

The Value of Friendship in Anthologies of Short Stories by Dewi Lestari

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Abstract

This paper focuses on describing the positive attitudes of the value of friendship in anthologies of short stories by Dewi Lestari. The method used in this research was qualitative. Objects of this research were fourty two short stories in three anthologies of short stories by Dewi Lestari. Three of those anthologies short stories were *Filosofi Kopi*, *Rectoverso*, and *Madre*. The research data were collected by reading the three books anthologies of short stories conscientiously. Then, data coding, data selection, data reduction, and test of validity were conducted. Each data was analyzed through intrarater and expert judgment to obtain their reliability. Finally, the data was displayed. In conclusion, the results of the research show that by using research's instrument in positive attitudes of the value of friendship in three anthologies of short stories by Dewi Lestari, there were seven positive attitudes. The seven positive attitudes include care, understanding of buddy's uniqueness, empathy, listen to advice, mutual assistance, keep gathering, and give a beneficial thing. In addition, as many as fourteen short stories had a few or all main elements as a means to teach the value of friendship.

Keywords: Value of friendship, Positive attitudes, short stories, buddy, attitudes.

Introduction

The value of friendship teaches someone to increase his/her concern for another person. However, this concern can be seen in the form of a close relationship between two persons which helps to improve their social relationship. A friendship's department is a condition where someone has a clear understanding of the problem of another, helped in solving it, and which often results to an argument with his buddy who is facing the problem. Majorly, the positive side created from that department and feeling is peace,

mutual assistance, and harmony among the human race. Therefore, the value of friendship is an important aspect in people's lives.

Based on research, friendship is a very important thing to consider in the development of children (Carter & Nutbrown, 2016). In their research, students play an important role when they get a friend, lose a friend, and discussed with their peers. Therefore, their research showed that students could express their feelings due to many conditions. They appeared sad when they lose a friend, happy when got a friend, and intimate when they engage in serious discussions. The result of the research shows that students should be trained to show concerns for one another.

However, the moral value in friendship can be inculcated through an effective means. Literature could also serve as a medium for moral value. In all scaffold of education, literature continually obtained a beam because it has a significant influence on power as a moral structure (Lickona, 1991). Thus, a few result of the research about literature, as moral builders, have been carried out. In addition, the research results also showed that this strategy was effective. A routine of reading the literature could influence the morals of students because it gave an illustration about peoples' lives with many risk based on each action they took (Tighe, 1998; Jones, 2004; Freeman, 2013).

Short story is a part of literature that is easy for student reading. A clear difference formed between novel and short story were in the thick and thin (Stanton, 2012). Short story could be the medium for character building to the person reading. Due to trainings acquired, a person is able to develop good morals and humility (Bathali & Nichols, 2016). When students read that literature, they struggled to reconstruct their knowledge that was discussed and to apply it into their social lives (Balakhrisnan & Thambu, 2017). Therefore, these three researches were proofs that short story as a part of literature could be a medium to teach important values in life.

Furthermore, there were three anthologies of short stories that were written by Dewi Lestari: *Filosofi Kopi*, *Rectoverso*, and *Madre*. Stories that were written gave an illustration of modern lives with its problems. Stories that taught the values of kindness, happiness, sadness, concerns, and love were included in these anthologies. *Filosofi Kopi*, *Rectoverso*, and *Madre* generally had the same theme. For example, the story about friendship's work to be a success was included in an open story of *Filosofi Kopi* and *Madre*. The traitor of love and enmity of friendship that change to be a good relationship were also included too. Therefore, these three anthologies had similarity of plots and themes.

Woman's Author Style showed by Dewi Lestari had given a good pattern for friendship. Dewi Lestari's style of writing her stories was simple without difficult language. On the other hand, the style of Dewi Lestari didn't show vulgar statements like that of other Indonesian women authors: Ayu

Utami and Djenar Maesa Ayu. Ayu Utami and Djenar Maesa Ayu were famous by their vulgar language style. The Novel “Saman” by Ayu Utami and “Cerita Pendek Tentang Cerita Cinta Pendek” by Djenar Maesa Ayu were one of their books that explained it. The style of Dewi Lestari is suitable for adolescences or adults readers Thus, this helps the readers to comprehend quickly the message of the stories.

Research Questions

“How are the positive attitudes of value of friendship in anthologies of short stories by Dewi Lestari?”

