

## MORAL VALUES IN ANTOINE DE SAINT EXUPERY'S *THE LITTLE PRINCE*

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### ABSTRACT

This thesis entitled is Moral Values in Antoine De Saint Exupery's *The Little Prince*. This analysis is about the moral values contained in the little prince character. In this thesis, the writer wants to show some of the moral values that exist in the character of the little prince and show how the author describes each of the moral values contained in the novella. To complete this analysis, the writer used *Teori Pengkajian Fiksi* by Nurgiyantoro, the writer also used qualitative research and conducts several analysis results on the library. As data analysis, the writer chose the novella *The Little Prince* (le petit prince) with the title Moral Values in Antoine de saint exupery's *The Little Prince*. The results of this thesis, the writer found several moral values namely responsibility, care, love and affection, politeness, friendship, loyalty, honesty and humility and the writer describe how the portrayed of moral values that have been found

**Keywords:** *Moral Values, Qualitative Research, The Little Prince*

### ABSTRAK

*Skripsi ini berjudul Nilai Moral didalam The Little Prince karya Antoine De Saint Exupery. Analisis ini tentang nilai-nilai moral yang terkandung dalam karakter pangeran kecil. Dalam skripsi ini, penulis ingin menunjukkan beberapa nilai moral yang ada pada karakter pangeran kecil dan menunjukkan bagaimana penulis menggambarkan masing-masing nilai moral yang terkandung dalam novel tersebut. Untuk melengkapi analisis ini penulis menggunakan Teori Pengkajian Fiksi oleh Nurgiyantoro, penulis juga menggunakan penelitian kualitatif dan melakukan beberapa hasil analisis di perpustakaan. Sebagai analisis data, penulis memilih novel The Little Prince (le petit prince) dengan judul Nilai Moral di dalam novel The Little Prince karya Antoine De Saint Exupery. Hasil dari skripsi ini, penulis menemukan beberapa nilai moral yaitu tanggung jawab, kepedulian, cinta dan kasih sayang, kesopanan, persahabatan, kesetiaan, kejujuran dan kerendahan hati dan penulis mendeskripsikan bagaimana penggambaran moral values yang telah ditemukan*

**Kata kunci:** *Moral Values, Qualitative Research, The Little Prince*

### 1. Introduction

Literature is a study of expressing about the sense, opinions, or something that has thought by the author within that contain the values of goodness in the form such as novel, novella, poem, poetry, short story, songs, drama, and others. Literature has not only given the entertainment but also literary work can improve our

knowledge and change our minds about something in our life.

If the reader reads a literary work that has been written since antiquity, for example in the 17th century, then the literature can became historical evidence and the work remains eternal even though the creator has died but the work is still

remembered. Klarer (2004:1) says that in most cases, Literature is the desire of someone who wants to leave a trail from behind in the form of creative expression that has a longer life span than its creator who saves visual and literary information into historical and social manifestations. Literary work can be found easily, for example, the reader can use applications that are available on the Playstore specifically for Android Smartphones, so that the reader can access many literary works such as short stories, novels and novella without being difficult to buy in bookstores or waiting long to be able to buy.

Literature is not just writing or a scribble that is simply written down, but literature contains a deep meaning like moral values, the readers need to know what the author conveyed in the literary work and what do the readers need to understand. According to Eagleton (1983: 4) in these cases, Literature is a work of beautiful writing (ordinary language) that records something in the form of language, which is done by composing other more aesthetic languages through language media.

Novella is a literary work written in written form or prose which contains stories or events or the work of the author's imagination. Meanwhile, novella has similarities with novels but novella contains shorter content than novels, novels can contain up to 40,000 words while novella is around 17.000 – 40.000 words, and also the novella is not divided into chapters, the novella is shorter than a novel and the novella focuses on a single storyline and is not as complex as a novel.

In a novella, the reader can take meanings that need to be applied in everyday life, for example in the characters contained in the novella, readers or listeners can take moral values in the work and some novels contain moral values. According to Tumma Srinivasarao (2016: 1) moral values are standards that apply to indicate good and evil that can

regulate one's life and moral values can change when the laws and morals of society change.

