

**HEART OF CHANGE IN DANIEL WOODRELL'S
NOVEL WINTER'S BONE**

THESIS

Submitted As a Partial of Requirement to Achieve Strata 1 (S1) Degree



By

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2016**

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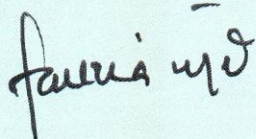
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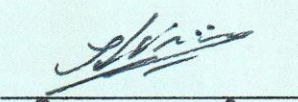
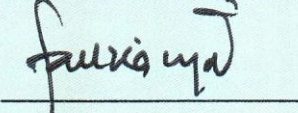
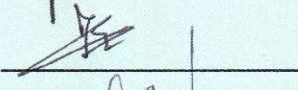
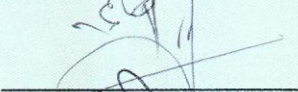

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Abstrak

Skripsi ini merupakan analisa novel *Winter's Bone* oleh Daniel Woodrell. Masalah yang diangkat adalah sejauh mana novel ini merefleksikan isu perjuangan seorang gadis berumur 17 tahun untuk mendapatkan hak atas rumahnya sendiri dan sejauh mana karakter serta setting memberikan kontribusi dalam mengungkapkan isu perjuangan perempuan dalam menuntut hak nya. Tujuan penganalisaan ini adalah mengungkapkan sejauh mana novel ini menggambarkan topik perjuangan seorang perempuan dalam mempertahankan hak nya dan sejauh mana karakter, konflik dan setting memberikan kontribusi untuk mengungkapkan tersebut. Analisa ini juga dihubungkan dengan konsep Self-awareness oleh Crisp & Turner. Hasil analisa ini menunjukkan bahwa ada dua focus dan cara berbeda yang dilakukan oleh protagonist, Ree 17 tahun dalam mempertahankan hak-haknya. Dia membuktikan kepada masyarakat bahwa dia berhak untuk mendapatkan properti/rumah dan membuktikan kepada masyarakat bahwa dia berhak atas keluarga dan adik-adiknya.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In the name of Allah SWT, The Beneficent, The Merciful. All of honors are just for Allah SWT, the writer is eventually able to finish his Thesis entitled ***“Heart of Change in Daniel Woodrell’s Novel Winter’s Bone”***. He also sends *shalawat* and *salam* to the prophet Muhammad SAW as a leader for human being.

In this very special occasion, the writer would like to express his deep gratitude and appreciation to Dr. Kurnia Ningsih, M.A. as his advisor and Dra.An Fauzia Rozani S, M.A. then he also sends his gratitude to Prof. Dr. Jufrizal, M.Hum. Delvi Wahyuni, S.S, M.A., and Devy Kurnia Alamsyah, S.S, M.Hum. as his examiners who has given their valuable time, advice, critics and correction to this thesis from the beggining up to the end of the writing. Next, he would like to express his appreciation to Dr. Refnaldi,S.Pd,M.Litt. as the chairman of English Department and Fitrawati, S.S, M.Pd as the secretary of English Departement. Furthermore, my gratitude aims to Dra.An Fauzia Rozani S, M.A as my academic advisor who helped a lot during study and finishes this thesis. He also want to thank all the lectures of the department and faculty who taught and guided me during the years of my study.

The writer’s deepest gratitude is addressed to his beloved parents, Harun al karim and Nelda Sofita, for their sacrifice and great love, care, and encouragement over the time. In addition, he also thanks his beloved brothers Fidel and Hafiz for giving support, prays and encouragement in finishing this Thesis.

The writers also thanks to all of his friends in English Department 2010 of State University of Padang, especially for NK 2010, Summer Production, Siangmalam Production for the friendship and time for sharing ideas in any discussion. The writer also thanks to his Cousins Tio, kak Icha, kak Dewi for helping him finish this thesis. Finally thanks to everybody who was important to the success in the realization of this thesis and to express his apology that he could not mention personally one by one. May Allah bless you all.

