

AN ANALYSIS OF STRUGGLE OF LIFE IN “BETWEEN THE WORLD AND ME” NOVEL BY TA- NEHISI COATES

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ABSTRACT

This aimed of this research were to find out the struggle of life in Between The World And Me Novel by Ta-Nehisi Coates. The data was gotten from Between The World And Me Novel published on 2015. The problem of this study was what the struggle of life found in Between The World and Me novel? The primary data source was the novel and the secondary data sources were the books and the journals. A qualitative descriptive method was used in this study to classify and analyze sentence of struggle from the novel. The data in this research was collected by some steps 1) the researcher read the sentences in Between The World And Me Novel. 2) the researcher find out the words which contain struggle of life to get the data, The result of the study show that there seven struggle in the novel 1) struggle to fight the bad things caused by racism 2) struggle to make blacks equal to whites 3) struggle to change the notion that black people 4) struggle for legal justice in America 5) struggle to seize his right to return 6) struggle to make black people safer in America 7) struggle to get black people not to be afraid to do anything.

Keyword : Analysis, Struggle, Novel

INTRODUCTION

Literature reflects the various experiences, ideas, passions, of human beings in their daily life that express on several forms and styles of literary work. Since literature directly derives from human life, it can increase our knowledge and experiences about human problems including values, morals, cultures and interest. Wellek and Warren (1956:15) say Literature is creative activity and art without artistic values literature would be just another kind writing, along with scientific,

works, reports.etc.

Literature is a word in the English language, like all words it is used by perhaps millions of speakers, speakers who come vastly different backgrounds and who have quite divergent personal experiences with, and views on, literary texts. It can be concluded that the scope of literature is very wide since there are many things that can be discussed, for example about the situation that happen in the world today.

According to Setyowati and Sukmawan (2018:135), among the genre of literary text, fictional prose is a type of prose which is mostly available in any means of communication. Nowadays, many of the fiction various genres are downloadable from the internet, ranging from novels, short stories, mini fiction, and macro fiction.

Novel as the most examples of fictional prose, novel reflects everything in human life. Novel as the representation of human experiences and it invites many people to read and enjoy the whole of the story in the novel. Novel is a literary work which formed in a narrative story. The story is supposed to entertain the reader. However the experiences and life problems are usually the important point in the story, fictions must remain as an interesting story, remains as a coherent structure building, and still has an aesthetic purpose, Wellek & Warren (1948: 212).

The novel was able to present the development of the character, complex social situation, the relationship between each other in more detail. Moreover, to make the novel alive and aim to reality, the author will try to express what they feel about literary works such as some people's experiences around them especially in plotting a conflict.

Novel is a part of the literature. It is the representation of human condition against the effort to reach the purpose of living. The expresses some aspects of human are love, life and existence because it tells about human activities and describes what happened in surrounding.

Diana (2015:1), reading and interpreting novel was give us with a sense of

the complexity of life's deepest mysteries of love, hate, death, conflicts between the individual and society or human's struggles in life. That we know as the value of life which cannot be separated from psychological aspect in novel.

Between the world and me novel tells about Ta-Nehisi Coates's fifteen years old son, Samori. He weaves his personal, historical, and intellectual development into his ruminations on how to live in a black body in America.

Coates writes of his upbringing in the ghettos of Baltimore in which he learned the codes of the street in order to survive but never fully embraced them. His father was hard on him, but Coates now sees that black parents often are so they do not lose their children. To grow up black in Baltimore was usually to grow up poor, marginalized, and desperate to assert one's humanity. The swagger and loudness of the men on the corners was their way to protect themselves and to announce their presence as human beings.

As a young man school (and religion) seemed useless to Coates, but he pursued his studies in order to attend Howard University. There he underwent an intellectual awakening, marveling at the diversity of black people at Howard and undertaking studies of black writers and black history. He learned about his own people and confronted his imperfect understanding of this history. There he met his future wife and many lifelong friends. He began to write and eventually became a journalist.

Diana (2015:1) stated that, one of the value of life that can be learn from novel is human's struggles in life especially struggles to reach the happiness in life. To struggles in life, human need motivation from inner then become a strength to get what they wants in life. Sometimes they need to struggles to get want they needs.

In the other hand Kennedy (2007:139) one reason people worry about the purposes and rigor of reviews is that review are sometimes conducted in the service or arguments. Given the value-laden nature of educational decision making, arguments can be a legitimate an important form of dis course, but they can also

introduce problems for researchers when they are presented as if they are either conceptual or systematic review. Based on the background above, the formulation of the problem is, what are struggle of life found Ta-Nehisi Coates “between the world and me novel”?