*Le petit prince (The Little Prince)* is an interesting novella from French and written by Antoine De Saint Exupery's. It was first published in English and French in April 1943 and has become a best selling an estimated 140 million copies worldwide, it has been translated into 301 languages. In this novella, the author wants to describe a real-world interesting story with a plot, characters and elements in it that must be understood and considered carefully because the depiction must be considered properly.

Reading a novel or novella can help to get to know new things related to what the author conveys, for example, the state of mind of the adult community in the story of *The Little Prince*. Read novella can also provide entertainment and increase vocabulary in English. The writer as an English literature student wants to analyze the story of *The Little Prince* to convey moral values that have been put by the author on the story of *The Little Prince*. For this reason, the writer aims at examining the research title "Moral Values in Antoine De Saint Exupery's *The Little Prince*"

In the literature, the author can put his idea, main problems, and change the reality to non-fiction, that is mean in the story to describe the reality. So that, the author gives information to the reader. In this case, the writer wants to analyze *the little prince* by Antoine de Saint Exupery based on moral values. So that, the reader and the writer can learn from this story about Moral values and apply them in their life.

*The Little Prince* is a non-fiction literary work which is a depiction of the real world, in this world there must often be misunderstandings about something and it turns out that it has a big impact, especially if there is a disagreement between adults and children, it has a big impact on their feelings. *The Little Prince*

has a philosophical meaning about human life and adult society, where do they often misunderstand the simple truth as they get older.

This novella begins with the main character who tells when he was a child who was six years old and drew a boat eating an elephant, but when he showed it to adults, they did not understand what he was drawing and felt that it was a hat and instead suggested it to learn about geography and becoming a pilot, the little boy is now disappointed with it. After he became an adult and had become a pilot, he suddenly found a small child who could understand the drawings he had made, even though he was at that time far from residential areas and was having problems with his plane in the middle of the Sahara desert, and the small child (The Little Prince) can understand his drawing.

There are many topics to teach us in this story, which is very important and interesting to analyze but the writer only focuses the discussion on the moral values on the little prince character.

## 2. Theoretical Frameworks

There are some relevant theories which are used in this study, the writer presents the theory used to convey the message to the reader. There are two types of theoretical approaches in the literature that can be used to conduct research, intrinsic approach and extrinsic approach.

### a. Intrinsic Approach

Intrinsic approaches are elements that build the literary work itself or elements from within the literary work itself such as themes, characters or characterizations, storylines, settings, and so on.

Welek and Austin (1977:139) says, Intrinsic approach is a literary science that analyzes and interprets the work itself, because only the work itself can justify all our interest in the writer's life, and literary history itself can find political truth, social, economic where the literature is produced.

Intrinsic is the element that builds literary works from the literary work

itself, specifically a novel which is used by the reader or the researchers to analyze and understand the literary work. It means that literary works are built with literary elements themselves, including themes, characters, plot, background, language style and point of view.

### b. Extrinsic Approach

Extrinsic means the science of analyzing literary works from outside the literary work itself. Like in a novella, one of the literary works, the reader can get extrinsic elements by analyzing the biography of the author, the reader can analyze the author's background, the values contained in the short story and the background of the community in the author's environment in the real world.

According to Welek and Austin (1977:73), in their book *Theory of Literature* :

Through the 'extrinsic' approach study may merely attempt to interpret literature in the light of its social context and its antecedents, in most cases it becomes a 'casual' explanation, professing to account for literature, to explain it, and finally to reduce it to its origins (the 'fallacy of origin')

extrinsic approach refers to analyzing literary works not only based on the work itself but can also be filled with fields of study such as history, biography, religion, and psychology.

## 3. Research Design

This thesis used a qualitative method, the writer can observe some data to support the analysis in the thesis. In analyzing the thesis, there are two types of data collecting methods, namely qualitative method and quantitative method. The writer applied the qualitative method as a method to process this analysis by finding suitable data from the novel which can be analyzed based on the topic discussed.