Padang, February 2016

The Writer

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

People tend to change from time to time whether the change is from good to bad and otherwise. However changing something is not an easy task to do, it needs effort from the bottom of the heart. In order to achieve success in the process of change self-awareness is needed. Self-awareness has an important role in shaping human characteristic. Crisp & Turner (2010) says that Self-awareness is a psychological state in which people are aware of their traits, feelings and behavior. Self-awareness can be defined as the realization of oneself as an individual entity. Furthermore self-awareness gives humans a clear perception of their personality, including strengths, weaknesses, thoughts, beliefs, motivation, and emotions.

Moreover self-awareness allows us to understand other people, how they perceive us, our attitude and our responses to them in the moment. Consequently people who have more self-awareness will be able to understand what is right and good for them. Self-awareness will guide them to move forward and extend to the next level of understanding the situation of the world. Therefore, awareness will lead us to understand the system that exists, whether the system is fair or not.

By developing the self-awareness people will be able to make changes in the thoughts and interpretations they make in their mind. Changing the interpretations in our mind allow us to change our emotions. Moreover self-awareness helps women to see the inequality that still exist in the society

nowadays where they are still considered as weak creature, unintellectual and only limited as a caretaker in a family or work in a domestic area. While public area is still considered as the primary for men, not for women. Unfortunately, not many people have such awareness, they willingly to accept and never question a system. Especially women, they tend to accept everything what is given to them and not question about it. Only a few women who has the self-awareness but if they have self-awareness they will be able to understand themselves and will made them better in perceiving the world order.

There are still many unequal treatments toward women such in education system and property right management so that the change is needed. According to Encyclopedia of management, (2009) Change has been variously defined as making a material difference in something compared to an earlier state, transforming or converting something, or simply becoming different while In Merriam Webster (2010) heart is defined as the center of the total personality, especially with reference to intuition, feeling or emotion.

One of the examples of a girl who has the heart of change and fight for right is Malala Yousafzei. She was still 11 years old when she was shot in the head by the Taliban soldier on her way to the school. That happens due to Malala's courage to fight Taliban who banned all women to enter school and other formal education. She was nearly dead at that time; fortunately she could be saved and directly brought to England to get a proper treatment for the wound. Since that time she has been actively spoke about women's right against the

Taliban. She is recruited by BBC to write in a blog to speak about inequality and rights for women.

Moreover Malala actively write her thought in BBC. She also doing speech and has inspired almost 57 million children who have no access to education. At such a young age, she has managed to encourage people to stand together behind a common cause. Moreover, the Malala Petition (which Malala was the first to sign) urges the United Nations to recommit to Millennium Development Goal 2, which involves universal primary education for children around the world. At age 17, Malala is the youngest Nobel Prize laureate. Yousafzai shared the prize with Kailash Satyarthi, a children's rights activist from India. She is the second Pakistani to receive a Nobel Prize, Abdus Salam being a 1979 Physics laureate, and the only Pakistani winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. Malala shows the heart of change by proving that she is able to defeat the Taliban and stand for their right to have education. She also shows us that changing something is not easy, she has to deal with death and fatal experience. However it doesn't mean that the heart of change is impossible, it is always possible for someone who has it from the bottom of the heart and be truly committed.

Unlike Malala Yousafzai, who focuses on education and women's right, The Protagonist, Ree Dolly, in this analysis realizes that there is inequality in the society system where women is always in the unfair position. She strives to defend her property instead of being taken away. She proves to the society that she is able to maintain the family and stand for her right. It is described in *Winters*

Bone (2006), a novel written by Daniel Woodrell. It is interesting to be analyzed since the heart of change in this novel refers to the will and courage of the protagonist, 17 years old girl that prove she can change the perception about women in the society. The protagonist has to defend the property of the family because of the disappearance of her father. At the same time she has to take care of her family by herself.