Review of Literature

Becket and Maynard (2005) stated that the value refers to things that are organized for the kindness of human. These kindness includes values as a guide for measure, value in system, value in social’s work, value in personality, value in society, value in pressure, and value in ethics. Value can be defined as the belief and attitude of a way that people obliged to do a thing (Sandrock, 2014). The transition of a friend to become a close friend has been changing the emotionality of persons (Demir & Urberg, 2004). Therefore, the affinity of friendship is based on similarity, proximity, and attractiveness (Griffin, 2011). A social relationship as it is well-known as friendship is built based on the similarity between two or more persons who became a buddy due to the relationship that exists between them (Hassan et al., 2011). As a result, the friendship was explained as a close relationship between two persons who changed themselves through unity (Kulsum & Jauhar, 2014). From both definitions about value and friendship, it could be formulated that the value of friendship was a relationship between one person with the others who have made their lives count.

Short story is a fiction work that is relatively brief (Abrams, 1999). This was similar to the definition of short story which was a brief prose fiction narrative that is shorter than a novel, which usually contains a few character (Kuiper, 2012). Then, the short story as media for student’s character building could be seriously selected by teacher because the failure of the target could result if students read a literature that is not recommended (Saka, 2014). So, short stories had a form as a prose with a brief story with main elements like theme, plot, character, setting, point of view, style, and message of story to give a good influence.

This research makes use of psychology of literature approach to find the real data for the value of friendship. Psychology of literature is an approach that deals with literature as an expression. Thus, this condition couldn’t be released by the author’s mind. This approach, however, comes from Freud’s idea about the theories of dream (Abrams, 1999). Mentality of individual in

their unconscious state think as a first premise, sex desire that well known as libido as a second premise, and the social power to endure sexuality and desire (Guerin et al., 2005). Psychology of literature approach is an approach to know about people without first knowing them or listening to them. In understanding ourselves, human could have a good understanding about people. Through this approach, a literature could be analyzed based on human condition in general and gets a good reason to describe every intertextual (Tyson, 2006).

Method

Instrumentation and Data

The data for analysis in this study were three anthologies of short stories by Dewi Lestari with title *Filosofi Kopi*, *Rectoverso*, and *Madre*. Through reading contentiously, there are seven positive attitudes that show up in a few short stories. Finally, from a quote of text in every short story were a data as a value of friendship. This is based on the seven positive attitudes that show up in a few short stories.

Data Analysis

Positive Attitudes that Showed on Value of Friendship in Anthologies of Short Stories by Dewi Lestari

No.	Code	Care	Understanding of Buddy's uniqueness	Empathy	Listen to Advice	Mutual Assistance	Keep Gathering	Give a Beneficial thing
1.	FK/FK/01	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
2.	MH/FK/02	√	√	√	√	√	√	-
3.	SG/FK/07	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
4.	SKK/FK/10	-	√	√	√	-	-	-
5.	LL/FK/13	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
6.	BB/FK/17	√	√	√	√	√	√	-
7.	CBS/RO/01	√	√	√	√	√	√	-
8.	MJT/RO/02	√	√	√	-	-	-	-
9.	HI/RO/05	√	√	√	-	-	√	-
10.	F/RO/09	√	√	√	-	-	-	-
11.	MA/MA/01	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
12.	HYE/MA/05	√	√	√	√	√	-	-
13.	G/MA/10	√	√	√	-	-	√	-
14.	MLL/MA/12	√	√	√	√	√	√	√

Based on the table, there were 14 short stories that had a positive attitude in value of friendship. The 28 others do not have this value because

the story was not suitable with seven attitudes that were found in every story. As a result, this research continues to analyze the 14 short stories by Dewi Lestari from three anthologies.

The coding technique was taken by a symbolized title of short stories, the anthologies, and the number of short story in anthologies. This include the first data FK (Filosofi Kopi), FK (anthologies of this short story), and 01 (number of short story in anthologies). So, 14 short stories that have a value of friendship were “Filosofi Kopi”, “Mencari Herman”, “Sikat Gigi”, “Sepotong Kue Kuning”, “Lara Lana”, and “Buddha Bar” in *Filosofi Kopi* (FK) anthology, “Curhat Buat Sahabat”, “Malaikat Juga Tahu”, “Hanya Isyarat”, “Firasat” in *Rectoverso* (RO) anthology, “Madre”, “Have You Ever”, “Guruji”, and “Menunggu Layang-Layang” in *Madre* (MA) anthology.