The qualitative method directs research to compile the data, some steps need to be implemented to do research

methodology, the steps are: the research design, the object of the study, the technique of collecting data, and the technique of analyzing data. This study purposes to comprehend what is experienced by the subject of the research such as behavior, perception, motivation, action, etc.

In this research the writer has framed the problems of study, they are :

1. What are the moral values found in Antoine De Saint Exupery's

*The Little Prince*?

2. How are the moral values portrayed in Antoine De Saint Exupery's *The Little Prince*?

the data were collected through the following steps:

1. Reading the novel of Antoine De Saint Exupery's *The Little Prince*.

2. Reading the theses related to the topic from other sources to help the writer.

3. Finding and collecting relevant data that are related to the data of Moral Values for data analysis.

#### 4. Discussion

This research is about the moral values portrayed by the little prince as the second character in Antoine De Saint Exupery's *The Little Prince*. The data has taken from the novel's line through qualitative method and library.

The writer can get several moral values based in Antoine De Saint Exupery's *The Little Prince*, they are :

##### A. Responsibility

The little prince is an important character in this story after the main character, he is a kind person. He does every responsibility for the good of his flower.

The little prince has a very responsible nature with his flowers. This trait it is a very important moral values when we live in groups. For example, a sense of responsibility with other people and family. The interaction carried out by the

little prince to his flowers is a form of responsibility

So as a sense of responsibility, he did all his routines one last time for the sake of the flowers.

##### B. Care

Care is one of the moral values that is very important to be able to live peacefully in socializing with other humans, care means an attitude of sympathy and empathy for others and the feelings of others, care not only for humans but also for the surrounding environment such as plants and animals, that is a good moral values. In the little prince character, care is one of the moral values that we can apply in our social environment.

When the little prince said that by cleaning the volcano it will burn stable and low flaming, this attitude is a concern for the environment and this is rarely possessed by humans. If we can care more about our environment and take good care of the earth, then our environment will be maintained and the earth stays healthy, as well as in socializing with other humans, if we have concern then the relationship will be maintained and live in peace with each other.

The regret shown by the little prince is a form of concern for the flower, he sad because he left them alone, the flower is in danger of dying. A form of caring for the flower is a good moral values, and also, a sense of caring for other if it grows well in our minds it will create peace if we live together in society.

##### C. Love and Affection

If we talk about love, then there will be some love relationships, such as god's love for humans and vice versa, as well as love between humans. In this case, we can see the little prince love and affection for his flower.

In a relationship we will definitely find problems, as well as the condition of the little prince and his flowers. When the little prince's told to the main character

that how he regrets because he doesn't understand the feelings experienced by the flower before he left, he really loves the flower and the little prince should appreciate the flowers story to him and love its more, love and affection must be supported by mutual understanding of each other's feelings and mutual understanding of each other's conditions, there are many problems that we might encounter in a relationship, for example in social relations, then with love that contains mutual mutual understanding then all problems will be solved, do not like to concludes things without understanding problems and how things really are, do not rush to decide that you dont like someone, because how if you are wrong.

The writer learns that the little prince is very careful in everything, because he does not want anything to happen to his flowers. Would this worry happen without love and affection? Of course not, if someone loves his family then it is imposible to let his family get hurt, then people will protect their family from various things, the worry shown by the little prince is a form of his love for his flower.

#### **D. Politeness**

People who has moral values must respect values each other and have courtesy to others. Politeness is nature of humans in respecting each other and being kind and polite in words.

Politeness is also shown when we respect others in various forms such as greeting, bowing our heads, and so on. Moral values of politeness is an important thing and can prevent conflict, there are many cultures in the world apply politeness as a moral values that must be owned by every human being.

At the beginning of the meeting between the fox and the little prince, it begins with greeting "good morning", this is part of politeness, respecting other people who are even just known by saying

greetings, a sign of hospitality and kindness.