1.2 The Heart of Change

There are two words in this study. They are *heart* and *change*. *Heart* in Merriam Webster (2010) is defined as the center of the total personality, especially with reference to intuition, feeling or emotion. Furthermore heart can also be defined as spirit, courage, and enthusiasm. In Encyclopedia of management (2009) Change means the process of causing a function, practice, or thing to become different somehow compared to what it is at present or what it was in the past.

The term heart of change in this analysis refers to the will and courage of the protagonist, 17 years old girl who proves that she can change the perception about women in the society and stand for her right. She has to defend the property of the family because of the disappearance of her father. At the same time she has to take care of her family by herself.

1.3 A Brief Description of Author's Biography

Daniel Woodrell is an American fiction writer. He was born on March 4, 1953 in Springfield, Missouri. He left school and enlisted in the Marines the week

he turned seventeen. He received his bachelor's degree at age twenty-seven from the University of Kansas and an MFA from the Iowa Writers' Workshop, and spent a year on a Michener Fellowship. Now he lives in West Plains, Missouri in the Ozarks, and is married to the novelist Katie Estill.

His five most recent novels were selected as New York Times Notable Books of the Year, and *Tomato Red* won the PEN west award for the novel in (1999). *Winter's Bone* is his eighth novel that has been adapted as the movie with the same title starred by Jennifer Lawrence. It got many praises from audience. Roger Ebert gave the film 4 out of 4 stars, praising Lawrence's steely "hope and courage" that remains optimistic despite her tribulations, and calling attention to Granik's direction that avoids passing moral judgment on the characters or descending into stereotypes. The Onion A.V. Club stated that in their year movie list as "The best film of 2010".

Woodrell got many praises from Medias. Beth E. Anderson from *Library Journal* (2013) state that "Woodrell's captivatingly resourceful protagonist both enchants and horrifies with her fierce determination. Woodrell's novel exposes the tragedy of crystal meth in rural American all its brutal ugliness in language that is both razor sharp and grimly gorgeous". Moreover Dennis Lehane, from *USA Today* also praise Woodrell by saying "Woodrell is the least-known major writer in the country right now." Furthermore Harper Barnes of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* asserted that :

"Daniel Woodrell is a classic storyteller, a writer who is able to mold from the raw material of his culture forceful vernacular narrative that is structurally lean, yet embedded with metaphor, symbol and myth." (p.1)

Woodrel in the interview with *Ozark Megazines* (2007) quotes that :

"I used to think I didn't want to live in West Plains," he says. "My family has been around here since the Civil War. They had a lot of struggle. I can feel it sometimes, [but now] I feel like I've found my true orientation and calling." (p.2)

The interview showed that Woodrel seems to be a very dedicated writer. He is smart and very intelligent. No wonder he is able to win such prestigious award as a writer. He experienced how to struggle in his family so that struggle and fighting has always been embedded in his every novel.

1.4 Winter's Bone

Winter's Bone (2006) a novel written by Daniel Woodrell, reflects heart of change. Heart of change in this analysis refers to the will and courage of the protagonist, 17 years old girl who proves that she can change the perception about women in the society and stand for her right. The protagonist, Ree Dolly, has to defend the property of the family because of the disappearance of her father. At the same time she has to take care of her family by herself. In this analysis there are two ways done by the protagonist to show the heart of change. First, is by proving that she has the right to own the property of the family, second, is by proving that she is competent in managing the family.

First, she proves that she has the right to own the property since her father is gone. She proved that her father was killed and never escapes the bail so that she can defend the house. She builds connection by visiting all the relatives, the neighbors and some bad guys in Ozark society. She never gave up in defending

her right in owning the property on her journey finding her father. It can be seen from how stubborn she is when finding her father.

Second, she is able in managing the family. She proves that she has the parental right to be the one in charge in the family. She fulfills the needs of her mentally sick mother by taking care of her every day. She provides the needs of her two young brothers, taking them to school and provide all the daily needs of the family. She guarantees the health and the safety of her brothers by nurturing them with healthy foods. She taught her brothers to be independent and give them moral advice in the daily life. She refuses when her neighbor wanted to take her brother away and prove that she can handle them by herself.

