

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter contains related theories and information used the researcher to analyze one of the literary works. This research will utilized some of literary in intrinsic elements theories such as character, characterization, plot, and conflict. Some of literary in extrinsic element theories such as concept of the American Dream and six elements of The American Dreams. Those are used to analyze the conflict in main character and how do American Dream influence in short story.

2.1 Character

Character is one of literary elements that is very vital to understand the entire story of literary work. Character is imaginary people created by the author. It is can help the reader to understand the entire story of narrative work in the short story. According to Abram statement;

“character are the person represented in a dramatic or narrative work, who are intepreted by the reader as being endowed with particular moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities by inferences from what the persons say and their distinctive ways of saying it-the dialogue and from what they do-the action” (1999:32-33).

Such as on Abram’s statement above, character is description figure in the action of the story to given understanding between the reader and the author about the story. In Potter’s *Element of Literarture* (1967: 1), character are a basic element in much imaginative literature, and therefore they merit the considerable attention paid to them. When critics speak of the character, they mean any person who figures in a literary work, not peculiar or eccentric one, sometimes a given character does not actually appear but is merely talked about.

Based on the statement above, character can be influence over in the plot. The character's action have a significant effect on the ending of the story when a character considered a main character. The appearance of character is significance because character influence the story trough it is personality, motivation, and attitude.

2.1.1 Characterization

In order to analyze a character's personality or motivations, the reader must search for a pattern in the character's behavior, or that is called characterization. That is shape of the presentation of the character in the action. According to Di Yanni (1994: 38), characterizatiob is the means by which writers present and reveal character. Futhermore according to Potter (1967: 3), when we describe the nature of characters, we deal with the concept of characterization.

Then, Nagel expalins in the following quotation:

“The term Characterization refers to the author's method of presenting the people in his story. They may present directly, through the author's expository comments about them, or indirectly by one of two methods by having a character narrate the story or by simply showing the character and letting him reveal himself trough his actions without authorial comment” (1970: 1-2).

Such as explains above, characterization is the character of imaginary persons; the creation of these imaginary persons so that they exist for the reader as life. It may include the some one's attitude such as egoism, anger, aggressive, emotion, and so on.

2.2 Plot

Plot is important element of literary work, because the plot tells the important event in a story. According to Potter (1967: 24), a plot is on a series that are all partly the result of some continuing cause. The important event that occurs in a story, particularly as they related to one another in a pattern, in a squence, through cause and effect, how the reader rievws the story, or simply by coincidence.

Plot has parts that will explain an event. Such as James Potter also describes structure of the plot. That can be divided into some parts of structures that consist of expotition, raising action, climax, falling action, and conclusion (1967: 33-36).

2.2.1 Conflict

The intrinsic elements which can attract the reader's interest to continue the reading of literary works are the reflection of conflict.in literature conflict is part of the plot, one of elements of fiction. Along with characterization, setting and theme, conflict within the plot creates the narrative. Little says that “ conflict is the essence of all stories since set up at least opposing force” (1996: 83). Another statement by Potter about the conflict is that “ the term conflict; it is the result of an opposition between at least two side” (1967: 25). Such as the both statement of Little and Potter, it can be means the conflict is a struggle opposing force between other force and then can happen conflict between them and that is found in the plot of story and the conflict will be rise.

2.2.1.2 Types of Conflict

Conflict can be devided into internal and external conflict, because conflict in literature refers to different drives of the characters or forces

involved. Conflict is most visible between two or more characters, usually a protagonist and antagonist, but can occur in many different forms. Accordingly, this chapter defines both inner and outer conflict separately following the concept explained by Brooks (1964:128).

2.2.1.1.1 Internal Conflict

Internal conflict is that which exists inside the character which struggles with morality, fate, desire, and belief to name a few. This form of conflict is central to a character and must be resolved by the character alone. According to Burhan's statement "internal conflict is the conflict that occurs in his heart and soul of the character (2002: 124). That it can be concluded internal conflict occurs; the character or himself may have to decide between right and wrong or between two or more solutions in a problem. That can be supported by Little's statement that "the main conflict in stories is often a moral one. Sometimes it is clear conflict of right and wrong, sometimes a more tangled one between irreconcilable views, each right in its own way" (1992: 95).