Positive Attitudes that Showed on Value of Friendship in Anthologies of Short Stories by Dewi Lestari

a. Care

In the friendship, care was a good attitude that showed up from an unconscious condition. In Freudian’s idea, a person could be cared for because the many moment of others that needs help were recorded by the person in his mind. This feeling comes immediately and is built every time a person becomes intimate with the friend.

“A year ago, I dedicated to be his partner in work. Based on belief between close friend and determined to speculation, I gave all my deposit to be an asset in his café. Beside an asset in money form and administration skill myself, I didn’t know everything about coffee. That to be Ben’s Asset at all (Translation of Lestari, 2012, p.2).”

That quote was a symbol of Jody’s concern with his best friend, Ben, in “Filosofi Kopi”. Jody believed that Ben was really professional in the coffee business, and he gave all of his assets. In addition, they combined their skill together: Jody with administrative skills and Ben as Barista (Coffee maker skill). Together, they were able to make a great coffee shop.

“Name of the community is ‘Firasat’. They gathering once a week, start at 07.00 PM. Their location always change, but same activity: twenty person gather make a circle; sometimes sit in a chair or floor, than one tell a story and listen by others (Translation of Lestari, 2015, p.104).”

Consequently, this quote above was a quote from “Firasat” short story. This quote gave an example of a condition of a group of human who had concerns and shared their stories about their problems. One storied and the others listened. Thus, these good activities help to maintain a good ego in everyone as well as help to keep their friendship.

“You may call me everything you like. I will not confuse. Along your hearts who called. I know what is your mean.” “Reflect, my hand’s up. Defends a

flow of his word. Stop! Let us to be an usually Ari. Deal? (Translation of Lestari, 2015a, p.125).”

Guruji Character in this story was not complaining about Ari’s Attitude who needs an attention. Ari then accepted the wisdom of Guruji and called his name as usual. If we analyzed from this part, Ari as a woman is willing to change her mind for details. The woman disposed think about anything through her feelings. This condition is really different from Guruji as a man who thinks more easily and ignores the details of life. Then Guruji used his superego to understand about Ari’s complain and made it a good condition.

b. Understanding of Buddy’s Uniqueness

Being a unique person is a reason for someone to be introduced or associated with them. However, someone can be regarded as a unique person from his speaking style, finding them in a beautiful place, thinking, and others. This uniqueness would make other people to become interested to learn from them and become intimate with that person. Understanding of buddy’s uniqueness is a good attitude from friendship. In those 14 short stories, a few short stories showed that an understanding of buddy’s uniqueness was clearly discovered in the text. In those 14 short stories, his entire buddy was appreciated.

c. Empathy

“But, Ms. Herman who I met a month ago had changed. Didn’t fussy and chummy anymore. Mr. Herman had passed away a week ago. Left a wife who hadn’t no one in the world, left Hera without handshake and said: Herman. Ms. Herman Cried, Hera Cried, and I Sad too. Look like two meadow who left by their husband” (Translation of Lestari, 2012, p.36).

Feeling that showed from character Abang was his struggle to find people with Herman’s Name. Based on the quote of “Mencari Herman” above, it shows that Abang had failed and Hera became sad. Abang felt Hera’s soul who became disappointed because she couldn’t achieve her dream.

“My friendmate was a happy person. She enjoyed a chicken’s back without knowing another part. She only knew what she can have. I was almost sad because I knew something that I hadn’t it. I finished my storied with a hit on a bottle of beer that couldn’t be a trophy anymore and suddenly became interesting (Translation of Lestari, 2015, p.52).”

The quote above is from “Hanya Isyarat” in *Rectoverso*. Character I was illustrated as a form of her empathy. She tried to see her life with that of her buddy. Everything became different and Character I felt she was a lucky person in this world and her buddy was not. Everybody who listened to her story gave many empathy and they really loved her story as a lesson for life.

“I cannot surely guess who are “them” that she mean. But, I am more sure “them” are mans. I will say that the coming of psychopat person is only time’s problem in soul of Starla (Translation of Lestari, 2015, p157).