1.5 Problem of the Study

This thesis is focused on the analysis of Heart of Change in Daniel Woodrell's novel *Winters Bone* (2006). Therefore in order to reveal the issue of the heart of change, research questions are needed. The research questions are:

1. How far does the woman protagonist show Heart of Change in the *Winters Bone*?
2. To what extend do the fictional devices; plot (conflict), and setting give contributions in revealing the heart of change?

1.6 Purpose of the Study

This study aims to find out how far Daniel Woodrell's novel *Winters Bone* (2006) bring up and reveal the heart of change which is done by the protagonist in this novel. It is also targeted to expose how far does character and conflict give contribution in revealing the heart of change.

1.7 Previous Study

There is a study written Rebecca Albright Chris Holst (2013), about *Winter's Bone* (2006), but the study that focus on the heart of change has not been found yet. However there are some studies that give contributions and inspirations in analyzing this novel.

The first study is written by Rebecca Albright Chris Holst (2013), *One log alone won't hold fire": Nature, Place and Regional Identity in Daniel Woodrell's Winter's Bone and The Outlaw Album*. The study focuses on examine the descriptions of nature, both in terms of physical setting and as an abstract entity, and their relation to the concepts of place and regional identity in Daniel Woodrell's *Winter's Bone* (2006) and *The Outlaw Album* (2011). This essay relies on the method of *close reading* where certain features of the two examined texts have been taken into consideration, primarily those relating to cultural references and descriptions of the physical setting. i.e. elements that will support my claims and arguments throughout the essay. The theoretical framework then consists of *ecocriticism* and *theorizations of regional identity*.

1.8 Theoretical Framework

The analysis of this novel deals with the feminist concept from Julia Kristeva, *Subjectivity* 2004. She offer the term *subjectivity* as an alternative to the conventional understanding of "self," a term used to designate a being who is fully aware of her own intentions, fully able to act as an autonomous being in the world, and guided by her reason and intellect. Conventionally, "the self" use language as a tool to convey ideas. She says what she means and intends what

she says. This self is, ideally, master of her own being, subject to no one. Consequently the “self” concept is very important as a basis to reveal the inequality toward women and to stand for rights.

Dealing with the property right, A report by the United Nations Center for Humans Settlements (U.N. Habitat) observes that “rights in, access to, and control over land, housing and property is essential for women’s everyday survival, economic security and physical safety (UNCHS 1999). Therefore, in order to enable women to gain social protection and to get economic stability the right to own and inherit property is critically important.

Flintan (2003) states that in patriarchal cultures men have the largest role in decision-making about resources at both the household and community level, meaning women have disproportionately fewer rights to land and property. Furthermore Adoko and Levine (2005) argues that land distributions and subsequent land transactions frequently vested titles to land in the head of the household only. These were most often men, according to patrilineal custom. Now the man as an individual, rather than as the responsible representative of his family, has become the person with all the authority to use, sell, and control land. Thus men is still in control over the property and land although there is a law that conduct the property right management however the practice nowadays still influenced by the patriarchal society.

In this 20th century era the property right law management has been conducted in the formal law agreement and it differ in every country. That’s because the struggle that woman do to get their right from 18th century ago.

However the fact that happens nowadays is different. Women property right is still controlled by the social law that governs by men and patriarchal social environment. For example, Richardson (2004) claims that in many traditional societies in sub-Saharan Africa, land use, housing, and the transfer of land and housing between generations is regulated by customary law, which largely excludes women from property ownership and inheritance. Moreover, without secure land and property rights, widows and orphans are often left homeless and destitute after the death of their husband or father.

From the explanation above it is clear that property right is critically important for women. Women have already fought for it since 1792 and a lot of changes have already happen. It proves that women are able to make changes and fight for their rights. It all depends on the women herself whether they want to change or not. The character in this novel realizes the inequality. She fights to get her right and change the perception toward in the society, trully from the bottom of the heart.