METHODOLOGY

In this research, the researcher used descriptive qualitative method. Then, the researcher would describe types of teacher style in teaching English. According to James H &McMillan(2010:133)qualitative research is an accepted methodology for many important question with significant contributions to both theory and practice.

In addition Hanurawan (2012:120)Stated that qualitative research is as a research method studying subjective meaning of participant world about an object studied. It mean that qualitative research is the research where the researcher make description about something that want to know by the researcher.

The methodology used in this study was to describe struggle of life which has illustrated in the novel. The writer used a descriptive qualitative method to describe and explain what has been described from the object of the research. According to Nassaji (2015:129-130), descriptive qualitative research collects data qualitatively, and the method of analysis is also primarily qualitative. This often involves an inductive exploration of the data to identify recurring themes, patterns, or concepts and then describing and interpreting those categories.

To collect the data, the writer using several steps, as follows:

1. Reading Ta-Nehisi Coates’s novel entitled “between the world and me”
The writer read as many possible to find out the Struggle of life. The writer read several times to find it well,
2. Read the synopsis of the novel.
The writer took and read the synopsis of the novel to get the struggle of life, because the writer can be easier to get struggle of life in the synopsis.
3. Underline the Important word

The researcher tried to underline the all of important words that include in the novel. The researcher can underline words, phrases, clauses and also sentences in which support the researcher in analyzing Struggle of life.

After the data has been collected, the researcher will be analyzing the data. Several steps that will be used by the writer, as follow:

a. Identifying the data.

The writer takes the data from Ta-Nehisi Coates's Novel *Between the world and me*. Which reflects the struggle of life between characters in the novel?

b. Categorizing and classifying all data in the novel.

The writer classified the data from the sentences and quotations in the novel.

c. Describing and interpreting the data.

The writer describes the data to interpret how the social conflicts happen between the characters in *Between the world and me* novel.

RESEARCH RESULT

People will seek for the solution when she/he is in troubles or difficult conditions. They will struggle for the best solutions. Therefore, the problem solving skill may develop when they faced problems and difficulties.

The World And Me is about Coates fight racist violence that has been woven into American culture. The theme is struggle of life. This novel tells about the black body, exploited through slavery and segregation and now still disproportionately being threatened and killed in the streets. The main character in this story is Coates's. This story is about *Between the World and Me* intended for Coates's 15-year-old son. Coates's letter is divided into three parts, which are Coates's experiences as a young man, after the birth of his son, and during a visit with Mabel Jones. Coates contemplates the feelings, symbolism, and realities associated with being Black in the United States. He recapitulates the American history of violence against Black people and the incommensurate policing of Black youth. The book's tone is poetic and bleak, guided by his experiences growing up poor and always at risk of bodily harm. He prioritizes the physical security of African-American bodies

over the tradition in Black Christianity of optimism, "uplift," and faith in eventual justice. According to Erich Fromm (1983: 24) The most important members are the things that are human, not matter. Love always includes certain basic elements, namely parenting, responsibility, attention and, recognition. The main discussion of this topic focuses on Coates's Struggle the main discussion of this topic focuses on Coates's Struggle Adjustment in Terms of Problem Solving. From analyzing the novel the researcher tried to find struggle that appear in the sentences or words in the novel *Between The World And Me* By Ta-Nehisi Coates. The problem Coates faced in the reality associated by being Black in the United States.

“But the belief in the preeminence of hue and hair, the notion that these factors can correctly organize a society and that they signify deeper attributes, which are indelible this is the new idea at the heart of these new people who have been brought up hopelessly, tragically, deceitfully, to believe that they are white.”
(Chapter 1:10)

At this point, Coates states that people's focused on the environment which has a big influence on people who have different body images and they indicate that with these differences they raise themselves to believe that they are white so that people who have different colors are made different. According to Uzogara&Jackson(2016:1) the environment has a major influence on one's body image, a harsh environment or still full of discrimination which makes a person required to change body image according to the environment.

“Specifically, the host wished to know why I felt that white America's progress, or rather the progress of those Americans who believe that they are white, was built on looting and violence.”
(Chapter 1:8)

At this point, Coates says that progress is on white people who are built on the looting and violence of black people. The racism against the Black in America is shown in various ways, both verbally, such as insulting and belittling, as well as nonverbally such as throwing a black person's head with a the ball, ostracized black

people and made black people foreign in their eyes. Racism from the past until now still remains exist, and this is due to the underlying history of capitalism. But not everyone can be affected by racism.