According to Roberts and Jacobs say;

"a more abstract kind of conflict is one in which an individual opposes larger forces such as natural objects, ideas, modes of behavior, public opinion, and the like. A difficult or even impossible choice—a dilemma—is a conflict for an individual. A conflict may also be brought out in the differences between ideas or opinions. In short, conflict shows itself in many ways" (1992: 95).

Based on the statement above, the internal conflict is a character's struggle within himself, his conscience, his acts, such as trying to decide what he wants to do but a dilemma arises in himself; there occurs a conflict and then he always has to do something in his life.

2.2.1.1.2 External Conflict

External conflict is conflict from outside of the body. External conflicts—at least in Pickering’s view—may take the form of the basic opposition between an individual and nature, between an individual and society and between man and man (1993:2). External conflict happens in the outside of character, can be man with nature or man with society (Burhan, 2002:124).

Based on two statements above, external conflict may come from outside of the character in story. This conflict usually appears from their surroundings. It may be main character with nature, or the character with their society. External conflict consists of physical and social conflict, those are: Physical conflict is one or more external conflicts caused by differences (argument, way of thinking) with every character in the story and social conflict is external conflicts caused by social contact between people, or problems arising from human relations including issue of labor, oppression, strife, war, and other in the literary works.

2.3 The Concept of the American Dream

The American Dream is such a concept: it has penetrated cultural texts and the popular imagination for decades, even centuries. The excitement of the American Dream can be traced to the Declaration of Independence in 1776 and its promise that citizens of the new nation were already endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, including life and liberty, and that these same people were entitled to engage in many varied pursuits of happiness. Jim Cullen who is a history teacher at the Ethical Culture Fieldston School, New York and also a book review editor at the History News Network says in his

book, *The American Dream: A short History of an Idea That Shaped a Nation* that:

“the key to the Declaration. The part that survives in collective memory and which underwrites the American Dream, is the opening clauses of the second paragraph: “ We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.” (Cullen, 2003: 38)

The American Dream has come to symbolize the global yearning for freedom, success, and hopes of a better life. It remains a vibrant concept that Americans comprehend and define in various ways as relevant to their own life experiences. The endurance of this “great epic,” as it was once so famously described (Adams 1931, 405). The American Dream encourages almost every person who lived in the United States to pursue success, and it creates the framework which everyone can do it. It holds each person responsible for achieving their own dreams and also it holds out a vision of both individual success and the collective good of all. As an American, they have same chances and opportunities to achieve things in their life that they want. To achieve their dream, they have to work hard and use their talents or abilities in order to be succeed. if they failed, it will be their own fault. Success is honorable, and failure is not (Hochschild and Scovronick, 2003:1).

The originality of Jim Cullen’s *American Dream: A Short History of an Idea That Shaped a Nation* (in *American Dreams: American Literary History, Volume 16*), is that, despite “dream” in the singular in his title, he insists in the text that we are a nation of American “dreams” in the plural (2004). Right across from the title page with it is singular American dream, Cullen places a

photograph of Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald with a caption that says, “The photo is a virtual compendium of American Dreams: house, car, beauty, youth, talent”.

Moreover, the different perspective, complexity and contradiction induce for many American Dreams are considered Dreams of freedom, but freedom can be the different meaning, even antithetical things. Those is inspired Jim Cullen writes a book about the American Dream and it is short history.

2.3.1 Jim Cullen’s concept of American Dreams

Jim Cullen in *American Dream: A Short History of an Idea That Shaped a Nation* explores the American Dream into six Dreams in order to make it more significant so that the topic about the American Dream is not too abstract, because talk about the American Dream is a wide topic. The first is the dream of the good life (I): the Puritan enterprise. The second is the dream of the good life (II): upward mobility. The third is the dream of good life (III): the coast. The fourth is the dreams charter: the Declaration of Independence. The fifth is the dream of equality. The last is the dream of home ownership. By looking at these six dreams, people can expect something wonderful from that national philosophy.

2.3.1.1 The Dream of Good Life (I): The Puritan Enterprise

For the first, Cullen discusses the Puritans, who are the basis for the first American dream as they flee Europe for religious freedom in sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Puritanism. The Christian religion has had a significant influence in shaping and spreading the concept of the American Dream. The Puritan are the English who moved to America. The Puritans were part of a broad wave of early modern European, such as Jim Cullen said in his book that

in the succinct words of a literary critic in the 1980s, the Puritans were people “who massacred Indians and established the self-righteous religion and politics that determined American ideology” (Cullen, 2003: 12-13).

