80	5
Total	19 : 43	30,65 : 69,35	62

From the table above, it can be seen that the total number of actants is 62 actants. Male has 19 actantial functions and female has 43 actantial functions. The higher number of females who have actantial function shows that females are more dominant than males. It can be seen from the percentage of the total number of females' function. Female has 69,35% and male has 30,65%. It means that female holds the important things in this story. It can be seen from how many functions of females in this novel. As a subject, female has 61,9% and male has 38,09%. It proves that in this story, female has important role because she holds what she wants to get an object. In the function as an object, female has 80% and male has 20%. In this function, female is still dominant. It happens because 60% from 80% function as an object, female is also as the subject in the action. Then, as a sender, female and male have the same percentage, there are 50%. As a receiver, female has 69,56% function and male has 30,43%. In the function as a helper, female has 100%. It happens because male has no function as a helper. Then, as the opponent, female has 80% and male has 20%. It shows that, female has a power to oppose the subject to get the object. As a result, females have dominant role to build the plot of story.

After analyzing the actions of the characters by using actantial model by A.J. Greimas, the result shows that the roles of women are dominant than men. Furthermore, we also analyze the relation among

characters of the story. There are the relation between male and male, the relation between male and female, the relation between female and female. The goal is to know the position of the characters by observing the relation which is drawn in the story. Therefore, it is to make sure the gender meaning in the story seen from the relation of the characters:

1. The relation between male and male

The relation between two male characters in the story can be seen from the interaction between Schoolteacher and Paul D. The relation of two male characters in the same gender is based on the skin color and the social status. It means that white males are superior than black males. The white males automatically get a higher positio n than black males. They become the higher class society, then blacks are included as the lower class society. In society, although they are in the same gender, the lower class should give respect to the higher one. It happens in the relation between Schoolteacher and Paul D. Schoolteacher is white and he represents the high class. Then, Paul D is black and he represents the lower one. As a man who has responsibility to take care the Sweet Home, Schoolteacher has the higher position than Paul D. Although he is not the owner of the Sweet Home, Schoolteacher has an authority to hold the authority toward the slaves. Paul D and his friends are slave who have to submit the higher authority. Another example , it can be seen when Sixo is captured, he behaves so brutally. As a result, Schoolteacher becomes angry. Then, Schoolteacher tries to burn him alive. It can be seen in the novel:

> Finally one of them hits Sixo in the head with his rifle, and when He comes to, a hickory fire is in front of him and he is tied at the waist to a tree. Schoolteacher has changed his mind: "This one will never be suitable". The song must have convinced him.
>
> (Morrison, 1987:266).

Furthermore, the relation among black males can be seen from the interaction between Paul D, Halle and Sixo. All of them are slaves in the Sweet Home. The relation between all of them are influenced by brotherhood relationship. It means that they have the same fate as slaves, so they are very cohesive. Their miserable experience make them realize that they have to work together to run away from slavery. It can be seen when Paul D is sent to prison in Alfred, Georgia. The prison has forty-six inmates, all of them are the black men and they are locked in small boxes in the ground at night. They are subject to sexual abuse during the day. One day, when a long rainstorm, the ground turns to mud. It allows the prisoners to work together and escape from the prison.

2. The relation between males and females

The relation between male and female in this story is more complex. Actually, male and female have their own role in society. It means that, society constructs that male and female are different. Females have to do what they have to do as females and males have to do what they have to do as males. The role of women and men are called gender roles. As Johnson says that Gender roles can be described as social norms, or rules and standards that dictate different interests, responsibilities, opportunities, limitations, and behaviors for men and women (Johnson, 2007).

In paternalistic culture, the centralization of getting decision is on the male. This condition is getting worse when the white male becomes a leader. In the same social status, whites males are the highest. It means that, if whites female are under the whites male, automatically Sethe as a black has to give her respect to whites male. It can be seen when Schoolteacher forces Sethe to give her milk and to take along back to the Sweet Home. It happens because Schoolteacher is a man, and he is white. While, Sethe is a woman and she is black. Schoolteacher is a master of Sweet Home and Sethe is a slave. He has a power to oppress Sethe as blacks female and also as a slave. However, it does not happen in this novel, Sethe as a female tries to oppose the situation. Although Sethe is a black woman, she indicates her power to resist Schoolteacher. As a slave, she struggles to escape from the slavery. It is her way to oppose the slavery. It is one of her efforts to get better future. So, she decides to run away from the slavery in order to save herself and her children. It shows that as a female, she is not weak.

On the other hand, in the same condition of social status, the position between male and female is similar. It means that, although there is a man, the woman still can do what she wants to do. For example, the relation between a man named Halle and a woman named Sethe. Halle and Sethe are from lower class society, they are slaves in Sweet Home. When they decide to get married, they work together to bring what they want into reality. Sethe stitches her wedding dress herself, and Halle prepares the other preparation for their wedding. It shows that, in the same social status, they prefer to work together. Then, the relation betwen a man named Paul D and a woman named

Sethe. They feel that they come from the same background, so they can be good partners in life. Paul D always makes Sethe feels comfortable beside him. They struggle together to gain a better life. However, in some situations, Paul D can not deny what Sethe has done. Sethe is considered as a woman in strong pretension. She is influenced by her past life. In her mind, no one can understand what she has passed. That is why she does not take what Paul D advises. It can be seen when Sethe still defends to live in the house while Paul D asks her to leave. It indicates that Sethe has strong pretention to live without anyone's help.

3. The relation between female and female

The relation betwen two female characters in the story is the relation between mother and daughter. It can be seen from the relation between Sethe as a mother and Denver as a daughter. The relation between Sethe and Denver is influenced by motherly love from Sethe to Denver. For example, when Sethe tells Paul D that she will keep Denver from everyone. In Denver's point of view, Sethe is a good mother, although she does not understand why Sethe does something without worrying about the consequences by murdering her baby daughter, Denver's sister. Finally Denver realizes that what Sethe has done is to their goodness. In that situation, murdering her baby is better than allowing her baby to be a slave like her.

Moreover, the relation between Sethe and Beloved is influenced by sisterhood feeling. It means that they possess each other. Denver claims Beloved as her sister. They live together and enjoy day after day. They have a bond like sisters.

Next, the relation between two female characters is the relation between Sethe and Amy. Amy helps Sethe when she escapes from the slavery. This relation is also influenced by sisterhood relationship. Amy feels that she is also a female so she helps Sethe to go out of her problem.

Conclusion and Suggestion

This analysis finally comes into conclusion. The first analysis of characters using actantial theory finds the composition of actant based on gender. Actually, the composition of the actantial function between male and female is quite significant. It means that the composition of female is more dominant than male. It shows, there are 43 actantial functions of female and 19 actantial functions of male. It proves that the role of females in the story is more than males. Next, according to the second analysis seen from the relation

among characters shows that women have more prominent roles than men. It can be seen from how women can solve their problem with or without men beside them.

Lastly, This novel is good reference to read, because it shows the role of women in almost all parts of the story. The readers especially women will know that as women, they have to be brave, strong and independent to dicide their future. They have to get a real step to have a better future, because the future depends on themselves. This writing is wishfully becoming a great support for the next researchers who have the same passion to work on the same topic about gender.

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