When the little prince say "good morning" to the flowers is an image of politeness that is directly included by the author in the story *The Little Prince*. The politeness shown by the little prince makes the flowers happy and does not see him as a bad person, how beautiful the world is if we respect each other.

#### **E. Friendship**

Friendship is an act of moral value to build relationships with other people, this relationship contains positive values and mutual support between two individuals or more than two individuals.

In the story of the little prince the writer can see that the little prince and the main character become friends and they have a very strong relationship, they support each other and understand each other's feelings.

Friendship requires a fairly long process, so that two or more individuals can know each other and understand each other's nature. Friendship is very useful in the midst of society to build relationships with many people so that it can eliminate awkwardness between individuals in the midst of society.

From the conversation between the fox and the little prince, the writer sees that the little prince does not understand with the words of the fox who wants to be tamed so that he becomes his friend, because friendship does not need to be tamed.

#### **F. Loyalty**

Loyalty is a feeling of sincerity from one person to another, without betrayal and breaking promises and maintaining a good relationship. In a social environment, loyalty is mandatory to have so as to maintain good relations with other people in the community.

From the conversation between the fox and the little prince, the writer can see that responsibility and loyalty go hand in hand. If we have loyalty, then there is also responsibility, we can see the value we have. Because of the time we have together, loyalty will also always remember the time we have spent with others, because with precious time loyalty is created.

The statement of the main character in the story is proof that how much the little prince has loyalty to his flower, loyalty may not be able to be told or explained and can not be seen with the eye, but can be felt by others. In a relationship a person does not need to explain his loyalty because other people can feel that he is a loyal person or not.

#### **G. Honesty**

The little prince is an honest and innocent character, he does not like to hide his heart, honesty is an aspect of a moral and virtuous character and speaks the truth and has integrity, this trait is possessed by the little prince which should be a moral value that humans need to have in the real world.

The writer when reading this section feels that the little prince is so innocent and as heartless when he says the loneliness of a conceited man, but on the other hand we have to admit his honesty to tell the truth that he doesn't know what "to admire", for some people, admitting ignorance is the same as admit that we have stupidity, but the little prince does not care about his ego, he wants to know everything, so he must be honest with his ignorance and tell the truth.

The little prince is happy with the sheep box he has, but when the main character (pilot) questions about where he lived. Because the sheep could go anywhere if they are not tied up, the little prince honestly says that his place is small, not as big as the earth of course, these are the honest words of the little prince.

#### **H. Humility**

The little prince is a very humble character, humble is an attitude that is always calm and cheerful and never underestimates others, is not arrogant and has a good attitude. In various interactions in this novella, we can see that the little prince is very humble.

The flower's arrogant character makes the little prince embarrassed, even the flower tries to embarrass the little prince. But the writer learns that his humility makes the little prince not repay his flower arrogance even though he is able to do so, but he is humble. Even he wants to serve the flower when the flower asks for breakfast, of course in real life this will definitely be a big problem if it happens, if there is someone who is arrogant surely others will show the same attitude, but the moral value of humility teaches us to always forgive and not repay the pride of others. Humility will bring peace in the social environment if everyone has humility.

The little prince shakes the lamplighter, a sign that he respects and respects the lamplighter. He can pretend not to see and just walk away but he does not do that because of his humility, he was always friendly and respectful of all people, that because humans should have the moral value of humility so that they can live together peacefully in social and private life.

#### **5. Conclusions**

After reading comprehensively and analyzing the novel, the following conclusions can be drawn concerning portrayed moral values in Antoine De Saint Exupery's *The Little Prince*;

1. The moral values contained in Antoine De Saint Exupery's *The Little Prince* are responsibility, care, love and affection, politeness, friendship, honesty, loyalty, Humility. It was found the sentences contained moral values are as many as 22 data.

2. The portrayed of moral values in Antoine De Saint Exupery's *The Little Prince* are shown by the little prince character are taking care of flowers, flower vanity, interaction with fox, giving motivation, willing to wait and conversation with conceited man.

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