There are people who choose to retreat and run to avoid trouble, but there are also people who stick to their feet and persist in the midst of the situation of racism that crushes him. For hundreds of years it has been stated that the attitude of white people towards Africans-Americans in the United States (USA) are negative. They tend to see that blacks reflect the general perception of village people, slaves and manual labor slavery system in the 18th-19th centuries in America, is the initial system of the formation of racism which believes that race, black groups, tribes or citizens have or are at a social level lower than that of a white

race, group, ethnicity or citizen in America According to Marger (1994:29) Blacks are seen as people with subordinate work that is always led by someone else.

”I am writing you because this was the year you saw Eric Garner choked to death for selling cigarettes; because you know now that Renisha McBride was shot for seeking help, that Jhon Crawford was shot down for browsing in department store. And you have seen men in uniform drive by and murder timer rice , a twelve-year-old child whom they were oath-bound to protect. And you have seen men in the same uniforms pummel Marlene Pinnock, someone’s grandmother, on the side of a road. And you know now, if you did not before, that the police department of your country have been endowed with the authority to destroy your body.”

(Chapter 1:11)

The quotations shows that an effort to strengthen stereotypes of white people who are considered to have a higher intellectual level high Guerrero (1993:123).In addition to the intellectual level, white people are also depicted have a high social and economic status.

“The men who had left his body in the street like some awesome declaration of their inviolable power would never be punished it was not my expectation that anyone would ever be punished.

(chapter 1:13-14)

From the statements above, Coates expresses his disappointment with the law in America, where Michael Brown was killed and left on the road which made the killer does not prosecuted on the grounds that Brown's was the perpetrator of the theft of cigars from a store. Brown's killing sparked months of protests in Ferguson and prompted a national movement for police accountability. The Justice Department later released the results of a Ferguson Police Department investigation, which found the systemic exploitation and racial profiling of black citizens by officers. According to Aris Q.I (2019:33) CRT (Critical Race Theory) recognizes that racism is entrenched in the system of society America. Individual racism need not exist for note that institutional racism is pervasive in the dominant culture.

This is a lens analysis used by CRT in examining existing power structure. CRT identify that this power structure based on white privilege and white supremacist, perpetuating marginalization of people of color. CRT too rejects the traditions of liberalism and meritocracy. Legal discourse says that the laws are neutral and colors blind, however, CRT challenge this law of "truth" with examine liberalism and meritocracy as vehicles for personal use, power, and privilege. CRT too recognizes that liberalism and meritocracy often hear stories from people with wealth, power, and privilege.

“You stayed up till 11 p.m that night, waiting for the announcement of an indictment, and when instead it was announced that there was none you said, “I’ve got to go,” and you went into your room, and I heard you crying. I came in five minutes after ad I didn’t hug you, I didn’t comfort you, because I thought it would be wrong to comfort you. I did not tell you that it would be okay, because I have never believed it would be okay.
(Chapter 1:14)

At this point, Coates explained to his son that he also did not know why so many injustices against black people were carried out by white people. Humans were created by God with different physical characteristics and various characteristics. The difference is not a mistake, but it is the humans themselves who sometimes

make these differences into a problem so that different attitudes emerge from one another. each other appears. In this case, the difference is the difference in the color of blacks and white. According to Eddy Subandrijo (2000: 90) view of life reflects the person's self-image as a view of life that reflects the ideals or aspirations. Every human being has a worldview. It is the natural way of life. Therefore he determines one's future. Someone achieve what is aspired, it relies on three factors. First, the people are who have ideals. Second, the conditions encountered during achieve what is aspired; and third, how high the ideals to be achieved.

“I was freed to truly consider how I wished to live, specifically, how do I live free in this black body?”
(Chapter 1:14)

From the quotation above, Coates has a rational network about being black in the US. If Coates was profiled racially, even when he was trying to keep his head down and not stand out as a threat to American society every day. After that Coates discovered the depths of racism while studying Malcolm X and attending HBCU. Malcolm X's teachings help Coates see the truth that society is trying to hide from Coates. The first thing Coates learned was that black people would be judged solely on the color of their skin. The racial profile affects not only the comfort of a black man in America, but also the opportunities he will be offered and the success he will achieve in life. America was created out of mistreatment of black people. Frankl(1970:45)mentions that theme anting of life as something that is personal, and can change over time as well as the situation changes life goes on. Individuals as if asked what the meaning of life at any time or situation and then be accountable.