According to Jim Cullen, Puritan dream however strange, because their ambition that makes America justly condemned the Puritans (Cullen, 2003: 13). The Puritan minister Solomon Stoddard in Cullen’s book; The Puritans descended from the Calvinist branch of Protestantism, which meant that they were predestinarians: they believed individuals’ fates were sealed from the moment they were born, and there was absolutely nothing they could do to affect their ultimate salvation or damnation. But they could not know for sure where they were actually headed and so had to live their lives hoping for signs that things would turn out for the best (Cullen, 2003: 18).

In his book, Cullen (2003:19)state that on the one hand, purists believe that every person can make a difference in a better world. In the other hand they can do nothing without the will of god. The Puritan is not the first to have a dream, even in North America. Virginia established before New England, and its founders also had a dream: to become rich (Cullen, 2003: 34).

2.3.1.2 The Dream Charter: Declaration of Independence

Independence of the United States contains a lot of things that will be the basis for the American Dream. The Declaration of Independence is a statement adopted by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776. Thomas Jefferson as the author says that;

“We hold these truths to be sacred & undeniable; that all men are created equal & independant, that from that equal creation they derive rights inherent & inalienable, among which are the preservation of life, & liberty, & the pursuit of happiness; that

to secure these ends, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any form of government shall become destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it” (1776).

From this speech, Jim Cullen (2003: 37-39) says in his book, There is one aspect of the Revolution, however, that is anything but remote: a key part of the Declaration is able to create the American Dream, because in addition to the base of a movement that is also used to eliminate slavery. Thus become modern United States. The Founding Fathers who created the Declaration of Independence create the meaning of liberty, by contrast, and the pursuit of happiness-is it simply the acquisition of creature comforts.

Then, Cullen give shorten meaning of the Declarataion of Independence, the American Dream of the Founding Fathers was freedom, achieving freedom was their dream, because in some important respects freedom was not a dream at all but rather a living reality. Jim Cullen states that “freedom was not a goal to be gained; it was a cherished possession the colonists wanted to prevent being lost” (Cullen, 2003: 41-44).

With all the ambiguity meaning of Declaration of Independence, Jim Cullen in his book says that the closing decades of the twentieth century have been particularly notable in this regard to understand the Declaration of Independence in such terms. And that’s more or less where we remain today: life, liberty, and as much entertainment as is digitally possible (2003: 58).

2.3.1.3 The Dream of Good Life (II): Upward Mobility

Upward mobility is a third idea from Jim Cullen theory. Cullen says that From there, I turn to one of the most familiar American Dreams: that of upward

mobility, a dream typically understood in terms of economic and/or social advancement (Cullen, 2003: 8). Many variety of example's Jim Cullen explanation like as But there are other forms of mobility, too: tales of transformation through education, for example, or people with modest resources who triumphed in the arts, sports, or other realms of human aspiration (Cullen, 2003: 60).

Many ways to do for upward mobility, but the obvious is a mind working hard. Because the hard working people who are able to realize the dream of upward mobility. Cullen gives examples of Andrew Jackson, Benjamin Franklin and Abraham Lincoln are the evidence. They are the people who are coming from a poor start and then be able to change their lives with hard work and capable of upward mobility. But the researcher just explain one of them.

According to a story written Cullen in his book about Abraham Lincoln, Cullen (2003:78). Abraham Lincoln can able to realize the American Dream of upward mobility in it is purest form: a poor boy born in a log cabin had been elected the president of the United States (Jim Cullen, 2003: 94). In February of 1861 Lincoln made a train tour from Springfield to Washington, giving speeches along the way, It was not the mere matter of the separation of the colonies from the mother land;but something in that Declaration giving liberty, not alone to the people of this country, but hope to the world for all future time. It was that which gave promise that in due time the weights should be lifted from the shoulders of all men, and that all should have an equal chance (Cullen, 2003: 94).

Besides theories of Jim Cullen, researchers include supporting theories such as In line with this myth, any man should be able to facilitate upward mobility by earning a higher educational-degree, obtaining a socially-prestigious occupation, and bringing home a higher income compared to a man who does not “work hard enough.” Furthermore, by working hard, men should eventually be able to transfer the benefits of their social-class status to their family members, thus fulfilling their roles as the “bread winners” and being seen as successful men (Liu, 2002).