This analysis is also done by the concept of self-awareness by Crisp & Turner (2010) who says that Self-awareness is a psychological state in which people are aware of their traits, feelings and behavior. Moreover being self-aware means seeing clearly humans own personality, reactions or responses, behavioral and relationship patterns, desires, reasons we feel, think, and behave in certain ways, motivations and core beliefs. He adds that self-awareness as a state of radical self-honesty regarding our own values, our priorities, and who we really are in both positive and negative terms. It is our individual awareness of our self

that guides us into making positive necessary changes in our own life in order to become ever closer to the person we really want to be. Therefore self-awareness is important to increase the self-realization to change something unfair. By developing the self-awareness people will be able to make changes in the thoughts and interpretations they make in their mind. Changing the interpretations in our mind allow us to change our emotions. Moreover self-awareness helps us to see the inequality that still exist in the society nowadays. The character in this novel aware that she is able in making change. She knows herself better that the world is unfair to her. Therefore with all her stubbornness she proves that she can handle all the things on her own and seize her property right.

This analysis is also done through text and context based interpretation in order to bring out the heart of change. It means that the analysis not only will focus on text itself, but it also involved the phenomenon which is existed in the real world. Klarer (1999.p.91) states that text is not regard as self-contained and independent work of art. But it tries to place them within a larger context. It could be history, social, and political background etc. The most influential movement is literary history which is divided literary phenomenon into its period, describes the text and examines their mutual influence.

In the process of analyzing the novel, the contribution of its fictional devices such as character, plot, and setting are very considerable since they are related to each other to bring up the story and determine the meaning. Character plays the crucial part in the story. As Bennet and Royle (2004.p.60) says that

characters are “the life of the literature” which means the core of the story. It designates an entity, individual or collective – normally human or human like. Character gives the details about the description on the behavior and appearance. The character in this novel is a 17 years old girl who proves that she can change the perception about women in the society and stand for her right. She has to defend the property of the family because of the disappearance of her father and at the same time she has to take care of her family by herself.

The second device which is used in this analysis is plot. Guerin (2005,p.8) states that plot is conflict. There are two kinds of conflicts. They are internal conflict which occurs within a character and external conflict which occurs between two or more characters or a character and environment. In this analysis, the main character faces both internal and external conflicts. The external conflict is emerged when the protagonist have to deal with other characters that try to prevent her to find her father. The internal conflict happens when she has to decide which one is the right way to solve the problem of her life.

The last important element in this analysis is setting. Setting is not only about time and place taken in the story. But it also strongly related to situation, condition, and atmosphere which influence the thought of the character. Klarer (1999) says:

“the term setting denotes the location, historical period, and social surrounding in which the action of the text develops. Setting is one of the crucial elements of the genre as such. Setting contribute to create the impression that different perspectives or thought of the characters” (p.24)

From the explanation above, setting plays crucial influence on the character, her thought and perspective of her life and herself. It means setting is very important in defining text in order to find implicit meaning. In this novel, the protagonist life surrounded by the condition that force her to act on her own. First her father is gone unknown whether he is dead or alive. Second her mother is mentally sick and isn't able to anything than sit on her chair. That condition forces her to survive, fight and stand for her right, otherwise her house will be taken away by the police.

1.9 Methodology

The analysis of this novel is done through text-based and context-based interpretation. The fictional devices such as character, plot and setting are needed during the process of analyzing. These devices are related each other. Character is used to reveal the heart of change by analyzing character belief, attitude and behavior or action. Plot is used to acknowledge the conflicts the character faced. Furthermore, setting is also crucial device as it is situation and conditions exist in the novel in order to reveal character way in seeing and interpreting her world. In addition, these elements are analyzed based on the concept of feminist literary approach such as from Flintan and Adoko, Julia Kristeva and The concept of Self-awareness from Crisp&Turner.