“When I was six, Ma and Dad took me to a local park. I slipped from their gaze and found a playground. Your grandparents spent anxious minutes looking for me. When they found me, Dad did what every parent I knew would have done , he reached for his belt. I remember watching him in a kind of daze, awed at the distance between

punishment and offense, Later I would hear it in Dad's voice "Either I can beat him, or the police, "Maybe that saved me. Maybe it didn't."
(Chapter 1:18)

At this point the history of black people in America has influenced the perspective of black people in America. Black people are often left to take advantage of their situation for themselves. The black community was often poor and received little or no help from others, leaving them to figure things out on their own, Banda (2020:121).

The event provides additional evidence that human rights have not been enforced evenly in the US. Economic, legal, social education and culture is not pleasing to the eye as a right. Public policy can exclude someone's rights from right congrats they do not discriminate for prohibited reasons, such as race. Although it is important to ensure that public policy is not discriminatory, however the policy for address the fundamental problems of failure to ensure a high standard of living sufficient and other rights necessary for everyone in the US.

"The law did not protect us. And now, in your time, the law has become an excuse for stopping and frisking you, which is to say, for furthering the assault on your body."
(Chapter 1: 19)

From quotations above the United States of America is one of the most rejected countries measure and standard of ideal state life. United States of America is a multiracial country, chosen by all races from a variety of people world, Syafie and Sadikin, (2007:30). On November 2nd 2008 the appointment of Barack Obama as President is a representative figure from black people, became the embodiment of

American policy and strength United in multiculturalism. However, that doesn't mean America does not escape trouble, with the state conditions that some races seek and ethnic groups from all over the world support a horizontal conflict between race, such as the shooting case by the white youth who south of nine African-

Americans in one of the churches in Charleston, South Carolina on June 18, 2015 (Antara News). Seeing these conditions when viewed from its history, America has a dark history of conflict race between whites and blacks for 3 centuries.

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis presented in chapter 4, Coates is a writer who has had a lot of life struggles for justice in America, he also wants to experience something new which leads her for a better life. Ta-Nehisi Coates describes whiteness as a Dream. The Dreamers, defined by Coates as people who believe they to be white, live in varying states of power over black people and other people of color. Usually oblivious to having that power, we don't think too hard about how we got it.

He is also described as smart, brave, honest men. Those characteristics can be seen through personal description, characters as seen by others, speech, reactions, past life and thoughts. Coates's letter is divided into three parts, recounting Coates's experiences as a young man, after the birth of his son, and during a visit with Mabel Jones. Coates contemplates the feelings, symbolism, and realities associated with being Black in the United States. He recapitulates the American history of violence against Black people and the incommensurate policing of Black youth. The book's tone is poetic and bleak, guided by his experiences growing up poor and always at risk of bodily harm. He prioritizes the physical security of African-American bodies over the tradition in Black Christianity of optimism, "uplift," and faith in eventual justice.

As Coates discussed in a 2015 interview at the Chicago Humanities Festival, he was inspired by his college professor Eileen Boris who utilized an extended metaphor of the physical body for exploitation by objectification in her course, "History of Women in America" at Howard University. Her teachings inspired Coates's theme of the physical and visceral experience of racism on the body. His background, which he

describes as "physicality and chaos," leads him to emphasize the daily corporeal concerns he experiences as an African-American in U.S. culture. Coates's position is that absent the religious rhetoric of "hope and dreams and faith and progress," only systems of White supremacy remain along with no real evidence that those systems are bound to change. In this way, he disagrees with Martin Luther King, Jr.'s optimism about integration and Malcolm X's optimism about nationalism.

Coates gives an abridged, autobiographical account of his youth "always on guard" in Baltimore and his fear of the physical harm threatened by both the police and the streets. He also feared the rules of code-switching to meet the clashing social norms of the streets, the authorities, and the professional world. He contrasts these experiences with neat suburban life, which he calls "the Dream" because it is an exclusionary fantasy for White people who are enabled by, yet largely ignorant of, their history of privilege and suppression. To become conscious of their gains from slavery, segregation, and voter suppression would shatter that Dream. The book ends with a story about Mabel Jones, the daughter of a sharecropper, who worked and rose in social class to give her children comfortable lives, including private schools and European trips. Her son, Coates's college friend Prince Carmen Jones Jr., was mistakenly tracked and killed by a policeman. Coates uses his friend's story to argue that racism and related tragedy affects Black people of means as well.

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