2.3.1.4 King Of America: The Dream Of Equality

The case about the nature and meaning of equality it means equal in all terms for everyone. There are different kinds of equality such as Jim Cullen (2003: 105) says: “political equality (the rights of citizens in relation to the government), civil equality (the rights of citizens in the public sphere), and social equality (the rights of citizens in their personal dealings with each other).

The dream of equality is one of the core values of American daily life, that promises extends to everyone. one of the principal attractions of the American Dream, and its major is that everyone is eligible: this has been the benchmark, common sense notion of what equality has meant for quite some time. There are some terms traction in American life of "freedom", as Cullen says that In an important sense, names like “the civil rights Movement” and “the black freedom movement” obscure more than they reveal. In an important sense, this event of “the sixties” (another imprecise term) would perhaps most accurately be called the black equality movement (Cullen, 2003: 108-110).

Story of a famous historical figure who became a struggle for equal rights is Dr. Martin Luther King. Basic equality is at issue is race, which equal rights between blacks and whites are very different. Dr. Martin Luther King as a blacks, struggles through his speech to the National Press Club says that; “We are simply seeking to bring into full realization the American Dream-a dream yet unfulfilled. A dream of equality of opportunity, of privilege and property widely distributed; a dream of a land where men no longer argue that the color of a man’s skin determines the content of his character” (Cullen, 2003: 126).

2.3.1.5 The Dream of Home Ownership

Since the last days of The United State known to promise land, and the Declaration of independence is the whole basis of the expectations of every person living in the United State. Such as Jim Cullen noted that The United States was a dream land such as “free,” “open,” or “virgin” land. It has, nevertheless, afforded opportunities for a great many people (including some black and Latino people, among others) to do something that was previously difficult, if not impossible: acquire a place they could call their own”.For many settlers, America was a refuge from hostile outsiders as well as a livelihood that could confer upward mobility: a land of dreams (Cullen, 2003: 136-138).

Dream of Home Ownership looks greater enthusiasm by the immigrants. Such as Jim Cullen noted from One study of Detroit, for example; in the immigrant-laden Massachusetts city of Newburyport in the 1930s, Irish and Italians tended to make home ownership an even greater priority than their children’s educations (2003: 148).

Many factors are involved in the dream of home ownership. It can motivate everyone to have a home, as happened in the life of Jim Cullen was said that they bought a house not because they wished to make a political statement or, unlike some of their peers, because they had an overriding emotional predilection for home owning. They did it because it made sense for them economically and because they felt it was the best means to their end of upward mobility for their children (Cullen, 2003: 155).

2.3.1.6 The Dream of Good Life (III): The Coast

The last idea from Jim Cullen is The Coast. The means of The Coast as Jim Cullen explain of the different thing from other dreams is that after all, there are few Americans who object to the idea of getting rich, and the rising value of a home is one of the things that contributes to the sense of security that inheres in it ... Yet to focus too rigidly on accumulating wealth finally misses the point of this particular American Dream. It is less about accumulating riches than about living off their fruits, and its symbolic location is not the bank but the beach (Cullen, 2003: 160).

According to observes from Jim Cullen the symbolic location in his book such as California and Las Vegas. Those are become a proving ground for electricity of the American Dreams. Cullen also describes Las Vegas famous with activities like drinking, prostitution, and gambling did points to yet another irony. Meanwhile, California was depicted like as suggest the dream of fondest hopes (Cullen, 2003: 165-168).

Jim Cullen observe that The California gold rush is the purest expression of the Dream of the Coast in American history ... Yet even when the promise of

the gold rush proved illusory-except for the mining companies, which quickly gobbled up the land and created a large-scale industry-it continued to have enormous metaphorical power for generations of Americans, for whom California (a.k.a. “the Golden State”) offered the potential for riches of many kinds (2003: 170).

The Dream of Good Life in The Coast, is different. In entertainment industry the Dream of The Coast can be seen, it is the example from Cullen’s saying that Amid all the striving, some worthwhile and some appalling, the American Dream is most fully realized in works of art (Cullen, 2003: 179).

The other journal support the statement about the dream of The Coast. In journal about The American Dream: Defining the Dream by Michael Wagner (2008) explain that The dream of the coast–this pillar on the American Dream. it is in many ways a derivative of the core pillars, the allure of the “coast,” of getting it rich quick, of reinventing one’s self wholesale, is a powerful enticement, and like many things, intimately intertwined with the idea of the pursuit of happiness.