Advice that was messaged by character Che on “Menunggu Layang-Layang” in *Madre* was a empathy to Starla. Che tried to finish her problem. However, there are different thinking of man and woman as a unique problem in this story. Che, finally, was able to make Starla think more about her habit and accepts Che’s empathy.

d. Listen to Advice

A friendship had routine conversation moment. A conversation that focuses on personal problems is always a favourite activity in friendship. From 14 short stories that had positive attitude in friendship, four short stories didn’t include this attitude. Therefore, “Malaikat Juga Tahu”, “Hanya Isyarat”, “Firasat”, and “Guruji” do not have positive attitudes. From those four short stories, a character of the stories has an egoism for they dream and mind to do everything more better than the advice of their friends.

e. Mutual Assistance

Jody’s Attitude in “Filosofi Kopi” showed that he helped Ben totally. Hence, he gave all his assets to make a great café with his best friend. Abang in “Mencari Herman” showed loyalty to find somebody who had Herman’s name. Tio in “Sikat Gigi” helped Egi to find solution to her problems. Four short stories were not included in this attitude. In “Lara Lana”, Lana tried to give the best help by renting a home and meeting every need of his buddy. Bejo in “Buddha Bar” is a great icon in his friendship. Bejo always helped in solving the problems of his friend. In “Curhat Buat Sahabat”, the principle of both character between “I” and “You” had finished their problem and had changed from clash to become good conversation. “Madre” was illustrated as a mutual assistance between Tan Sen, the owner of bread recipe, and Mei, the good bread seller. In “Have You Ever”, Dharma and Howard finally understood one and others so as to finish their problem as a new friendship. In the last story “Menunggu Layang-Layang”, Starla had a bad habit, while Che is referred to as a good man. By this difference, personality is regarded as a moment that helps both of them to grow up more and have a clear understanding about life.

f. Keep Gathering

When somebody makes a decision to make friendship, a wish to always gather would show up. A gathering was built by comfortable, same way of think, and interest with the unique person’s feeling. Usually, people who are in friendship would always find a special place to meet. “Sepotong

Kue Kuning”, “Malaikat Juga Tahu”, “Firasat”, and “Have You Ever” do not possess these attitudes.

g. Give a Beneficial Thing

A gift is given when somebody had helped, showed concern, and helps in meeting the deep desires of one’s heart. In friendship, somebody gave a gift to make his buddy happy. In these three anthologies, there were 5 short stories that had this positive attitude.

“When he was a lecturer, live in credits home type 36 in estate of university that a half condition still in a marsh, Lana helped him moved moreover stayed and slept on mat. Fluorescent of television shone on the gloriously empty wall that never got decoration. Lana had no colony in the moon, but his achievement was enough to prize a television (Translation of Lestari, 2012, p.91).”

Lana Character in “Lara lana” above had given a television to character ‘he’. Lana tried in giving that prize because in character ‘he’, there were no television or a luxury thing. Lana wanted his buddy to feel happy with that gift. Television here was, therefore, symbolized as a beneficial thing.

Then, Character Tan Sen in “Madre” gave some cakes sample to Mei. Tan Sen wanted his friend to try out this flavour of cake. Mei felt happy because his friend believes that she had an ability to give a mark for great bread. Thus, this was the reason Tan Sen gave a recipe to Mei great ability: it is believed to be because of the feelings they shared in their friendship.

Another good example came from “Menunggu Layang-Layang”. Starla is seen as a stupid woman because of how easy it is for her to date so many men. Che was the best friend of Starla who gave up everything for Starla despite the disappointment she had received from so many men. Che brought Starla to a special place, gave her CDs Burn with many good song in there, and took her to the cinema to help Starla forget all the disappointments.

Conclusion

Based on the data analyzed, as many as five short stories had all of the positive attitudes in friendship. The five’s short stories were “Filosofi Kopi”, “Sikat Gigi”, “Lara Lana”, “Madre”, and “Mencari Layang-Layang”. The nine others do not have all of the positive attitudes of friendship. Nevertheless, at least, more than two positive attitudes had it.

Based on Freudian’s idea, the seven positive attitudes in value of friendship of Anthologies of short stories were taken by id, ego, and the superego of people. Care, understanding of buddy’s uniqueness, empathy, listen to advice, mutual assistance, keep gathering, and give a beneficial thing were coming out of people’s soul from an unconscious condition to a conscious condition. Based on the text of 14 short stories that has a value of

friendship, these seven attitudes were for human's need. Their id was naturally shown by human character that needs a social relationship, an ego, and superego in each character in those stories that tried to make it right and keep their friendship nice.

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